



KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

21 June 2026

**3/4 IN A SERIES OF SERVICES
ON UNIVERSAL HUMAN RIGHTS**

FREEDOM TO MOVE

WELCOME TO KNOX

Knox Church is a congregation within the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa New Zealand. We aim to create Christian community in which people of all ages, sexual orientations, cultural backgrounds and socio-economic situations are included as equally valued participants in our congregational life. We cherish our diversity, offering a safe place of belonging to any who wish to explore their beliefs in an atmosphere promoting discussion, the development of healthy relationships and spiritual growth. We strive to be open to dialogue and shared experiences with people of other faiths. We enjoy worshipping the God made known in Jesus, endeavouring to do so in ways that are relevant to our daily lives, respect the integrity of creation, and make a positive difference to our wider world.

A loop system for hearing aids operates at Knox - use your aid's "T" setting.

Toilets are available through the door on the city side of the sanctuary.

The sermon and prayers in this service were written by Matthew with no styling assistance by Artificial Intelligence.

We take care to use inclusive language in our services. References to God in traditional prayers and hymns may sometimes be gender-specific. As we pray and sing together, you're invited to adapt the words we've chosen.

When we pray the Lord's Prayer, you are welcome to use the language that is most natural to you.

The Call to Worship:

We light a candle in the name of Jesus Christ, a light in the world.

**JESUS, WHOSE PARENTS WERE FORCED OUT OF THEIR LAND;
JESUS, WHO CALLS US INTO A DEEP BELONG IN GOD;
JESUS, TOWARDS WHOM WE COME IN FAITH.**

Kia noho a Ihowa ki a koutou. God be with you.

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Kingsfold

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Come unto me and rest,
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast,”
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting-place,
and he has made me glad.
2. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
“Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down and drink and live.”
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.

. . . continued at the end of the service

Prayer of Approach

Maybe it is the case, O God,
that we, who have heard the voice of Jesus,
understand what it means to move towards him,
TO STEP OUT INTO SOMETHING NEW.

Most probably it is the case
that some of us, in this world-wide church of God,
have prayed for communion with Christ
because the waves were huge,
THE WALLS WERE TALL.

Most probably, among your people
are those who know unfriendly borders,
people saying "no",
MANY BARRIERS TO FULLNESS OF LIFE.

So maybe it is natural
that we, in solidarity with them,
will seek a place in your house:
**FOR A DAY IN YOUR COURTS IS BETTER
THAN A THOUSAND ELSEWHERE.**

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God,
THAN LIVE IN THE TENTS OF WICKEDNESS.

So here we are.
**ALLELUIA,
HERE WE ARE.**

Silence

If it is the case that you are calling people to freedom
and fullness of life,
and we are getting in their way;

if it is the case
that we are out of step with your vision for the blessing of all people,
then

Lord have mercy.
CHRIST HAVE MERCY.
Lord have mercy.

Assurance and Response

. . . In the name of Christ, I say to you:
You are forgiven and you are free.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

The Theme Prayer:

Jesus,
you do not forget that you took the form of a slave,
that others might find a freedom.
HELP US ALSO NOT TO FORGET.

You call us to be a people who move with grace,
grow in love,
and see the stranger as a neighbour given by God.

**BLESS US MORE AND MORE
TO GROW IN YOUR LIKENESS,
UNTIL EVERY LIVING CREATURE
FINDS A HOME
AND LIVES IN SAFETY,**

for we pray in the name of Jesus,
whose teaching we remember as together we pray:

**E TO MATOU MATUA I TE RANGI,
KIA TAPU TOU INGOA.
KIA TAE MAI TOU RANGATIRATANGA.
KIA MEATIA TAU E PAI AI
KI RUNGA KI TE WHENUA**

KIA RITE ANO KI TO TE RANGI.
HOMAI KI A MATOU AIANEI
HE TARO MA MATOU MO TENEI RA.
MURUA A MATOU HARA,
ME MATOU HOKI E MURU NEI
I O TE HUNGA E HARA ANA KI A MATOU.
AUA HOKI MATOU E KAWEA KIA WHAKAWAIA;
ENGARI WHAKAORANGIA MATOU I TE KINO:
NOU HOKI TE RANGATIRATANGA,
TE KAHA, ME TE KORORIA,
AKE AKE AKE.
AMINE.

The Passing of the Peace

Kia tau tonu te rangimarie o te Ariki ki a koutou.
The peace of Christ be with you all.

**A KI A KOE ANO HOKI;
AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

We exchange a sign of peace with one another.

The United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights

Article 13

Everyone has the right to freedom of movement and residence within the borders of each state. Everyone has the right to leave any country, including his [sic] own, and to return to his [sic] own country.

Reflection: The Problem of the Border

*Sermons are posted on our website: <http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/sermons.html>
Hard copies are available – ask the person at the door. A video version of this sermon is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/mr8xRxgAeuw>*

A Video Clip: Ian McKellen delivers a piece of Shakespeare

Hymn:

Leoni

Thomas Olivers (1725-1799)



1. Community of Christ,
who make the Cross your own,
live out your creed and risk your life
for God alone:
the God who wears your face,
to whom all worlds belong,
whose children are of every race
and every song.
2. Community of Christ,
look past the Church's door
and see the refugee, the hungry,
and the poor.
Take hands with the oppressed,
the jobless in your street,
take towel and water, that you wash
your neighbour's feet.
3. Community of Christ,
through whom the word must sound --
cry out for justice and for peace
the whole world round:
disarm the powers that war
and all that can destroy,
turn bombs to bread, and tears of anguish
into joy.
4. When menace melts away,
so shall God's will be done,
the climate of the world be peace
and Christ its Sun;
our currency be love
and kindness our law,
our food and faith be shared as one
for evermore.

Shirley Murray (1931-2020)

The First Lesson: Deuteronomy 24: 17-21

In this is the Word of God.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

We will not forget the aliens in our midst,
FOR INDEED, THEY ARE US.

A Reflection: Remember that you yourself were once an alien

The Knox Singers: Wie lieblich sind deine Wohnungen
(Ein deutsches Requiem)
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)

Translation from the German:

*How lovely are your dwelling places, O Lord of hosts!
My soul yearns and pines for the courts of the Lord, my heart and body cry out
to the living God. Blessed are they that dwell in your house: they shall praise
you always.*

Psalm 84

The Second Lesson: Philippians 2:5-11, 3:20-21

In this is the Word of God.
THANKS BE TO GOD.

Our citizenship is in the heaven of Jesus Christ,
**WHO TOOK THE FORM OF A SLAVE
AND IS OUR BROTHER.**

A Reflection: The other citizenship

Hymn:

Londonderry Air

Irish traditional melody



1. Fold to your heart your sister and your brother:
where pity dwells, the peace of God is there;

to worship rightly is to love each other,
each smile a hymn, each kindly deed a prayer.
For he whom Jesus loved has truly spoken:
the holier worship, which he deigns to bless
restores the lost, and binds the spirit broken,
and feeds the widow and the fatherless.

2. Follow with reverent steps the great example
of him whose holy work was doing good:
so shall the wide earth seem our Father's temple,
each loving life a psalm of gratitude.
Then shall all shackles fall: the stormy clangour
of wild war music o'er the earth shall cease;
love shall tread out the baleful fire of anger,
and in its ashes plant the tree of peace.

John Greenleaf Whittier (1807-1892), alt.

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Linda Wilkins

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

Perhaps there were times, O God,
when we needed some love,
or some warmth.

WE OFFER OUR LOVE AND WARMTH FOR OTHERS.

Perhaps there were times
when we needed some food,
or at least a place at the table of sharing.

WE MAKE THIS OFFERING OF FOOD.

We know, O God,
that this week
you will present us with opportunities to respond to the need around us.

**WE PRAY THAT YOU WILL KEEP US AWARE,
OBSERVANT,
INCLUSIVE AND LOVING,**

for we pray this in the name of Jesus.
AMEN.

Notices

Hymn:

Kingsfold

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



3. I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's Light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright."
I looked to Jesus, and I found
in him my Star, my Sun;
and in that Light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.

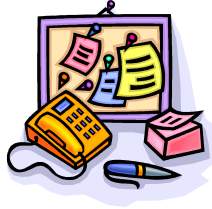
Horatius Bonar (1808-1889)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: 3rd movement, Sonata no. 5 in D
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

Following the service, morning tea and coffee are served in the church.

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NOTICES

This Week:	21 June – 27 June
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
	12.00pm Lunch at Urban Eatery
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study
Thursday	10.30am Bus Trip

Next Week:	28 June – 4 July
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
	11.30am Shalom
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

Bus Trip to Kaiapoi - Thursday 25 June: Meet at Knox by 10.30am to catch the #1 bus just around the corner in Victoria Street at 10.41am or pick up that bus anywhere along its route. Arrive in Kaiapoi at 11.15. Coffee/lunch at a cafe, have a short riverside walk, look at the shops, whatever suits you. Buses return to Christchurch at 10 minutes and 40 minutes past the hour. No need to book - just be there on the day. Remember your Gold Card for free travel!

Kitchen Roster – We love a volunteer - especially one who is willing to have their name placed on the kitchen roster. The job mainly involves taking a turn at washing the tea towels for the week. If you are keen please see Judith Hamilton / Helen Cannan or contact the office.

Lunchtime Organ Recital: Jeremy is giving the weekly lunchtime recital at St Mary's Pro Cathedral, Wednesday 24 June, 1.10pm, \$15.

Back to Baroque: Monday 29 June, 7pm, Oxford Terrace Baptist Church - Tomas Hurnik (cello) and Jeremy Woodside (organ). Please see poster for details.

Knox Church values the support of all who are involved in our community's life. Knox Church is a charity. All charitable donations are eligible for a tax rebate of 33%. Bank account - 03 1705 0029641 00 (Knox Presbyterian Church). Put your name in the reference field and email your contact details to the office. For further information or options contact: office@knoxchurch.co.nz ph: 379 2456.

BAROQUE MUSIC COMMUNITY AND
EDUCATIONAL TRUST OF NEW ZEALAND
PRESENTS

TRAVEL THROUGH TIME

CHAMBER MUSIC SERIES 2026

Back to Baroque

Baroque Organ by Candlelight
*Bach Toccata and Fugue in D minor, BWV 565
and other hidden gems of baroque music*
Organ – Jeremy Woodside
Cello – Tomas Hurnik
Monday 29th of June 7pm

Back to Classic

Mozart's 270th Anniversary
Celebrating His Birth
*Mozart Piano Trio in G major, KV 564
and other hidden gems of classical music*
Piano – Gabriel Baird
Violin – Jonathan Tanner
Cello – Tomas Hurnik
Monday 21st of September 7pm

Back to Romantic

Piano Trios
*Schubert Piano Trio no.2 E-flat major op.100
and other hidden gems of romantic music*
Piano – Gabriel Baird
Violin – Jonathan Tanner
Cello – Tomas Hurnik
Monday 23rd of November 7pm

**All Concerts at Oxford Terrace
Baptist Church, Christchurch**

Tickets online / Cash sale at the door
General \$40 - Community Service/Gold Card \$30
Student \$10 - Child \$5

www.baroquemusic.co.nz





The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Genesis 21: 8-14
- Matthew 22: 23-33

Knox Directory

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Visit our website

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Keeping in Touch

Would you like to give our office your contact details so that we can send you our quarterly magazine and other Knox communications?

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