



# KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

## Order of Service

9 August 2026

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# THE DYNAMICS OF LOVE

## 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, BORN INTO A CULTURE OF HAVING AND POSSESSING;**

**JESUS, TELLING STORIES OF FOOLS WHO GOT IT WRONG;**

**JESUS, THE SEED WHO FELL INTO THE EARTH, CREATING LIFE.**

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

**MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.**

### Hymn:

Sine Nomine

Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)



1. Give thanks for life,  
the measure of our days,  
mortal, we pass through  
beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope,  
our love, our praise,  
Alleluia!
2. Give thanks for those  
who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame,  
bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth, who  
burned for what is right,  
Alleluia!
3. And for our own, our living  
and our dead,  
thanks for the love by  
which our life is fed,  
a love not changed by time  
or death or dread,  
Alleluia!
4. Give thanks for hope,  
that like the wheat, the grain  
lying in darkness  
does its life retain,  
in resurrection  
to grow green again.  
Alleluia!

*Shirley Murray (1931-2020)*

### **Prayer of Approach**

Praise the God  
who gives the gift of life.

**PRAISE THE GOD  
WHO RECEIVES OUR SONG,  
OUR HOPE, OUR LOVE.**

Praise the God  
putting light in our life,  
**MEASURING OUR DAYS,  
AND BURNING FOR WHAT IS RIGHT.**

Praise the God  
whose Christ is like a seed falling into the earth,  
dying, but giving life,  
**OPENING A NEW AND LIVING WAY.**

*Silence*

Coming in love and clever judgment, O God,  
the Lord Jesus came into our culture of having and possessing.  
One parable described the "having and possessing" figure  
as a defeated fool.

**ANOTHER HAD A SEED FALLING INTO THE EARTH -  
DYING, BUT CREATING LIFE.**

In the spirit of releasing what we foolishly have and possess,  
that we may receive the life of the Lord of grace and plenty,  
we say

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:**

Lead us, O God,  
from our culture of "having and possessing"  
into the realm of your gracious Son,  
who speaks of seeds dying  
and creating much fruit.

**SHAKE OUR POSSESSIVE HEARTS,  
OPEN OUR GRASPING HANDS,  
MAKE US A PEOPLE OF YOUR WILL AND WAYS,**

for we pray it in the name of Jesus,  
the One who dies and rises,  
and whose instruction we remember,  
as together we say

**OUR FATHER IN HEAVEN  
HALLOWED BE YOUR NAME,**

**YOUR KINGDOM COME,  
YOUR WILL BE DONE,  
ON EARTH AS IN HEAVEN.  
GIVE US TODAY OUR DAILY BREAD.  
FORGIVE US OUR SINS  
AS WE FORGIVE THOSE WHO SIN AGAINST US.  
SAVE US FROM THE TIME OF TRIAL  
AND DELIVER US FROM EVIL.  
FOR THE KINGDOM, THE POWER AND THE GLORY ARE YOURS  
NOW AND FOR EVER. AMEN.**

### **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.*

A short excerpt from a sermon delivered at a Vatican City Angelus Prayer  
by Pope Leo XIV, probably in July 2026.

**An Introduction:** Almost mortgage free

**The First Lesson:** Luke 12:13-21

This is the gospel of Christ.  
**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

Do we need a bigger barn?  
**MAYBE WE NEED A BIGGER HEART.**

**A First Reflection:** A rich fool

*Generally, sermons are posted on the sermon page of our website shortly after the service. Hard copies of the sermons are available before and after the service – ask the person at the door. A video version of this sermon is available from 10:00am today: <https://youtu.be/dl9JYgu3NK4>*

**Music for Reflection:** An Impression  
Herbert Brewer (1865-1928)

**The Second Lesson:** John 12: 20-26

This is the gospel of Christ.

**PRAISE TO CHRIST, THE WORD.**

If the seed falls into the earth and dies,  
**IT PRODUCES MUCH FRUIT.**

**A Second Reflection:** The dynamics of love

**Hymn:**

Rangi Ruru

Colin Gibson (1933-2022)



1. If one could speak the very words of angels,  
yet not in love that eloquence declare,  
then all our words, like sounding brass and cymbals,  
discordantly would jangle in the air.
2. If all our words drew power and inspiration,  
and if our faith could make the mountains move,  
if we could know the secrets of creation,  
it would be nothing if we have no love.
3. For love is patient, kind and undemanding,  
forsaking wrong, rejoicing in the truth.  
While passing is the gift of understanding,  
love is triumphant in eternal youth.
4. Now all we see in shadows dimly casting —  
the fleeting glimpses of the world to be:  
though faith and hope are prophecy outlasting,  
love is the greatest, ever, of the three.

*Peter Haskins (b. 1948)*

*Based on 1 Corinthians 13*

**Prayers for Others and Ourselves**

*led by Len Pierce*

## The Offering and Dedication

*We stand for the dedication of the Offering*

While we do not withhold this money,  
nor do we throw it away.

**VALUING IT, WE OFFER IT TO GOD'S DIRECTION.**

While we do not keep this food in our own barns,  
nor do we squander it.

**HOPING THAT IT MIGHT PRODUCE MUCH FRUIT,  
WE SACRIFICE IT TO GOD.**

And we offer also our hope and our love,  
**KNOWING THAT, IN CHRIST,  
THEY MIGHT FIND PERFECT PURPOSE,**

through Jesus Christ,  
**AMEN.**

## Notices

### Hymn:

Hyfrydol

Rowland Huw Prichard (1811-1887)



1. Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven, to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown:  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
pure unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.
2. Come, almighty to deliver,  
let us all thy life receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
never more thy temples leave:  
thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,

pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.

3. Finish then thy new creation,  
pure and spotless let us be,  
let us see thy great salvation,  
perfectly restored in thee:  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love and praise.

*Charles Wesley (1707-1788)*

### **Benediction and Sung Amen**

**Postlude:** Allabreve in D, BWV 589  
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

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

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## **NOTICES**

|                   |                                       |
|-------------------|---------------------------------------|
| <b>This Week:</b> | <b>9 August – 15 August</b>           |
| Sunday            | 10.00am Morning Worship               |
|                   | 11.30am Shalom – Murray Winn speaking |
| Wednesday         | 10.00am Bible Study                   |



|                   |                              |                        |
|-------------------|------------------------------|------------------------|
| <b>Next Week:</b> | <b>16 August – 22 August</b> |                        |
| Sunday            | 10.00am                      | Morning Worship        |
|                   | 11.00am                      | Congregational Meeting |
|                   | 12.00pm                      | Lunch at Urban Eatery  |
| Wednesday         | 10.00am                      | Bible Study            |

**Congregational Meeting:** There is to be a congregational meeting on Sunday 16 August to consider the budget for the 2026/2027 year. Straight after the service at 11am.

**Sunday lunch 16 August** – Join us for lunch and a friendly chat after church at **Urban Eatery (Oderings, Barrington)**. We meet at around 12pm. Please, add your name to the attendance list at the church entrance. To confirm numbers with the venue it would be appreciated if names were in by Wednesday the 12<sup>th</sup>.

**Spring Flower Sunday** – 30 August: To celebrate spring, it is intended to deliver small bunches of spring flowers to our shut in and older senior members after the morning service. Would you let Jennifer McKinnon know if you are able to bring spring flowers, already bunched, for distribution. Also needed will be volunteers to deliver the flowers. This is an opportunity to connect with other church people.

**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](mailto:office@knoxchurch.co.nz) ph: 379 2456.



### The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Matthew 15: 10-20
- Matthew 15: 21-28

## Knox Directory

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Office hours:  
Monday - Friday, 9.00am-noon

Visit our website  
<http://www.knoxchurch.co.nz/>



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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?

Name:

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Email: