



KNØX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

11 October 2026

MOMENTS OF GRATITUDE FOR THE PEOPLE OF GOD

Remembering, "[may I] see the prosperity of your elect,
and be glad with the gladness of your people".

(Psalm 106: 5)

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, WHO JOINED US ON OUR JOURNEY THROUGH LIFE;
JESUS, UNCOVERING JOY IN HUMAN COMMUNITY;
JESUS, BRINGING ALL OUR FOIBLES INTO PERFECT UNITY IN LOVE.**

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

MA IHOWA KOE E MANAAKI. GOD BLESS YOU.

Hymn:

Praise, my soul

John Goss (1800-1880)



1. Praise with joy the world's Creator,
God of justice, love and peace,
Source and end of human knowledge
grace bestowing without cease.
Celebrate our God's great glory,
power to rescue and release.
2. Praise to Christ who feeds the hungry,
frees the captive, finds the lost,
heals the sick, upsets religion,
fearless both of fate and cost.
Celebrate Christ's constant presence,
friend and stranger, guest and host.
3. Praise the Spirit sent among us,
liberating truth from pride,
forging bonds where race or gender,
age or nation dare divide.
Celebrate the Spirit's treasure,
foolishness none dare deride.
4. Praise Creator, Christ and Spirit,
one God in community,
calling Christians to embody
oneness and diversity.
Thus the world shall yet believe
when shown Christ's vibrant unity.

Iona Community

Prayer of Approach

Christ's vibrant unity?

Is that people who otherwise might never have met

BECOMING DISCIPLES ALONG THE WAY?

Is it people forming those around them,
and being formed by those around them,

AS LOVE, RESPECT, HOPE AND FAITH ARE SHARED?

Not a throwing together in dullness,
or lowest common denominator,

**BUT A BELIEF THAT THIS ACT OF WORSHIP
IS HEALTHY, GOOD AND FULL OF LIFE!**

Today, we read a psalm
which speaks of remembering not just the mighty deeds of God,
but also those who were present around the deed, and became glad;
GLADNESS AS A SHARED GIFT FOR US WHO ARE PART OF THE DEED.

We worship God,
AND ARE GLAD.

We remember the people,
AND ARE GLAD.

In our current life,
we see what is honourable and good and pure and lovely
AND ARE GLAD.

We offer silent praise.

Silence

You call us to recall acts of favour and grace,
BUT WE DWELL ON THE NEGATIVE.

You call us to be one in gladness,
BUT WE BECOME MANY IN GRIEVANCE.

You call us to be of one mind,
**BUT TWO WOMEN IN PHILIPPI
BECOME FAMOUS FOR ARGUING.**

So 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:

A psalmist calls upon the congregation
to remember the wonderful deeds of God,
AND TO BE GLAD.

Paul calls upon his own beloved people
to see what God has done among them:
TRUTH, HONOUR, JUSTICE AND PURITY.

He calls them to be moved
by excellence and things worthy of praise.

**TURN OUR HEARTS AND MINDS, O GOD,
TO CHRIST, AND WHAT IN HIM IS GOOD,**

for we pray it in the name of Jesus,
who taught us to pray, together saying:

**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.

The First Lesson:

Psalm 106: 1-5

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

May we all be glad
WITH THE GLADNESS OF GOD'S PEOPLE.

Reflection:

Wishing them God's gladness

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/RcQz4DNNsFw>

Music for Reflection: In Nomine
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

The Second Lesson: Philippians 4: 1-9

In this is the Word of God.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

Rejoice in the Lord always,

AND FOCUS ON WHAT IS GOOD.

Reflection: Affection, nostalgia, and where to focus

Hymn:

Crofts 136th

Melody by William Croft (1678-1727)



1. Praise God, whose heart is kind:
whose mercy lasts for aye.
Give thanks with heart and mind
to God of gods alway:
for certainly
God's mercies dure
most firm and sure
eternally.
2. Praise God for people who
have walked us through our life,
who made us who we are,
through times of joy and strife:
for certainly . . .
3. Praise God who calls the heart
nostalgia to avoid,
and then to play our part,
that truth may be deployed.
for certainly . . .
4. Praise God who opens eyes
to honour, goodness, grace,
who all good things supplies
to those who seek God's face;
for certainly . . .

5. Praise God for every hour,
our passing times and days,
our current moving breath
with which we sing this praise.
for certainly . . .

v 1, Psalm 136, alt.

vv 2-5, Matthew Jack (b. 1963)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

led by Brian Turner

The Offering and Dedication

We stand for the dedication of the Offering

From the prosperity of our lives,
WE OFFER MONEY AND FOOD.

We offer things that might be useful in brightening the day,
**ALONG WITH OUR REMEMBRANCE OF THOSE WHO MADE US,
AND GAVE US GLADNESS.**

We offer our renunciation of nostalgia,
AND OUR EMBRACING OF SERVING IN THE REALITY OF TODAY.

May God bless all that is offered,
**THROUGH JESUS CHRIST,
AMEN.**

Notices

Hymn:

Two Oaks

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell

how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God's children dare to seek
to dream God's reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as a symbol of God's grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*
3. Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God's face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*
4. Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

Marty Haugen (b. 1950)

Benediction and Sung Amen

Postlude: Paean
Percy Whitlock (1903-1946)

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

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NOTICES

This Week:	11 October – 17 October
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
	11.00am Knox AGM
	11.30am Shalom
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

Next Week:	18 October – 24 October
Sunday	10.00am Morning Worship
Wednesday	10.00am Bible Study

Knox AGM: The Annual General Meeting of Knox Presbyterian Church, Ōtautahi Christchurch will be held today immediately following the morning service. Copies of the Annual Reports and Financial Performance Report are available at both entrances to the Church.

Shalom: 11.30am today 11 October - "Why Pay Taxes? Is this a faith-based issue or a purely secular one? Ann McMillan from faith based EcuAction (and convenor of the Alpine Presbytery's Finance & Property Committee) and Brian Turner from the Canterbury Tax Reform Coalition (affiliated to 'Tax Justice Aotearoa') will share their views.

Sunday Lunch: due to be held on 18 October. Cancelled this month due to Knox being involved in the Christchurch Heritage Festival. See you next month.

Pillars – For the first three Sundays of November we will be collecting Christmas treats and gifts for Pillars, as we have done for many years now. Pillars is an organisation which supports the families of people in prison. They greatly

appreciate our donations of Christmas gifts and food which are distributed to their families in the festive season. They currently work with children between the ages of 0-17. We hope you find the following suggestions for gift ideas helpful:

- Toiletries for teenage boys and girls
- Card games
- Board games
- Outdoor toys/games.

Please note, that with many people struggling financially, we will also continue collecting our regular food donations for Te Whare Roimata. Thank you for your support of both these organisations and the needy people they serve.

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.



Knox Cabaret: thanks to those who have offered up items for the Cabaret. There are plenty of musical items, but it would be wonderful to have some skits/poetry as well. See poster, below, for details.

KNOX CABARET

Music, poetry, comedy.....the
stage is yours!

Friday 23 October

6pm Potluck Dinner in the Hall

(please bring a plate of finger food)

7pm Cabaret in the Church

**Please email details of your act to
jeremy.woodside89@gmail.com**

by 16 October



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Luke 10: 1-9
- 1 Corinthians 13: 1-13

Knox Directory

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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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