

KNOX CHURCH

love faith outreach community justice

Order of Service

1 November 2026

WHERE AREN'T THE SAINTS?

A COMMUNION SERVICE
FOR ALL SAINTS' SUNDAY

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.

This is a communion service. The table at Knox is an open one.
Members of any church, as well as any who are seeking God sincerely,
are welcome to receive communion here.

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, PIONEER AND PERFECTER OF FAITH;
JESUS, CALLING PEOPLE TO CARE, AND RESPOND TO NEED;
JESUS, LEADING A PROCESSION OF SAINTS THROUGH TIME.

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. For all the saints who from their labour's rest,
who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,
your name, O Jesus, be forever blessed.
Alleluia!

2. You were their rock, the refuge and their might:
you, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;
mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light.
Alleluia!

3. Still may your people, faithful, true and bold,
live as the saints who nobly lived of old
and in our lives your liberty behold.
Alleluia!

4. Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine,
we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine.
Alleluia!

5. And when the strife is fierce, the struggle long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song,
then hearts are brave again, and faith grows strong.
Alleluia!

William W. How (1823-1897), alt.

Prayer of Approach

In the singing of the song,
for the saints within the cloud
hearts somehow are made brave again,
and faith grows strong.
ALLELUIA!

You have put good and faithful people around us,
tucked heroic stories into our rememberings,
and assured us that we are not alone.
ALLELUIA!

You have tapped us on our shoulders,
and whispered challenges
for us to go places, and do things,
and love people,
so your will may be done.
ALLELUIA!

Thank you for placing us within the cloud of witnesses
to serve a good purpose
and find the blessing of our life.
ALLELUIA!

Pause

Sometimes . . .
well, O God, you know how it goes.
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:

God of all the saints,
open our eyes to see the saints among us,
AND OPEN OUR MOUTHS TO THANK THEM FOR THEIR EXAMPLE.

Open our minds to be sensitive to ways that we can serve,
AND OPEN OUR HEARTS TO BE BRAVE WITH THE FIRST STEP.

May the end of this year's All Saints' Day
find us more helpfully placed
within the great cloud of witnesses,
AND BETTER POISED TO REFLECT YOUR REDEEMING LOVE,

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

The Notices

Introduction: The script was all sorted

Generally, sermons are posted on our website's sermon page 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/Qg-LH5tU1sA

The First Lesson: Acts 16: 6-10

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

Reflection: A vision of need

The Second Lesson: Hebrews 12: 1-2

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
MAY GOD'S LIGHT SHINE.

Reflection: Resting in the possibilities

Anthem Ye servants of God
arr. Henry Coleman (1888-1965)

Prayers for Others and Ourselves

To the minister's words, "within the cloud",
you are invited to respond "**TEACH US TO RESPOND WELL, AND TO SERVE**".

. . . 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 Offering and Dedication
We stand for the dedication of the Offering.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness, we bring what we have gathered,
using the talents that you have given us.
It will further the work of your kingdom.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this bread to offer,
which earth has given and human hands have made.
It will become for us the bread of life.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER.

Blessed are you, O God of all creation.
Through your goodness we have this wine to offer,
fruit of the vine and work of human hands.
It will become for us our spiritual drink.
BLESSED BE GOD FOREVER,
THROUGH JESUS CHRIST OUR LORD, 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.

Communion Hymn:

Hereford — Samuel Sebastian Wesley (1810-1876)



1. O thou who camest from above
the pure celestial fire to impart,
kindle a flame of sacred love
on the mean altar of my heart.

2. There let it for thy glory burn
with inextinguishable blaze
and trembling to its source return,
in humble prayer and fervent praise.

3. Jesus, confirm my heart's desire
to work, and speak, and think for thee;
still let me guard the holy fire,
and still stir up thy gift in me,

4. ready for all thy perfect will,
my acts of faith and love repeat,
till death thy endless mercies seal,
and make the sacrifice complete.

Charles Wesley (1707-1788)

We sit for
The Invitation, **Institution** and **Setting Apart of the Elements**

The Great Eucharistic Prayer:

May God be with you.
AND ALSO WITH YOU.

Lift up your hearts.
WE LIFT THEM TO GOD.

Let us give thanks to the world's creator.
IT IS RIGHT TO GIVE OUR THANKS AND PRAISE.

It is right indeed . . .

The Breaking of the Bread

Lamb of God:

Jesus, Bread of Heaven,
HAVE MERCY ON US.

Jesus, recreating your people where they stand,
HAVE MERCY ON US.

Jesus, foretaste of the new creation,
GRANT US YOUR PEACE.

The Communion

For the distribution, please come forward to the table, receive some bread, dip it in the cup, and return to your seat. If you prefer gluten free bread, some is available on the plinth in front of the bread servers. Non-alcoholic grape juice can be taken from the trays held by the glass servers.

The Prayer After Communion

Eternal God,
we give you thanks and praise
that while we were still far off
you met us in your Son, and brought us home.
MAY WE WHO SHARE HIS BREAD
LIVE HIS RISEN LIFE;
WE WHO DRINK HIS CUP
BRING LIFE TO OTHERS;
WE WHOM THE SPIRIT LIGHTS
GIVE LIGHT TO THE WORLD,
THAT ALL YOUR CHILDREN SHALL BE FREE,
AND THE WHOLE EARTH LIVE TO PRAISE YOUR NAME. AMEN.

Hymn:

Laast Uns Erfreuen from Geistliche Kirchengesäng 1623



1. From all who dwell below the skies,
   let the Creator's praise arise;
   Hallelujah!
   Let the Redeemer's name be sung,
   through every land, by every tongue.
   Hallelujah!

2. Eternal are your mercies, God,
   eternal truth attends your word:
   Hallelujah!
   Your praise shall sound from shore to shore,
   till suns shall rise and set no more.
   Hallelujah!

   Isaac Watts (1674-1748)

Benediction and **Sung Amen**

Postlude: Placare Christe servulis from Le Tombeau de Titelouze
Marcel Dupre (1886-1971)

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

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



NOTICES

This Week:	**1 November – 7 November**	
Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	4.00pm	Film Group – Chapel
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Next Week:	**8 November – 14 November**	
Sunday	10.00am	Morning Worship
	11.30am	Shalom
Wednesday	10.00am	Bible Study

Film Group: Today at 4pm in the Chapel - **Tina (2024**). You may have seen this fabulous film when it first came to the cinema. It tells of Tina, a Samoan lady who loses her job because of the February 2011 earthquakes in Christchurch and ends up teaching at a wealthy private school. She forms a choir, which enables her to empower her students and through it, she regains her own passion as a teacher and mother. It is well worth seeing this absorbing and inspiring film again.

Shalom at 11.30am next Sunday 8 November will be led by Ken Shields JP.
Justices of the Peace - from Reading the Riot Act to Certifying Certificates - What a JP can do for you.
"When am I likely to need the services of a JP?"
"What do I need to take with me when I visit a JP?"
"How much will it cost me and what advice will I get from a JP?"
"What's the difference between Citizens Advice Bureau and JPs?
"Who appoints JPs and how do I become a JP?"
And more .....

Meditation: The next group meditation is on 7 November at 10.00am in the chapel. All are welcome. Any inquiries please contact Bobbi Laing.

Sunday lunch 15 Nov – 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 11th.

Please note: due to the third Sunday in December being the "Lessons and Carols" Sunday, there will be **no lunch** at Urban Eatery in December. All things going to plan, we **will** be meeting there again in January.

Pillars - For the first three Sundays of November we are 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 Life: I know it seems early but please think about what you might like to produce for the Christmas edition of Knox Life. Send to the office – the sooner the better.

Books: If anyone is going to or through Oamaru sometime soon, and would be prepared to deliver a box of books to the Slightly Foxed Bookshop, please contact Bronwyn Wiltshire.

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.

Family History Society of New Zealand

Te Rakau Whakapapa O Aotearoa

Sunday, November 1, 2026

Uncover Your Family Story

Join the Family History Society of New Zealand for a family history research event.

Supported by the Canterbury Genealogy Society.

1:30pm : Open to public
1:45pm : Welcome / Jill Lord Award

Keynote Speakers: (20 minutes plus questions)

2:00PM

Canterbury Genealogy Society

Keynote speaker

2:30PM

Professor Greg Ryan

"Fit Only for Savages: Death, danger and debate in New Zealand rugby 1875 to 1905"

Learn how to find out about how your ancestors died

3:15PM

Associate Professor Lyndon Fraser

"Rituals of Death and Dying"

Learn how to find out about how your ancestors died

3:45PM

Kevin White

"David Cosgrove... A lifetime of service".

This will detail Mr White's research into early NZ Scouting History.



Check out the displays and find out about our new award:

The Jillian Lord Memorial Award for family history research

1.30pm to 4.30pm

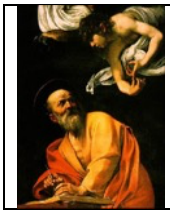
Knox Church

Cnr Bealey Ave / Victoria Street

(parking in Bealey Ave Carpark for Presbyterian Social Services and Knox church patrons)

$5 entry fee

Contact: familyhistory.nz@hotmail.com. Follow Family History Society of NZ on Facebook.
For more information: https://sites.google.com/view/familyhistorynz/home



The Bible readings for next week will be:

- Psalm 78: 1-7
- Matthew 25: 1-13

Knox Directory

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Church Council Clerk: Jean Brouwer
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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:

Address:

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Email: