



WESLEY WELLINGTON  
**75 Taranaki Street**  
[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

**Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> June 2022**  
**BAPTISM – OLIVIA POHIVA**

*Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia*  
*Welcome to this House of Prayer*



**We are a multi-racial Christian community:**  
**Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention**  
**Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.**

**Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava**  
**Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!**

**Order of Service**  
**10am Congregation**  
**Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street**  
**26<sup>th</sup> June 2022**

Worship Leader: **Rev Nicola Teague Grundy**  
Organ: **Colin Scarf**

**Welcome and Safety briefing**  
**Gathering**

Ngā mihi nui ki a koutou kua tae mai  
ki tēnei whare karakia.  
Haere mai e te whanau.  
Haere mai e te manuhiri.

Matariki te tipua,	<i>Matariki the sacred</i>
Matariki te tawhito	<i>Matariki the old</i>
Tau mai te wairua	<i>Welcome the spirit, welcome the life force</i>
mai ngā ira atua	<i>from the essence of atua</i>
ki te ira tangata	<i>to us of the human kind</i>
Tihei mauriora!!!	<i>Let there be life ...</i>

**Lighting the Candle – The light of memory**

**Call to Worship**

We celebrate today with solemnity and with joyousness.  
We pay tribute to those barrier-breakers and culture-shifters  
who help us see the world through other eyes  
who, like Matariki, sometimes called the eyes of God,  
shine for us with new ideas and old knowledge re-presented  
letting us in, to different or parallel worlds.

**We lift our voices to you in songs of endless praise.**

**Let us worship God.**

## **Hymn: Now thank we all our God. [H&P 566]**

Now thank we all our God,  
with hearts and hands and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mothers' arms  
has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love,  
and still is ours today.

O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us;  
and keep us in his grace,  
and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ills  
in this world and the next.

All praise and thanks to God  
the Father now be given,  
the Son, and him who reigns,  
with them in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God  
whom earth and heaven adore,  
for thus it was, is now,  
and shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)

*translated by Catherine Windworth (1827-1878)*

## **Introduction**

### **Baptism of Olivia Pohiva**

Leader: Once when people brought their babies to Jesus to be blessed, the disciples wanted to send them away, but Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, do not stop them, for it is to such as these that the kingdom of God belongs".

*Luke 18: 15-17*

Tupou and Semisi along with Tuitala, and your extended family we are glad you have brought Olivia to be baptised today.

Baptism is God's gift to us. It is God who takes the initiative; God chooses us. Long before we can understand or respond, God knows and loves each one of us and wants to be known and loved by us.

Baptism marks and celebrates the gracious, transforming work of God within us, not just in the moment of baptism itself but throughout the whole of life.

From the very beginning of the Christian community, people have been received into the church through baptism. Children belong in the community of faith which is centred on Jesus Christ. Through baptism they become members of the church, God's covenant people, and are united with Christians of every time and place.

Human life is marked by brokenness but forgiveness and new life in Christ are available to all who are open to receive them.

Little children do not understand this yet, but their parents and the church together affirm their faith in God and promise to nurture them in this faith, so that as members of the Body of Christ they may learn to love and serve God all their life.

Let us affirm the faith declared in our baptism:

*All Stand*

We are not alone – we live in God's world.

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,**

to proclaim Jesus,  
crucified and risen,  
our judge and our Hope.  
In life, in death,  
in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.

*Please be seated. Tupou, Semisi, Tuitala, their family come forward with Olivia*

Leader: Tupou and Semisi, what do you ask of the Church?

**Parents: We ask that Olivia be baptised.**

#### **Statement of intent by parents**

Leader: Tupou and Semisi, you have acknowledged with us your faith in God.  
Do you now entrust Olivia to God's loving embrace?

**Parents: We do.**

Leader: Will you share in worship and the life of the church, so that Olivia will always know she belongs within it?

**Parents: We will.**

Leader: Will you make your home a place where Christ is honoured and where Olivia may grow in love and faith?

**Parents: We will, with God's help.**

Leader: Will you by your example encourage Olivia to share in the celebration of Holy Communion and the service of God in the world, and to come to the confirmation of her baptism?

**Parents: We will, with God's help.**

## **Promise of the family**

*Leader:* As the close family will you lovingly guide Olivia and give your support to Tupou and Semisi, so that Olivia may grow in Christian faith?

*Family:* **We will, with God's help.**

*Congregation stands*

## **Promise of the Congregation**

*Leader:* As members of Christ's universal church you are about to receive Olivia Pohiva into membership.

Will you surround Olivia and her family with love, nurture and encourage her in the faith,

and with God's help make this a place where all may grow in the knowledge and love of Christ?

*People:* **We will. With great joy we welcome Olivia Pohiva into the church.**

*Congregation sits*

## **The Baptism**

*Leader:* Flowing water is the central symbol of baptism. It is a sign of life and growth, of freshness and delight, of cleansing and new beginnings, of God's Holy Spirit poured out on those who belong to Christ.

*Water is poured into the font by the Parish Steward.*

*Leader:* Eternal God,  
we thank you for the gift of water.  
When nothing existed by chaos,  
you swept across the waters of creation  
and brought forth life;

when you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,  
you led them to freedom through the sea;

across the river Jordan you led Israel  
to the land you promised.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,  
Nurtured in the waters of a womb;  
in the Jordan he was baptised by John  
and anointed by your Spirit;  
at the well in Samaria he offered the gift of living water;  
his followers are called to share the baptism  
of his death and resurrection  
and to make disciples of all nations.  
By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
Bless this water and Olivia Pohiva who is baptised in it,  
that she may be born of water and the Spirit,  
be raised to new life in Christ  
and strengthened to serve you in the world.  
To you be all honour and glory,  
now and for ever. Amen.

*Congregation stands*

Olivia Pohiva, I baptise you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Olivia, from this day on  
the sign of the cross is upon you.  
Remember always that you are a child of God.  
Through the water of birth  
You were brought into the world.  
Through the waters of baptism  
You have been brought into the church.

*A candle, towel are presented by the Parish Steward.*

*A gift made by the children of the congregation is presented.*

Leader: Olivia Pohiva,  
walk in the way of Christ.  
Shine with the light of Christ.

The grace of Christ attend you;  
the love of God surround you;  
the Holy Spirit keep you,  
this day and for ever. Amen.

*Congregation sits. Olivia is introduced to the congregation.*

Leader: Let us pray:  
We thank you, loving God, for the miracle of birth,  
for the gift of children and the richness  
that family life can bring.  
Bless Olivia and her family.  
Give to Tupou and Semisi the faith and wisdom  
to fulfil their responsibility.

**People: We remember with gratitude  
our own baptism.  
Help us to live lives  
worthy of his high calling.**

Leader: May your Spirit continually be at work in us so  
that we may be channels of love and peace.  
Amen.

*Olivia Pohiva is entered in the baptismal register. The baptismal certificate is  
presented by the Parish Steward.*

*The parents and family members return to their seat*

**Hymn:**     **Sīsū, ke ke ma’u ma’au** (*Take my life and let it be*)

Sīsū, ke ke ma’u ma’au  
‘Eku ngaahi me’a kotoa;  
Taleniti, ngaahi ta’u,  
Fānau, fale, mo e koloa.

Hoku ongo nima ē,  
Te na ngāue pe ma’au;  
Tapu foki hoku va’e  
Ke na fai pē ho’ fekau.

Ngutu mo e le’o ē  
Sila pe ko ho’o me’a  
Hiva ‘aki pē ‘a Koe,  
Fakahoko pe ho’ lea.

Siliva mo koula foki  
Kuo kōpano ki he ‘Eiki,  
‘O ‘ikai pe te u ta’ofi  
Haku kongā sēniti.

Loto mo e ‘atamai  
Ko ho pule’anga ia;  
Fokotu’u taloni ai,  
Tala ai ho fatongia.

Me’a ta’etaau pe mo’oni;  
Hono ‘uke, pe sia’a!!  
‘Oua, ‘Eiki, ‘e momoi,  
He ko si’oku ngātanga.

Tongan Hymn Book himi 510

**Reading:**   **Luke 9: 51-62 [The Message]**

**Reflection**

## Hymn: Our life has its seasons [AA 113]

Our life has its seasons,  
and God has the reasons  
why spring follows winter,  
and new leaves grow,  
for there's a connection  
with our resurrection  
that flowers will bud  
after frost and snow,  
*so there's never a time to stop believing,  
there's never a time for hope to die,  
there's never a time to stop loving,  
these three things go on.*

There's a time to be planting,  
a time to be plucking,  
a time to be laughing,  
a time to weep,  
a time to be building,  
a time to be breaking,  
a time to be waking,  
a time to sleep,  
*but there's never a time ...*

There's a time to be hurting,  
a time to be healing,  
a time to be saving,  
a time to spend,  
a time to be grieving,  
a time to be dancing,  
a time for beginning,  
a time to end,  
*but there's never a time ...*

*Words Shirley Murray, Music Colin Gibson*

## Community Time

### Sharing the Peace

May a heart of peace rest with you.  
**And also, with you.**

### Notices - Sharing Joys and Sorrows

### Offering

*(We acknowledge our gifts for the food bank and the work of the Parish through envelope and cash offerings, and through bank automatic payments.)*

### Blessing of Offering

Wairua Tapu, Creative Spirit, as we bring our gifts, koha of hand and heart, inspire us to bring to life our vision of mana whenua where everyone is valued and understood. May the gifts of the spirit, bud and flower and bear the spirit's fruit.

Amen.

### Prayers for ourselves and others

Kia inoi tatou

Matariki is a time to prepare, learn, share and celebrate.

We acknowledge our whanau, and remember those who have passed on from this world;

We share our resources;

We dream and set goals for the future;

And we celebrate who we are, and our life in this place –

this community of Te Whanganui-a-Tara, this beautiful homeland of Aotearoa;

this world, this universe.

Aroha mai, aroha atu

**Love towards us, love going out from us.**

Matariki is a time of thanks for the good harvest  
And for sharing what we have for the good of all.  
We all have times of needing help:  
Whether financial support,  
words of encouragement with a dream or project or relationship,  
the loan of a home or a car,  
professional counselling or the open ear, or arms, of a friend  
when the days are dark  
and the world feels like Te Kore, the Nothingness.  
To those who have shared and supported  
and loved us back to the light  
we give thanks  
and thankfully, we share what we have with others.  
Aroha mai, aroha atu  
**Love towards us, love going out from us.**

At Matariki, we pause to stargaze  
To dream our dreams  
And plan our actions for a better world,  
An earth transformed, made new.  
We think of the things we can do  
To make poverty history;  
To care for our mother the earth  
To savour and conserve her resources;  
To invigorate and sustain this community of faith.  
So, we share our hopes and dreams with our neighbours  
Aroha mai, aroha atu  
**Love towards us, love going out from us.**

And we celebrate our cultures and languages,  
Our spirit and our people:  
Nga tikanga, nga reo  
Nga whenua, nga tangata.  
Where we can right past wrongs  
Where we can support our nation's leaders to act righteously  
on our behalf

where we can make a difference, by our attitudes of openness  
to what we do not know  
where we can honour the history of our tangata whenua and our settler or  
immigrant forebears  
where we can welcome newcomers: migrants and refugees,  
those who seek justice and freedom in a new country  
where we honour the aspirations of our young people  
whose dreams & language, music & culture  
we don't always understand  
where we can walk in others' shoes and share their load

let us give of our lives, our resources, and our hearts.

Aroha mai, aroha atu

**Love towards us, love going out from us.**

We celebrate who we come from, who we are and who we are yet to be –

### **Lord's Prayer**

**E tō mātou Matua i te rangi**

**Kia tapu tou Ingoa**

**Kia tae mai tou rangatira-tanga.**

**Kia meatia tau e pai ai**

**ki runga i te whenua,**

**kia rite ano ki to te rangi.**

**Homai ki a mātou aianei**

**he taro mā mātou mo tēnei ra.**

**Murua o mātou hara**

**Me mātou hoki e muru nei**

**i o te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.**

**Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whaka-waia;**

**Engari whaka-orangia mātou, i te kino:**

**Nou hoki te rangatira-tanga,**

**te kaha,**

**me te kororia,**

**Ake, ake, ake.**

**Āmine.**

## Hymn: “Where mountains rise to open skies” [AA 155]

Where mountains rise to open skies  
your name, O God, is echoed far,  
from island beach to kauri’s reach,  
in water’s light, in lake and star.

Your people’s heart, your people’s part  
be in our caring for this land,  
for faith to flower, for aroha  
to let each other’s mana stand.

From broken word, from conflict stirred,  
from lack of vision, set us free  
to see the line of your design,  
to feel creation’s energy.

Your love be known, compassion shown,  
that every child have equal scope:  
in justice done, in trust begun  
shall be our heritage and hope.

Where mountains rise to open skies  
your way of peace distil the air,  
your spirit bind all humankind,  
one covenant of life to share!

*Words Shirley Murray, Music Vernon Griffiths*

## Parting Words

May the blessings of our ancestors be upon us all.  
They set the pathway for us all to follow.  
They gave us our heritage,  
and instilled in our hearts our culture  
and righteousness to assist us in whatever we do;  
with honour and a clear mind, and with love for each other.  
Let us hold fast to this belief.

**May the grace of God  
The love of Christ  
And the power of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all, now and forever more. Amen**

*The candle is extinguished*

**Ma te Marie (Sung unaccompanied)**

Ma te marie a te Atua	<i>The peace of God</i>
Tatou katoa e tiaki;	<i>keep us all.</i>
Mana ano e whakau	<i>He will confirm our</i>
O tatou ngakau ki te pai	<i>hearts in goodness.</i>

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra	<i>May the Son of God</i>
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki	<i>and the Holy Spirit</i>
Ratou, Atua Kotahi nei.	<i>too, one God,</i>
Tatou katoa e whakapai.	<i>Bless us all.</i>
Amine.	<i>Amen.</i>

*Please join us in the new hall for refreshments following the service.*

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from: Methodist Church of New Zealand service of Baptism, Bosco Peters <https://liturgy.co.nz/matariki-2022> and <https://www.presbyterian.org.nz/for-ministers/worship-resources/special-services/matariki-services>

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