



WESLEY WELLINGTON
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 27th November 2022

He hokinga mahara, ka haere whakamua

(Reflecting on our past, and moving forward)

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
27th November 2022 – 1st Sunday of Advent**

Welcome to today's service. A special welcome to all visitors. Your presence enriches our gathering and contributes to the creative evolution of community.

WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

The time has come to enter and celebrate
Here we proclaim the fellowship of life.

Here we rejoice in the beauty of the season.
**Come one, come all, come together
to join in the spirit and mystery of Advent.**

LIGHTING OF THE ADVENT CANDLE – 'Source of Light'

We light this candle for the Christmas story that shines hope on our lives.

Light first Advent candle

**God of hope and newness of life;
Give us courage to offer hope to our world in word and in action.
Help us in this Advent season to become your story-tellers of hope
for our time. Amen.**

HYMN **'Advent Carol'** [*Tune: O Little Town of Bethlehem*]

Lord, give us HOPE this advent time,
that we may not despair
with tragedies and grief and pain
and sadness everywhere.
As we await Christ's coming
to live upon this earth,
may we find HOPE as we begin
to celebrate his birth.

Jan Chamberlin

OPENING PRAYER

The earth has turned once more, Creator God.
The season of hope, peace, joy, and love returns
as a reminder of how we should live the whole year through.

You have called us to be your people, asking us to
Take your light out into the world.

Help us in our times of worship throughout this
Season of Advent to find the words to share the
message of hope, peace, joy, and love.

Show us how to be fully aware of your presence, with others.
In Jesus name, we pray. **Amen.**

CENTERING SILENCE

Relaxing into 'quietness' creates the space for deep listening and
draws you into yourself.

Silence

These are signs that we choose to be in this safe place.

HYMN “Who is the child that is to be born?” [AA159]

Who is the child that is to be born,
 who is the child?
Less than a wisp of straw
 in a stable,
brighter than sun, the light
 from his candle,
this is the Christ!

Who is to sing the song of his birth,
 who is to sing?
All whom the story touches
 and changes,
hopeful and healed,
 whom love rearranges,
these know the song.

Who is to dance the dance of his birth,
 who is to dance?
Limbs that are leased
 A life into freedom,
hands that will hold the world
 in a welcome,
these know the dance.

Who are to be the bearers of Christ?
 who are they now?
all who give birth
 to lively compassion,
carrying peace
 as dearest possession,
these bear the Christ.

Shirley Murray

STORY TIME - HE HOKINGA MAHARA, KA HAERE WHAKAMUA

READING Isaiah 2: 1-5 [NRSV updated Edition]

The Future House of God

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

the mountain of the LORD's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.

Many peoples shall come and say,
"Come, let us go up to the mountain of the LORD,
to the house of the God of Jacob,
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths."

For out of Zion shall go forth instruction
and the word of the LORD from Jerusalem.
He shall judge between the nations
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into plowshares
and their spears into pruning hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation;
neither shall they learn war any more.

O house of Jacob,
come, let us walk
in the light of the LORD!

STORY TIME - HE HOKINGA MAHARA, KA HAERE WHAKAMUA

HYMN 'Deep in the human heart' [HioS 19]

Deep in the human heart
the fire of justice burns;
a vision of a world renewed
through radical concern.
As Christians we are called
to set the captives free,
to overthrow the evil powers
and end hypocrisy.

This is our task today
to build a world of peace;
a world of justice, freedom, truth,
where kindness will increase;
a world from hunger freed,
a world where people share,
where every person is of worth
and no-one lives in fear.

Taking the step of faith,
we leave the past behind
and move into the future's world
with open heart and mind.
By grace we work with Christ,
as one community,
to bring new hope and fuller life
to all humanity.

William L (Bill) Wallace

OFFERING AND DEDICATION

(We acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and on-line banking)

In response to the promise of abundant life,
God calls us to share our resources with those in need.
In that spirit of generosity, let us offer our gifts.

Loving God, we give thanks for the visions and dreams that you share with your people. We offer these gifts in response to your abundant blessings and ask that you use them and the commitment they represent to share your good news with all the world. Amen.

COMMUNITY TIME

Let us take a moment to celebrate each other.

Sharing the Peace

Let's greet each other saying: **"God's peace be with you."**

Notices

Sharing our joys and concerns

COMMUNITY PRAYER

This prayer was written by Methodist young people for our Conference on the theme of He hokinga mahara. Ka haere whakamua.

The church is a waka on the water;
It is the water that it was made for.
It was launched from one land in hope of reaching another.
When the maunga will be visible – piercing the horizon –
the church cannot tell.
But still, in hope, it moves forward.

The church is a waka on the water;
the water can be peaceful, tranquil and still.
It can also be volatile, aggressive and unforgiving.
Its stillness can reflect the stars above.
Its waves can tower and destroy in a single sweep.
In whatever water.

Still in hope, the church moves forward.

The church is a waka on the water;
It is filled with voyagers.
People on board for a variety of reasons, roles and responsibilities.
People on the waka, belong to it.
Their place on board is crucial to its journey.
The waka finds purpose through its people and
the people seek purpose on the waka.
The hope in which they move forward, is a reciprocal hope.

A voyage towards restoration.

The church is a waka on the water.
God the parent is the timeless navigation system and guide.
The stars and moon. The temperature and current.
The Holy Spirit is the wind in its sails.
Helping the waka to glide across the seas of great unknown.

Christ is the Rangatira. The heard of the waka.

The shaper of its journey.

The church is a waka on the water.
We who are on board, row with our backs,
facing towards the future, and our eyes
towards where it is that we have come from.
Ka mua, ka muri, the journey continues.

**And where Christ, our captain, our Rangatira leads,
So it is where we will go.
Amine.**

The 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 aianeī
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 'Song of faith that sings forever' [FFS 57]

Song of faith that sings forever
through God's people, ages long,
Word that holds the world together
when our hearts take up the song,
always, always somewhere sounding,
though the source we do not see,
counterpoint to all despairing,
it is hope that sets the key.

Song of faith in exultation,
rising through the vaults of prayer,
tune of simple celebration
offered up in open air,
song in chapel and cathedral,
descant to our daily tone,
song from sickbed or in prison:
faith must often sing alone.

And when life would overwhelm us,
when there seems no song to sing,
hear the constant voice of courage
out of fear and suffering:
all who've loved and trusted Jesus,
all who lift us to be strong,
endless, endless are the voices
of the faith that makes the song.

Shirley Murray

PARTING WORDS

Grace (*we say the grace together*)

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa,
te atawhai o to tātou Ariki o Ihu Karaiti,
me te aroha o te Atua,
me te whiwhinga tahitanga
ki te Wairua Tapu. Amine**

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

CWS. "Let hope flow this Christmas" (adapted) <https://cws.org.nz>

Gathering – The United Church of Canada

TYTANZ – Tauwi Youth of Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa

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Acknowledgement:

We thank the Heger Family for our refreshments today.

We also thank Joy Grove for the floral decorations.

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Visit the parish website; <https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

Or the 10am Facebook Page to keep up-to-date with services and news:

<https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am>