



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

Sunday 28th August 2022 – Pentecost 12

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

**Leader: Rev Nicola Teague Grundy
Organist: Colin Scarf**

WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING – Lusi Tevita

GATHERING

CALL TO WORSHIP

We come to worship our God,
to listen to the One who calls us here.

**We come trusting God to lead us in the coming days,
as surely as were our grandparents in the faith.**

We come to worship our God,
to shout with joy to the God of all people.

**We come to the Creator of all things,
to be bathed in the waters of life.**

We come to the Feast of God's faithful,
to be fed by the One who never forsakes us.

**We come to worship our God,
to sing aloud to the One who saves us.**

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

The candle is lit

Life is a gift for which we are grateful.

**We gather in community to celebrate
the glories and the mysteries of this gift.**

HYMN: Here to celebrate God's loving [HioS 58]

Here to celebrate God's loving,
in this moment called to share,
partners in love's gracious purpose,
God invites us all to care.

Refrain:

Hang out the hallelujahs,
hang out a loud amen,
love is God's final word in Christ,
a love that knows no end.

Here to celebrate God's working,
there's a task for everyone
none is greater, none is smaller:
just love's service to be done.

Here to celebrate God's welcome,
finding Christ in me and you.
for the world and for each other
doing what our Lord would do.

Here to celebrate God's goodness,
here to listen, here to pray;
sent from worship into service,
called to live Christ's loving way.

Words & Music: Colin Gibson

OPENING PRAYER

Yesterday, God of our days,
when our hunger for hope
had so weakened us
we could barely speak,
you fed us with the Bread of life,
spread with the sweet honey of your grace.

Today, Host to the poor,
when we look for you
in the powerful and the rich,
among the superstar and celebrity,
we will find you seated with the children,
your knees squeezed painfully under the table,
entertaining them with your stories.

Tomorrow, Spirit of Service,
when we will be scrambling
for the seats of honour,
you will be in the kitchen
cooking dinner for the prisoners;
making up the guest room for the immigrants;
singing lullabies of love to the lost children of our world.

God in Community, Holy in One:
yesterday, today, tomorrow, always,
we will pray as Jesus has taught us, saying,

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.**

STORY TIME

HYMN: Brother, sister, let me serve you [AA8]

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

We are pilgrims on a journey,
we are travellers on the road,
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the night-time of your fear,
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

I will weep when you are weeping,
when you laugh, I'll laugh with you,
I will share your joy and sorrow
till we've seen this journey through.

When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love, and agony.

Brother, sister, let me serve you,
let me be as Christ to you,
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

Richard Gillard

MINISTRY OF THE WORD – Alan Dine

Psalm 81: 1, 10-16 (responsive reading)

Sing to God who is our strength and happiness!
Shout and applaud the God of joy and pure holiness!

I am the unique God, your God who brought you into liberty.

**You only have to open up your mouth
and I will fill it with the bread of certainty.**

My own people would not listen to me;

I came to my own folk and was rejected.

**So I let them get lost in their own stubbornness,
to wander among their vain ideas, neglected**

How I wish my people would listen to me,

that they would walk on my narrow road.

**Then I would soon tame their adversaries,
and turn the tables on all who mock and goad.**

Those who hate me should come and bow down,
and escape the disaster on which they are set;

**I would nourish you on the finest bread
and sweeten you with the purest honey yet.**

Sing out to God who is our strength and happiness!

Shout and applaud the God of joy and holiness!

Luke 14: 1, 7-13 (inclusive text)

On a sabbath day Jesus had gone for a meal to the house of one of the leading Pharisees; and they watched him closely.

Jesus then told the guests a parable, having noticed how they picked the places of honour. Jesus said this, 'When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take your seat in the place of honour.

'A more distinguished person than you may have been invited, and the person who invited you both may come and say, "Give up your place to this one."

'And then, to your embarrassment, you would have to go and take the lowest place.'

No, when you are a guest, make your way to the lowest place and sit there, so that, when your host comes, you may hear, "My friend, move up higher."

'In that way, everyone with you at the table will see you honoured. For those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted.'

Then Jesus said to the host, 'When you give a lunch or a dinner, do not ask your friends, relations or rich neighbours, in case they repay your courtesy by inviting you in return.'

'No, when you have a party, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind; that they cannot pay you back means that you are fortunate.'

REFLECTION

HYMN: We are many we are one [FFS 67]

We are many, we are one,
and the work of Christ is done
when we learn to live in true community,
 as the stars that fill the night,
 as a flock of birds in flight,
 as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
 as the branches of a tree,
 as the waves upon the sea,
 as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

All division is made whole
when we honour every soul,
find the life of God in every you and me,
 as the fingers of a hand,
 as the grains that form the sand,
 as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
 as the threads upon a loom,
 as a field of flowers in bloom,
 as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

We will join creation's song,
make a world where all belong,
build as one in peace and loving harmony,
as the voices of a choir,
as the flames within a fire,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine;
as the snowflakes in the snow,
as the colours of a bow,
as the cluster of the grapes upon the vine.

Words & Music Colin Gibson

OFFERING

May our giving and our actions bring these gifts to life:
new hope of healing;
fresh ways of coping;
a chance to rest;
a chance to work;
a way to live gracefully.

COMMUNITY TIME

Sharing the Peace

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

Notices

Sharing our Joys, Things we are Grateful for, Sorrows and Concerns

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS

God of Jesus, God of all the world,
opponent of all evil
and friend of the oppressed,
Inspire us with your love.

That there are people who hunger for warm rice,
or milk, or meat, or cheese,
or even the scraps our pets ignore:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people who hunger for your grace,
and search their minds and hearts for words of prayer,
who, having your love, yet fail to find its presence:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people who hunger to be free,
to go where they please, or stay upon their land,
or even to think, to laugh, to plan, to hope:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people who thirst to know the truth,
and have at hand some small, dry cup of lies
provided by cynical, evil leaders:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people who thirst to use themselves
and give of all they have learnt from life, but are
held back by the jealousy of their contemporaries:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people who thirst to create love
in loveless circumstances of slum,
or homeless circumstance of compound:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people naked to weather,
helpless before torture,
sick with disease and with loneliness:
Lord, help us to remember.

That there are people prisoner to the walls of tyrants,
and prisoner to the walls of indifference –
that in the least of these your kingdom awaits our love:
Lord, help us to remember.

God of Jesus, God of all the world,
help us also remember that wherever we find
the courage of kindness, the kindling of hope,
the face of forgiveness, the fingers of mercy,
the presence of love, we also find you.

**keep us, we pray in the faith that sustains
all sorts and conditions of people.**

Amen.

HYMN: Nothing is lost on the breath of God [FFS 50]

Nothing is lost on the breath of God,
nothing is lost forever;
God's breath is love, and that love will remain,
holding the world forever.
No feather too light, no hair too fine,
no flower too brief in its glory,
no drop in the ocean, no dust in the air,
but is counted and told in God's story.

Nothing is lost to the eyes of God,
Nothing is lost forever;
God sees with love, and that love will remain,
holding the world forever.
No journey too far, no distance too great,
no valley of darkness too blinding,
no creature too humble, no child too small
for God to be seeking and finding.

Nothing is lost to the heart of God,
nothing is lost forever;
God's heart is love, and that love will remain,
holding the world forever.
No impulse of love, no office of care,
no moment of life in its fulness,
no beginning too late, no ending too soon,
but is gathered and known in its goodness.

Words and music: Colin Gibson

PARTING WORDS

The time has come for us to leave this sacred place.

The candle is extinguished

Having listened to God's words, we are sent to serve others.

Today and tomorrow, we will follow where God leads.

Having joined in songs of praise and hope,
we will carry these gifts into the world.

Today and tomorrow, we will serve beside Jesus.

Having been filled with the Spirit of justice,
we will go to be with all who struggle.

Today and tomorrow, we will bring justice and peace to those around us.

Words of Blessing

Go into this week
brimming over with the grace of God,
nourished by the love of Jesus Christ,
implanted with the fruit of the Holy Spirit.

Grace (*said 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**

Please join us for morning tea following the service, thank you Daphne for hosting morning tea. We also thank the Samoan congregation for the lovely flowers.

Liturgy for this service was sourced from:
John O'Donohue "To Bless the Space Between us"
Thom M. Shuman <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>
B. D. Prewer "Australian Psalms"
Terry C. Falla, "Be our freedom Lord"

Image: "A place at the table" by Lynn Farrey
Inspired by Shirley Murray's hymn

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Or the 10am Facebook Page to keep up-to-date with services and news:
<https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am>