



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

**Sunday 4<sup>th</sup> December 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 – Combined Congregations**

*Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street*

### **WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING**

Rev Utumauu

### **Lighting of the Candle**

As we light the Christ candle  
To signal peace and goodwill to all on earth  
Let us remember those who yearn for a word from God  
And all who gaze into the night sky  
In longing and in hope, listening for an angel song  
May the flame of God's eternal light  
Find a welcome in every spirit today.

### **Introit**

Congregation

Fijian

### **Call to Worship**

Rev Sikeli

Come as an Advent People, praise the God of Promise  
**We come with glad and thankful hearts**  
Follow the Holy, make the path straight  
**We will walk the road to Bethlehem**  
God comes as light  
**Now may our hearts sing to you, our spirits leap to you**  
Let every tongue give praise to God  
**Let us proclaim that God is with us**  
Forgiving, liberating, and redeeming  
Let us rejoice in our worship  
Let us open to God's leading  
**We will promise the God of love**  
**In word, action and with gentleness of Spirit**  
**We celebrate the Advent of our God.**  
**Amen**

**1.English**

O for a thousand tongues to sing  
My great Redeemer's praise,  
The glories of my God and King,  
The triumphs of God's grace!

**2.Samoan**

Lo'u Matai ma lo'u Atua  
Fesoasoani mai  
E talai atu i le lalolagi  
Lou suafa mamalu.

**3.Tongan**

Ko Sisu 'a e Huafa lahi,  
'O 'ikai hano ua:  
'kai ha taha ke tatau,  
Ha taha ke kakunga.

**4.Fijian**

Sa vosa ga, qai reki mai  
Na yalo vutugu;  
Na mataboko, era rai;  
Na bale era tu.

**5.English**

Hear him, ye deaf; his praise, ye dumb,  
Your loosened tongues employ  
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come  
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

Charles Wesley  
(1707-88)

**Prayer**

Rev Simote

Gracious God, the God of the unexpected and the undreamt  
Your vision of peace and wholeness comes to us  
In sweeping revelations and in tiny signs of hope  
We thank you that Jesus showed your love for every person  
Infant and child, young and old, sick and healthy, strong and weak  
Rich and poor, stranger and friend  
Come to us this advent season, o God

And give us love in our hearts for all people  
In this holy season, instil our hopes in our hearts  
That we may be hopeful people  
Prepare us so we can hear again the songs of the angels  
And see again the beckoning stars  
Keep us from growing weary of waiting  
Lest we miss the glory of your appearing  
Come quickly, o God  
Come to us in this Advent season  
In Jesus name we pray,  
**Amen**  
(We pray together the Lord's Prayer in our language choice).  
(Rev Simote)

### **10am Singing Group 'Come now, Lord Jesus'**

1. Come now, Lord Jesus,  
enter our Christmas,  
be to us no stranger  
in this new-made manger

2. Come, small and human,  
born of a woman,  
yet a son much greater  
of our own Creator.

3. Come, cold and crying,  
comfort denying,  
no place to receive you,  
few yet to believe you.

4. Come poor and simple,  
our flesh your temple,  
in your body feeling  
hurt as well as healing.

5. Come gift and token,  
bread to be broken -  
star and sign still point you,  
myrrh will yet anoint you.

## Scripture Reading

### **Isaiah 11:1-10** (Fijian)

The royal line of David is like a tree that has been cut down; but just as new branches sprout from a stump, so a new king will arise from among David's descendants. The spirit of the Lord will give him wisdom and the knowledge and skill to rule his people. He will know the Lord's will and honor him and find pleasure in obeying him. He will not judge by appearance or hearsay; he will judge the poor fairly and defend the rights of the helpless. At his command the people will be punished, and evil persons will die. He will rule his people with justice and integrity. Wolves and sheep will live together in peace, and leopards will lie down with young goats. Calves and lion cubs will feed<sup>[a]</sup> together, and little children will take care of them. Cows and bears will eat together, and their calves and cubs will lie down in peace. Lions will eat straw as cattle do. Even a baby will not be harmed if it plays near a poisonous snake. On Zion, God's sacred hill, there will be nothing harmful or evil. The land will be as full of knowledge of the Lord as the seas are full of water.

### **Roman 15:4-13** (Samoan)

Everything written in the Scriptures was written to teach us, in order that we might have hope through the patience and encouragement which the Scriptures give us. And may God, the source of patience and encouragement, enable you to have the same point of view among yourselves by following the example of Christ Jesus, so that all of you together may praise with one voice the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ. Accept one another, then, for the glory of God, as Christ has accepted you. For I tell you that Christ's life of service was on behalf of the Jews, to show that God is faithful, to make his promises to their ancestors come true, and to enable even the Gentiles to praise God for his mercy. As the scripture says, "And so I will praise you among the Gentiles; I will sing praises to you." Again it says, "Rejoice, Gentiles, with God's people!" And again, "Praise the Lord, all Gentiles; praise him, all peoples!"

And again, Isaiah says, "A descendant of Jesse will appear; he will come to rule the Gentiles, and they will put their hope in him." May God, the source of hope, fill you with all joy and peace by means of your faith in him, so that your hope will continue to grow by the power of the Holy Spirit. My friends: I myself feel sure that you are full of goodness, that you have all knowledge, and that you are able to teach one another.

**Reflection – President of the Methodist Church of NZ  
Rev Peter Taylor**

**Hymn 252**

1. All hail the Power of Jesus name  
Let Angels prostrate fall  
Bring forth the royal diadem  
And crown him Lord of all

2. Crown him 'ye martyrs of your God  
Who from his alter call  
Extol the Stem-of-Jesse's call  
And crown him Lord of all

3. Ye seed of Isarael's chosen race  
Ye ransomed of the fall  
Hail him who saves you by his grace  
And crown him Lord of all

4. Hail him the heir of David's line  
Whom David Lord did call  
The God incarnate Man divine  
And crown him Lord of all

5. Sinners, whose love can ne'er forget  
The wormwood and the gall  
Go, spread your trophies at his feet  
And crown him Lord of all

6. Let every kindred, every tribe  
On this terrestrial ball  
To him all majesty ascribe  
And crown him Lord of all

7. O that with yonder scared throng  
We at his feet may fall  
Join in the everlasting song  
And crown him Lord of all.

## **Prayer**

Merciful God

Always with us and always coming

We confess that we do not know

How to prepare for your advent

We have forgotten how to hope in miracles

We have ignored the promise of your kingdom

We get distracted by all the busyness of this season.

Forgive us God

Grant us the simple wonder of the shepherds

The intelligent courage of the magi

And patient faith of Mary and Joseph

That we may journey with them to Bethlehem

And find the Good News of a child born for us

Now in the quiet of our hearts

We ask you to make us ready for his coming

Faithful God, now you are coming

So close now, we can feel it like children on tiptoe

Breathless with anticipation at the wonders in store

Now we are ready, as ready as can be

And ready or not, here you come

Oh God, in the pain of the tortured

**Breathe release**

In the wounds of our planet

**Breathe well-being**

Into the death of our creatures

**Breathe life**

Into those who long for peace in you

**Breath yourself**

Your Kingdom come, your will be done

**The power and the glory are yours**

**Now and forever**

**Amen.**

## **Invitation to the Offering**

With Joy, let us present offerings of commitment and support  
For the work of Christ's Church.

Remember the words of Jesus who said;

"Freely you have received, freely give" (Mat 10:8)

With joy, let us present offerings of commitment and support

For the work of Christ's Church.  
(Offerings will now be received)

## **Offering Prayer**

Ever-present God

As we prepare for the festival of Christ's birth

Help us to give in expectation of his return

By your generosity we have received

All that we have and all that we are

May our gifts be used to prepare the world for Christ's coming

Grant that we may so use the things which you have entrusted to our care.

With this offering, we present also ourselves.

All that we have been, all that we are

And all that we shall become

Accept us and our offering

For Jesus's sake we pray

**Amen**

## **Holy Communion**

The celebration of communion is always a festival of friends

A pulling together of our Love and our Hope

Our moments of agony and our glimpse of victory

It is here that bread is broken and wine is shared

That we can most fully be ourselves

And see others for who they truly are

Let us remember that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at the table.

He shared food with followers and friends, with saints and sinners

With crowds of thousands on hillside

And a few friends in the upper room.

On the night before he died

He had supper with his companions

He took a loaf of bread and after giving thanks

He broke it and gave it to them saying;

"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me"

Then he took a cup and after giving thanks

He passed it among them saying

"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me".

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us

In word and deed, Jesus lives amongst us.



**We proclaim Christ's death  
We celebrate Christ's resurrection  
We await Christ's coming again.**

Draw near in faith and take this holy sacrament  
In remembrance that Christ died for you  
And feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

**Bread and Wine are served**

*10am Congregation who will be singing are asked to come first after which the rest of the congregation comes to be served with the Lord's supper.*

**Holy Communion Prayer**

**Almighty God**

**We give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table  
By granting us the presence of Jesus Christ.  
Strengthen our faith and increase our love for one another  
Send us forth into the world united in courage and peace  
Rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit  
Through Jesus Christ our saviour  
Amen.**

**Hymn 463 'To God Be the Glory'**

**1.English**

To God be the glory, great things he has done!  
So loved he the world that he gave us his Son,  
Who yielded his life in atonement for sin,  
And opened the life-gate that all may go in:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!  
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;  
And give him the glory - great things he has done!*

## **2.Tongan**

‘Ahake kainga mo fakafeta’i  
Tau fakamalo he mana ne fai  
‘I Petelihema he kuonga mu’a:  
‘A e hoko tangata ‘a hotau ‘Otua!  
Fakafeta’i! Fakafeta’i!  
Ko e pehe te tau noa!  
Fakamalo he ‘ofa ‘a hotau ‘Otua.  
Ne tuku ‘a Langi mo hono masani  
Kae ha’u ‘o huhu’i ‘a e hia ‘a mamani.

## **3.Samoan**

Avatu ia le faafetai  
I le Atua i mea na fai  
Ua Ia faaola i tatou uma nei  
I lona alofa ma le agalelei  
Ia viia, Ia viia  
E i tatou o Ia  
Ia viia, Ia viia  
Le Atua mata’utia  
O lona alofa ua fa’aalia mai  
E ala ia Iesu ua foa’i mai.

## **4.Fijian**

Vakamuduo ga vei Jisu edai  
Mai mate ka rube e kauveilatai  
Bokoci na ca meda bula vua  
me da cuva sobu ka vakatusa.  
sere ga sere ga meda sere vua  
sere ga sere ga me da sere vua  
Tou ia ka lako vei Jisu edai  
Me da mai curu ki loma ni bai

## **5.English**

Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,  
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son;  
But purer, and higher, and greater will be  
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the earth hear his voice!  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!  
Let the people rejoice!*

*O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son;  
And give him the glory - great things he has done!*

### **Blessing and Sending Forth**

We now return to the world which we came  
A world of pain, a world of promise  
The world which God so loved  
That the Betlehem baby was born.  
May we listen to the voice of the angel who says, "Fear not"  
May we be filled with the good news of God  
Through the child of Mary and Joseph  
God's gift for the new life for all.

**The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ**

**The Love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit**

**Be with you all, Amen**

### **Ma te atua e marie (Sung unaccompanied)**

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

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

### **Distinguish of the Candle.**

*(All are invited for a refreshment at the New Hall  
Hosted by the Samoan Congregation)*