



Wesley Wellington

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

**Sunday 6<sup>th</sup> March 2022 Lent 1**  
**Holy Communion**

*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**

Leader:  
**Rev Nicola Teague Grundy**

Organ: **Colin Scarf**

**Welcome, Introduction & Safety briefing**

**Call to Worship**

Wanderers, gatherers,  
homemakers, travellers  
**We come to God**

Questioners, adventurers,  
believers, doubters,  
**We come to God**

Workers, menders,  
seekers, dreamers,  
**We come to God.**

**Prayer of Invocation**

Wonder of wonders!  
God is to be found within our wildernesses,  
Deep in the centre of our harshest places  
And placing a caring hand under all our questions.  
Be known to us here, O God, whether we are on firm ground  
Or the treacherous sands of indecision.  
**Come, gracious God, come.**  
**Amen.**

## Lighting the Candles

We light our candle this morning,  
A sign that God loves us,  
A sign that we want to walk with Jesus today  
A sign that God's love may shine through us.

*The candle is lit*

## Hymn: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation! [H&P16]

1. Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!  
O my soul, praise him, for he is thy health and salvation!  
All ye who hear, brothers and sisters, draw near,  
Praise him in glad adoration.
2. Praise to the Lord, who doth prosper thy work and defend thee;  
surely his goodness and mercy here daily attend thee:  
ponder anew what the Almighty can do,  
who with his love doth befriend thee.
3. Praise to the Lord, who doth nourish thy life and restore thee,  
fitting thee well for the tasks that are ever before thee,  
then to thy need he like a mother doth speed,  
spreading the wings of grace o'er thee.
4. Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!  
All that hath life and breath, come now with praises before him!  
Let the amen sound from his people again:  
gladly for aye we adore him.

*Words: Joachim Neander  
tr Catherine Winkworth and Rupert E. Davies*

## Prayer of Confession

O Jesus, as we listen to the story of your temptations,  
we realise that we are hearing something like your confessions,  
the struggles that lay within your earthly life.  
Even though you unswervingly chose for good and truth,  
we know that you will believe us  
when we share how hard it is to choose that way.  
In the silence of our own wilderness,  
we know who we are and what challenges our life:

*Silent reflection*

Forgive us, O God,  
when we would rather not pause and stay with  
all that lies in the shadowy wilderness of our lives,  
preferring to press on and leave things for another day.

*Silent reflection*

Forgive us, O God.  
**Call us away from this temptation.**

If we hold endlessly into grappling with our questions  
Because we do not want to hear the answers:  
Forgive us, O God.  
**Sound your truth strongly into our hearts  
in the voice of one who knows us well.  
Amen.**

## Words of Assurance

There is no wilderness in life which is out of bounds for God.  
In Christ, we are for ever joined with a grace  
which comes from earthly experience.  
We are forgiven.  
**Thanks be to God.**

## Story Time

### **Bible reading: Luke 4: 1-13** *The Message*

Now Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, left the Jordan and was led by the Spirit into the wild. For forty wilderness days and nights he was tested by the Devil. He ate nothing during those days, and when the time was up he was hungry.

The Devil, playing on his hunger, gave the first test: “Since you’re God’s Son, command this stone to turn into a loaf of bread.”

Jesus answered by quoting Deuteronomy: “It takes more than bread to really live.”

For the second test he led him up and spread out all the kingdoms of the earth on display at once. Then the Devil said, “They’re yours in all their splendour to serve your pleasure. I’m in charge of them all and can turn them over to whomever I wish. Worship me and they’re yours, the whole works.”

Jesus refused, again backing his refusal with Deuteronomy: “Worship the Lord your God and only the Lord your God. Serve him with absolute single-heartedness.”

For the third test the Devil took him to Jerusalem and put him on top of the Temple. He said, “If you are God’s Son, jump. It’s written, isn’t it, that ‘he has placed you in the care of angels to protect you; they will catch you; you won’t so much as stub your toe on a stone?’”

“Yes,” said Jesus, “and it’s also written, ‘Don’t you dare tempt the Lord your God.’”

That completed the testing. The Devil retreated temporarily, lying in wait for another opportunity.

## Reflection

### **Hymn: Loving Spirit [AA94(ii)]**

1. Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

2. Like a mother, you enfold me,  
hold my life within your own,  
feed me with your very body,  
form me of your flesh and bone.
3. Like a father, you protect me,  
teach me the discerning eye,  
hoist me up upon your shoulder,  
let me see the world from high.
4. Friend and lover, in your closeness  
I am known and held and blessed:  
in your promise is my comfort,  
in your presence I may rest.
5. Loving Spirit, loving Spirit,  
you have chosen me to be,  
you have drawn me to your wonder,  
you have set your sign on me.

*Words: Shirley Murray, Music: Colin Gibson*

## **Community Time**

### **Sharing the Peace**

Let us take a moment to celebrate each other.  
May a heart of peace rest with you. **And also with you.**

## **Notices**

### **Sharing Joys and Sorrows**

### **Prayers of Intercession**

Visit us now in the centre of the wilderness of our life, O Christ.  
Hold firm among our frail holding to truth,  
stand tall when we would lower our life's aspirations,

Speak boldly to our false assumptions  
and look us in the eye when we fool ourselves  
by pretending to be doing your will.

*Silent reflection*

Make transparent the wiles of those who would tempt us  
calling to us in voices of sweetness and reason  
while attempting to capture our very souls.

*Silent reflection*

Be with all those today  
Who need your company in the wilderness of their lives.  
Especially we remember these people and situations:

*The people pray*

Remind us, O Christ, of your true way.  
**Go with us along the path of humility,  
in the spreading of good and justice  
and compassion into the world,  
and in finding peace which is beyond describing.  
This we pray in trembling faith.  
Amen.**

**Lord's Prayer** [Sung] WOV 676

**Our Father in heaven  
holy be your Name,  
your kingdom come,  
your will be done,  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins  
as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Do not put us to the test,  
but deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power,  
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

## **Offering**

*(Please leave your offering in the bag provided at the back of the church after the service. We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking.)*

## **Blessing of Offering**

God of grace and mercy, we give thanks for Jesus' witness to the power of your Spirit, guiding and strengthening him in times of testing. We offer our gifts and the service of our lives as signs of our thanksgiving. As we embark on our Lenten journey, guide and strengthen us with the Holy Spirit to follow Jesus wherever he leads us. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

## **MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT**

We, many as we are, are one body in Christ.  
If we do not love our brothers and sisters whom we have seen,  
how can we love God whom we have not seen?  
The peace of God be with you.  
**And God's peace be with you.**

## **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

The Lord is here.  
**God's Spirit is with us.**

Lift up your hearts.  
**We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

With all your people in heaven and on earth  
we give you thanks for Jesus Christ,  
through whom all things were made;  
who in the fullness of time became flesh  
and lived among us, full of grace and truth;  
who in obedience suffered death on the cross,

and was raised in triumph that we might have life.  
Therefore, we worship and praise your glorious name:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.**

All glory and thanksgiving to you, living God,  
creator and sustainer of the universe;  
you gave us your beloved Son Jesus Christ  
who, on the night he was betrayed, took bread  
and after giving thanks broke it  
and gave it to his disciples saying,  
“Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you.  
Do this to remember me.”  
In the same way he took the cup after supper and said,  
“This cup is the new covenant in my blood.  
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.”

**Glory to you, Lord Christ:  
your death we proclaim;  
your resurrection we celebrate;  
your coming we await. Amen.**

### **Prayer to the Holy Spirit**

Come Holy Spirit,  
that these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the bread  
of life and the cup of salvation. Bind us into one body, that we may grow  
into the fullness of Christ who is the head.  
**Amen.**

**We come to your table, Lord, trusting not in our own  
righteousness but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even  
to gather the crumbs from under the table. But you are the same  
Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us, therefore,  
gracious Lord, so to eat this bread and drink this wine that Christ  
may evermore dwell in us we in him. Amen.**

**HYMN: Christ, let us come with you [AA17]**

1. Christ, let us come with you  
to the upper room  
where the feast is laid,  
to the bread and wine  
where our peace is made –  
Christ, let us come with you.
2. Teach us your serving love:  
to become as friends,  
to become as one  
that the world believe  
what your life has done –  
teach us your serving love.
3. Jesus, forgive us all  
that we use your name  
though we stand apart,  
we refuse your prayer  
to be one at heart –  
Jesus, forgive us all.
4. Christ of the open hands,  
you have brought us close  
to be loved and fed,  
you have touched our life,  
now you walk ahead –  
Christ let us come with you!

*Words Shirley Murray, Tune: Colin Gibson*

**Breaking of the Bread**

*After a pause, break the bread and say:*

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

*Pours the wine, takes the cup and say:*

The wine which we pour is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

*Silence is kept for a time,*  
Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

## **Communion**

In eating and drinking together we remember that Christ died for us.  
Feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

## **Prayer after communion**

May we who have remembered Jesus, who have shared in a foretaste of a world where everyone has a place at the table be inspired by what we have shared in.

**Lord Jesus Christ,**

**We thank you with all our heart for your mercy and grace.**

**Grant us now and in the days to come a living hope in you;**

**and as we serve you in the world,**

**help us look and work for that day**

**when at your name every knee shall bow**

**and every tongue confess you Lord,**

**to the glory of God. Amen**

## **Parting Words**

The world is often found by passing through the wilderness.  
Go in courage because Christ has walked that way before us.

## **Blessing**

May truth shine as a star in the night sky,

Righteousness shout its freedom into the centre of our confusions

And God be in our beginning, our centre and our endings.

Amen.

## 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>

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from: *adapted from* Liturgies for High Days, Dorothy McRae-McMahon

Cover image -The Judean wilderness in Israel - <http://www.bibleplaces.com/judeanwilderness.htm>

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

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Please join us in the foyer for refreshments following the service.  
Thank you to the Conway family for the refreshments.  
Thank you Unaisi Kama for the lovely flowers.