



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 9 October 2022
Pentecost 18

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



*“Teach us to
live in
harmony”*

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!

**10am Congregation
Sunday 9 October 2022
Pentecost 18**

**Leader: Philip Garside.
Organist: Colin Scarf.
Guitarist: Heather Garside**

Welcome & Introduction

Call to Worship (said together)

**Creator God, you are the one who makes all things;
you make the sun and the rain fall on the just and the unjust,
yet your ways can be hard for mere mortals to comprehend.
We ask that you send your Spirit
to be among us as we worship you,
that in our worship we may offer you praise,
and in so doing, come to know you better
so that we may reflect your will for all creation.
In the name of Jesus, we offer our prayer. Amen.**

Lighting the candles

As we light these candles, we say together:

**Spirit lights, clear and bright
Ephemeral symbols, flickering flames.
Our eyes are drawn to you,
Our hearts are warmed by you,
You are always with us. Amen.**

Opening Prayer – *To whom all praise is due*

**We praise you, loving God to whom all praise is due.
We worship you, holy Friend, to whom our praise is due forever.**

Heaven and earth are the work of your little finger,
Time and eternity are held in the palm of your hand.

All light and life spring forth from your word,
Love and peace are the hopes that flow from your heart.

Christmas and Good Friday display your incomparable love.
**Easter and Pentecost celebrate your transcendent,
yet intimate power**

The apostles and the martyrs declare your faithfulness
**The saints and the mighty host of ordinary believers
delight in your grace.**

O may the words of our lips and the meditations of our hearts
**Be acceptable in your sight, O God,
our strength and our redeemer, Amen.**

Hymn: Take my gifts (AA 127. Tune: Talavera Terrace)

1. Take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me,
gave me light and food and shelter,
gave me life and set me free.
Now, because your love has touched me,
I have love to give away;
now the bread of love is rising,
loaves of love to multiply!
2. Take the fruit that I have gathered
from the tree your Spirit sowed,
harvest of your own compassion,
juice that makes the wine of God;
spiced with humour, laced with laughter -
flavour of the Jesus life,
tang of risk and new adventure,
taste and zest beyond belief.

3. Take whatever I can offer –
gifts that I have yet to find,
skills that I am slow to sharpen,
talents of the hand and mind,
things made beautiful for others
in the place where I must be:
take my gifts and let me love you,
God who first of all loved me.

Prayer of Approach

God of blessings,

**We are thankful that we are not alone,
that we have been placed in community.**

We are thankful that we live in your world;
A world skewed towards good and not evil;

a world which rates compassion higher than complacency;
a world where love is cherished and creatively expressed.

Confront and stir us from dullness of perception;
forgive our lack of response to your Spirit.

**Sharpen our awareness of holy ground;
Prompt us to turn aside and see wonders.**

Forgive us if we have made your world less loving
and help us live life as your daughters and sons,
actively engaged in life's wonders and concerns.

**Forgive us for times when we have over-reacted,
and for times when we have lagged in zeal.**

Encourage us to speak the truth we know
and to act in love wherever love is needed.

**Enable us to live in your strength and power,
liberated for the possibilities of the future. Amen.**

Story time / Introducing the Theme

Song: There is room. *Words and Music: Jonathan Berkahn 2012.*

1. Everyone is welcome, everyone is called,
everyone's invited to the table of the Lord.
Everyone's forgiven, everyone is free,
everyone's accepted at the table of the Lord.

Refrain:

There is room, there is room, there is always room!
There is room, there is room, there is always room!
There is room, there is room, there is always always room
There is room around this table for us all.

2. Everyone is wanted, everyone is known,
everyone is cared for at the table of the Lord.
Everyone is noticed, everyone is heard,
everyone is counted at the table of the Lord.
3. Everyone is broken, everyone is weak,
everyone is hungry at the table of the Lord.
Everyone is nurtured, everyone is fed,
everyone is strengthened at the table of the Lord.

Readings: From *The Message* by Eugene Peterson

Jeremiah 29:1, 4-7 — Plans to Give You the Future You Hope For

This is the letter that the prophet Jeremiah sent from Jerusalem to what was left of the elders among the exiles, to the priests and prophets and all the exiles whom Nebuchadnezzar had taken to Babylon from Jerusalem, including King Jehoiachin, the queen mother, the government leaders, and all the skilled laborers and craftsmen.

This is the Message from God-of-the-Angel-Armies, Israel's God, to all the exiles I've taken from Jerusalem to Babylon:

“Build houses and make yourselves at home.

Put in gardens and eat what grows in that country.

Marry and have children. Encourage your children to marry and have children so that you'll thrive in that country and not waste away.

Make yourselves at home there and work for the country's welfare.

Pray for Babylon's well-being. If things go well for Babylon, things will go well for you."

Luke 17:11-19 — Jesus Cleanses Ten Men with a Skin Disease

It happened that as he made his way toward Jerusalem, he crossed over the border between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten men, all lepers, met him. They kept their distance but raised their voices, calling out, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!"

Taking a good look at them, he said, "Go, show yourselves to the priests."

They went, and while still on their way, became clean. One of them, when he realized that he was healed, turned around and came back, shouting his gratitude, glorifying God. He kneeled at Jesus' feet, so grateful. He couldn't thank him enough—and he was a Samaritan.

Jesus said, "Were not ten healed? Where are the nine? Can none be found to come back and give glory to God except this outsider?" Then he said to him, "Get up. On your way. Your faith has healed and saved you."

Sermon: *Teach us to live in harmony*

Hymn: *Our life has its seasons* (AA 94)

1. 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.*

2. 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 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.*

3. 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 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.*

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

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

Notices

Sharing Joys, Things we are Grateful for, Sorrows & Concerns

Prayers of Intercession

To the bidding: "...Bountiful God, for all your good gifts to us"
please respond with: **"we give you thanks and praise"**

Lord's Prayer [Sung]

**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

(We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Blessing of Offering (said together)

**Loving God, receive and bless these gifts
we offer in Jesus' name.**

**By your blessing, may we, and our gifts,
continue to be transformed
for your mission in the world.
In our giving, may we discover our purpose
to love unconditionally, to dare courageously,
and to reach out humbly. Amen.**

Hymn: O God, Each Day You Bless Us.

(Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (2004). Tune *Ellacombe*)

1. O God, each day you bless us with gifts of your shalom:
You give us peace and justice, you welcome lost ones home.
You care for your creation and set your people free;
You offer us salvation and build community.
2. You make us sons and daughters baptised and reconciled!
You show us: Each peacemaker is blest as your own child.
You fill us at your table with strength for each new day;
Then Spirit-filled we're able to live your peaceful way.
3. We'll worship, pray, and study, to learn new skills for peace;
We'll work as one strong body so justice will increase.
We'll build new global friendships, seek peace in every land,
Protect the earth you gave us and give with outstretched
hand.

Benediction

Go into the world noticing the love of God by noticing others,
sharing the love of God by sharing with others,
responding to the love of God by loving others,
for the sake of Christ Jesus. Amen.

The Grace (Said together)

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen**



Liturgy for this service was sourced from:
Australians at Prayer, Bruce Prewer, 2004; *Gathering: Pentecost 2 2022*
United Church of Canada; *Lay Preaching Basics*, Rosalie Sugrue 2018; *Let*
Us Pray, Janet Nelson 1999; Philip Garside.

Cover Image:
Toshi Yoshida (1911-1995) Woodblock “Autumn in Hakone”

To keep up-to-date with services and news, visit the parish website:

<https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

Or the 10am Congregation’s Facebook Page:

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