



Wesley Wellington
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday, 1 October 2023
Pentecost 18

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



Water from the rock

Living God's Love – Acting for the common Good

Kia ora koutou katoa — Tālofa lava
Mālō e lelei — Bula vinaka — Greetings to you all!

Welcome to today's service. A special welcome to visitors. We hope you will enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again.

Welcoming you today are Lusi & Sale Tevita

10AM Congregation – Order of Service

Worship leader: Hugh Laurensen

Organist: Colin Scarf

Welcome and Safety Briefing

Alan Dine

Call to Worship (Ngā Kupu Whakapūare)

Ko te rā tēnei i hanga i Ihowā

This is the day which the Lord has made

Kia hari, kia koa tātou

Let us rejoice and be glad in it

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who loves us.

When the Israelites grumbled and quarrelled when there was no water to drink, God miraculously produced water to show them God's faithfulness and love.

When we question and accuse God, God responds by showing us love.

When the chief priests and elders questioned Jesus' authority, Jesus answered them with a story about the righteousness of doing God's will instead of paying lip service to God's will.

When we test and interrogate God, God responds by pointing us back to love.

By answering our quarrelling and questioning with love, God teaches us how to love God, neighbour, self, and all creation.

When we love as God loves, we respond to testing and accusing by living the faith and sharing God's love.

Come! Now is the time to worship!

We come to worship God who loves us for the long haul.

Lighting the candle (Kānara Whakamāmā)

As we light this candle, we say together:

May this candle be a light for you to enlighten us. May it be a fire for us to do your work in the world. May it be a flame for you to bring warmth into our hearts; warmth towards our families, neighbours and all whom we meet.

Opening Prayer (Inoi Tuatahi)

In the dry wildernesses of our lives, in the days of heat and thirst,
You offer us living water, when we begin to doubt your presence,
And grumble that your love is unreliable, you offer us living water,
Thank you, gracious and generous God.

When life's regrets and the bad choices we have made
Leave us feeling excluded and unworthy, you offer us living water,
When circumstances, or the inhumanity of others, have left us alone and
wounded, you offer us living water,
Thank you, gracious and generous God.

We thank you and praise you, O God, That however we may thirst,
Whatever we may need to satisfy our souls,
you offer it freely and abundantly in Christ;
**So we drink deep of the living water
And, as we draw from your wells,
We seek to pass the cup to others,
Who, like us, are thirsty for your grace.
Amen**

Hymn (Himene): The Lord's my shepherd, I'll not want (H&P 70)

The LORD's my Shepherd, I'll not want.
He makes me down to lie
in pastures green; He leadeth me
the quiet waters by.

My soul He doth restore again;
and me to walk doth make
within the paths of righteousness,
e'en for his own name's sake.

Yea, though I walk thro' death's dark vale,
yet will I fear no ill;
for Thou art with me, and Thy rod
and staff me comfort still.

My table Thou hast furnishéd
in presence of my foes;
my head Thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me:
and in God's house forevermore
my dwelling place shall be.

Francis Rous

Prayer of Approach & Words of Assurance (Kupu Kī Pono)

All too often, we tell God we will do better, and be better,
And then just go on living the same way we always have.
Let this be the moment, when we tell our God of our failures and faithlessness,
So we can go forth to work in that kingdom of grace and hope.

This is the good news:

In Christ, God's plan for salvation was accomplished.

You are forgiven, you are made new.

We will complete God's joy

By sharing compassion, forgiveness, hope,

With everyone we meet.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Introducing the Theme (Tīmatanga Kōrero)

Hymn (Hīmene): Let justice roll down (AA 85)

***Let justice roll down like a river,
let justice flow down to the sea;
let justice roll down like a river
let justice begin through me.***

Justice for all who go hungry,
crying to God to be fed,
left in a world of abundance
to beg for a morsel of bread.

Refrain

Justice for those who are homeless,
victims of war or of need,
trapped on the borders of nowhere,
lost in the canyons of greed.

Refrain

Justice for all who are powerless,
yearning for freedom in vain,
plundered and robbed of their birth-right,
silently bearing their pain.

Refrain

Colin Gibson

Ministry of the Word (Ngā Pānui Karaipiture)

Alan Dine

Exodus 17:1-7 (NIV)

The whole Israelite community set out from the Desert of Sin, traveling from place to place as the Lord commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. So they quarreled with Moses and said, "Give us water to drink." Moses replied, "Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you put the Lord to the test?" But the people were thirsty for water there, and they grumbled against Moses. They said, "Why did you bring us up out of Egypt to make us and our children and livestock die of thirst?" Then Moses cried out to the Lord, "What am I to do with these people? They are almost ready to stone me."

The Lord answered Moses, "Go out in front of the people. Take with you some of the elders of Israel and take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. I will stand there before you by the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it for the people to drink." So Moses did this in the sight of the elders of Israel. And he called the place Massah[a] and Meribah because the Israelites quarreled and because they tested the Lord saying, "Is the Lord among us or not?"

Psalm 78:1-4 (NIV)

My people, hear my teaching; listen to the words of my mouth. I will open my mouth with a parable; I will utter hidden things, things from of old—things we have heard and known, things our ancestors have told us. We will not hide them from their descendants; we will tell the next generation the praiseworthy deeds of the LORD, his power, and the wonders he has done. He did miracles in the sight of their ancestors in the land of Egypt, in the region of Zoan. He divided the sea and led them through; he made the water stand up like a wall. He guided them with the cloud by day and with light from the fire all night. He split the rocks in the wilderness and gave them water as abundant as the seas; he brought streams out of a rocky crag and made water flow down like rivers.

Reflection (He Whakaaroaro)

Hymn (Himene): Like a river glorious (Complete Mission Praise 421)

Like a river glorious is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious, in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth fuller every day,
Perfect, yet it groweth deeper all the way.

Refrain:

**Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.**

Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there.

Every joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love;
We may trust Him fully all for us to do;
They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true.

Frances Ridley Havergal

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 and concerns

Prayers of Intercession (Ngā Inoi Mō Te Whānau)

God of Sun and Moon, Star and Sky, your wonder is beyond our imagining. We thank you for the gift of this world we share, and for the common bonds that we share as your children.

Loving God, hear our prayer.

Bless us God, as we seek to find a way toward the peace you invite us to share. Guide us God as we walk that delicate line between being faithful to our own relationship with you, and yet remain understanding of those whose path is vastly different from our own.

Loving God, hear our prayer.

Remind us often that being faithful does not require that we close ourselves off from the faith of others. Open our hearts, minds and spirits to people of every faith and culture. May the Mystery of your ways be the bridge that draws all of your people together in prayer for peace in our time.

Loving God, hear our prayer.

We pray for those who are in special need of your grace and healing today. For those who live in fear of violence; for refugees everywhere; for political prisoners and for those who imprison them; God, we ask for peace. For those who are grieving, or hungry, or in despair; for the lonely, and all who are ill or suffering, for any who struggle with addiction, and for all who live with chronic illness.

Loving God, hear our prayer.

God, we trust in your power to be present with the suffering. We trust in your Spirit's power to bring comfort, faith and strength where it is needed. We pray, bring your radical, scandalous peace into our midst, and touch us all with your love, for we ask it in the name of the One who calls us ever forward, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer (He Inoi O Te Ariki)

**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.**

Offering (Tātou Koha Ki Te Hāhi)

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

Blessing of offerings (said together)

We thank you, God for this opportunity to express our love to you through the gifts we bring to support and encourage your work in near and distant places. Make our hearts glad that we can share in extending the gospel and helping to heal humanity's pain, for we bring them to you with grateful hearts.

Hymn (Hīmene): Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah (H&P 437)

Guide me, O Thou great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand.
Bread of Heaven, Bread of Heaven,
Feed me now and evermore;
Feed me now and evermore.

Open now the crystal fountain,
Whence the healing stream doth flow;
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
Lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield;
Be Thou still my Strength and Shield.

When I tread the verge of Jordan,
Bid my anxious fears subside;
Death of deaths, and hell's destruction,
Land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to Thee;
I will ever give to Thee.

William Williams

Sending forth/Benediction (Ngā Inoi Whakamutunga)

Go now to will and to work for God's purposes.
Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.
Be filled with the same love
And look to the interests of others.
With reverence for God, work out your salvation.
And may God quench your thirst with love and consolation;
May Christ Jesus strengthen you and encourage you;
And may the Holy Spirit lead you on and make your joy complete.

The Grace (said together)

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

Please join us for morning tea in the New Hall following the service. Many thanks to the Leatuavao family for providing today's kai and manaakitanga.

Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

[Life in Liturgy](#)

[Laughing Bird](#)

[Disciple Ministries - The United Methodist Church](#)

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Or the 10AM Congregation's Facebook Page:

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