



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

**SUNDAY 24<sup>TH</sup> SEPTEMBER 2023**

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



**Living God's Love – Acting for the common Good**

**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**  
**24<sup>TH</sup> September 2023**

**WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING**

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE** (Kānara Whakamāmā)

We light this candle to remind us of the light of God's love,  
the warmth of God's welcome,  
and our faith in the ever presence of God,

*The candle is lit*

Together we say:

**Welcome to our place,**

**Welcome to worship,**

**Welcome in the name of our living God. Amen.**

**GATHERING** (emi mai ki taua karakia)

**WAIATA** – Singing Group

**WORDS OF BEGINNING**

However much we wrestle  
with questions, big and small,  
worship today and receive  
a glimpse of something more,  
a taste of greater love  
a blessing and invitation to follow on the way.

**God is here amongst us as we gather,  
ready to meet us with whatever we need,  
to restore our hope and encourage our faithfulness.**

## **HYMN (Himene) 'For the beauty of the earth'**

Words: Follitt Sandford Pierpoint (1835-1917) [H&P 333]

For the beauty of the earth,  
for the beauty of the skies,  
for the love which from our birth  
over and around us lies:

*Gracious God, to you we raise  
this our sacrifice of praise.*

For the beauty of each hour  
of the day and of the night,  
hill and vale, and tree and flower,  
sun and moon and stars of light:

For the joy of ear and eye,  
for the heart and mind's delight,  
for the mystic harmony  
linking sense to sound and sight:

For the joy of human love,  
brother, sister, parent, child  
friends on earth, and friends above,  
pleasures pure and undefiled:

For each perfect gift and sign  
of your love so freely given,  
graces human and divine,  
flowers of earth and buds of heaven:

## **OPENING PRAYER (Inoi Tuatahi)**

*Based on Psalm 105: 1-5*

## **INTRODUCTION OF THE THEME**

## PRAYERS OF WHO WE ARE

The kingdom of love is coming because:  
**somewhere someone is kind when others are unkind,  
somewhere someone shares with another in need,  
somewhere someone refuses to hate, while others hate,  
somewhere someone is patient - and waits in love,  
somewhere someone returns good for evil,  
somewhere someone serves another, in love,  
somewhere someone is calm in a storm,  
somewhere someone is loving everybody.  
Is that someone you?**

### **HYMN (Himene) 'He came singing love'**

Words and Music: Colin Gibson [AA 59]

He came singing love  
and he lived singing love;  
he died singing love.  
He arose in silence.  
For the love to go on  
we must make it our song:  
you and I be the singers.

He came singing faith  
and he lived singing faith;  
he died singing faith.  
He arose in silence.  
For the faith to go on  
we must make it our song:  
you and I be the singers.

He came singing hope  
and he lived singing hope;  
he died singing hope.  
He arose in silence.

For the hope to go on  
we must make it our song:  
you and I be the singers.

He came singing peace  
and he lived singing peace;  
he died singing peace.  
He arose in silence.  
For the peace to go on  
we must make it our song:  
you and I be the singers.

### **MINISTRY OF THE WORD** (Ngaa Paanui Karaipiture)

#### **Exodus 16: 2-15** (Contemporary English Version)

<sup>2</sup> There in the desert they started complaining to Moses and Aaron, <sup>3</sup> “We wish the LORD had killed us in Egypt. When we lived there, we could at least sit down and eat all the bread and meat we wanted. But you have brought us out here into this desert, where we are going to starve.”

<sup>4</sup> The LORD said to Moses, “I will send bread<sup>[a]</sup> down from heaven like rain. Tell the people to go out each day and gather only enough for that day. That's how I will see if they obey me. <sup>5</sup> But on the sixth day of each week they must gather and cook twice as much.”

<sup>6</sup> Moses and Aaron told the people, “This evening you will know that the LORD was the one who rescued you from Egypt. <sup>7</sup> And in the morning you will see his glorious power, because he has heard your complaints against him. Why should you grumble to us? Who are we?”

<sup>8</sup> Then Moses continued, “You will know it is the LORD when he gives you meat each evening and more than enough bread each morning. He is really the one you are complaining about, not us—we are nobodies—but the LORD has heard your complaints.”

<sup>9</sup> Moses turned to Aaron and said, “Bring the people together, because the LORD has heard their complaints.”

<sup>10</sup> Aaron was speaking to them, when everyone looked out toward the desert and saw the bright glory of the LORD in a cloud. <sup>11</sup> The LORD said to Moses, <sup>12</sup> “I have heard my people complain. Now tell them that each evening they will have meat and each morning they will have more than enough bread. Then they will know that I am the LORD their God.”

<sup>13</sup> That evening a lot of quails came and landed everywhere in the camp, and the next morning dew covered the ground. <sup>14</sup> After the dew had gone, the desert was covered with thin flakes that looked like frost. <sup>15</sup> The people had never seen anything like this, and they started asking each other, “What is it?”<sup>[b]</sup>

Moses answered, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat.

**Matthew 20: 1-15** (Inclusive Text)

The reign of God is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for the vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, the landowner sent them into his vineyard.

The owner went out about nine o'clock and saw others standing idle in the marketplace; he said to them, ‘You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.’ So they went.

The owner went out again about noon and about three o'clock, and did the same.

And about five o'clock the owner went out and found others standing around; and said to them, ‘Why are you standing here idle all day?’

They said, ‘Because no one has hired us’ to which the owner replied: ‘You also go into the vineyard.’

When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to the manager,  
'Call the laborers and give them their pay,  
beginning with the last and then going to the first.'

When those hired about five o'clock came,  
each of them received the usual daily wage.

Now when the first came,  
they thought they would receive more;  
but each of them also received the usual daily wage.  
And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner,  
saying,  
'These last worked only one hour,  
and you have made them equal to us  
who have borne the heat of the day and the scorching heat.'

But he replied to one of them,  
'Friend, I am doing you no wrong;  
did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage?  
'Take what belongs to you and go.  
I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you.  
Am I not allowed to do what I choose  
with what belongs to me?

'Or are you envious because I am generous?'

**REFLECTION** (He Whakaaroaro) Hugh Laurensen

**HYMN** (Himene) '**May the anger of Christ be mine**'

Words and music: Colin Gibson [FFS 48]

May the anger of Christ be mine,  
when the world grows hard and greedy,  
when the rich have no care for the poor,  
when the powerful take from the needy.

*In a world of restless change,  
standing for love and faith and justice,  
in a dark confusing time,  
bearing the light, the shining light of Christ.*

May the pity of Christ be mine,  
when the outstretched hand's not taken,  
when the jobless stand in line,  
when the lonely live forsaken.

May the love of Christ be mine  
for the anguished, for the ailing,  
for the frail disabled life,  
for the fallen, for the failing.

May the actions of Christ be mine,  
bringing hope, bringing new direction,  
making peace in a warring time,  
offering welcome and not rejection.

#### **THE OFFERTORY (Taatou Koha Ki Te Haahi)**

This is the time where we make our love visible  
through the giving of offerings. Let's give with cheerful hearts.

**It is out of gratitude that we give these gifts of food and money. We recognise and bless the gifts of food and money brought to the table, and those which wing their way electronically from our banks to the church's account. May our offerings distribute the gift of love.**

#### **COMMUNITY TIME**

*Let us offer the peace to each other saying:  
The peace of God is here to stay.*



Notices

Sharing our joys and concerns

**PRAYER FOR OTHERS** (Ngaa Inoi mo te Whaanau)

There is so much wrong in the world, God,  
most is of our doing; most is because of our choices  
most suffering and injustice is a result of human unkindness  
yet, some is not.

Disease and misfortune strike faithful and faithless.

The world so often is not how you would have it,  
And life is so often not as we would have it.

**Have mercy on us.**

Yet, let that “us,” not simply be me and mine,

But all who suffer,

All who are afflicted,

All who are attacked,

All who are disadvantaged,

All who are oppressed,

All who are unwell,

All who need your help.

You are God,

You are at work in the world for good.

Help us tell this truth

Things might not miraculously change as we pray that they would,

But be at work in the lives of those enslaved.

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those who are poor.

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those displaced from their homes.

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of the despairing,

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those unwell and in need of healing.

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those lonely.

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those sad and grieving

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those who are stressed and distressed

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those unhappy or depressed

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of those frail of mind, body or spirit

**Give them hope**

**Call us anew to work for their good.**

Be at work in the lives of all people.

**Give us hope**

**Call us anew to work for good.**

Help us to know you, know your work and know your love,

That we might be led deeper into faith.

**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.**

**HYMN** (Himene) **'Every Day'**

Words: Shirley Murray; Music: Colin Gibson

Every day I will offer you,

loving God, my heart and mind,

every way I discover you

in the work your hand has signed;

help me see I'm your image, and

you have dreamed what I might be,  
every day in your Spirit,  
I'll find the love and energy!

Every day I will look to Christ,  
and give thanks for wine and bread  
through the pain and the emptiness  
where your world cries to be fed;  
help me see I can work for change,  
and wherever I might be,  
everyday in your Spirit,  
I'll find the love and energy!

Every day I will take your word,  
answer your compassion's claim,  
celebrate every sign of hope,  
every deed done in your name;  
help me see you are always there,  
and your light can shine through me,  
every day in your Spirit,  
I'll find the love and energy!

## **WORDS OF MISSION AND BLESSING**

*The candle is extinguished.*

In the prayers and the praise,  
In the words and the wonder:  
**We are given enough joy to live each day.**  
In the justice for the oppressed,  
In the unexpected generosity for the lost:  
**We are given enough compassion  
to use in service each day.**  
In the promises made to all,  
In the mercy offered to each:

**We are given enough grace to share each day.**  
Christ goes before us into the day and the week ahead.  
Let us go in peace, to love and serve in the world.  
**In the Spirit of Christ. Amen!**

## GRACE

**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**

## HOSPITALITY

– We extend a warm invitation to everyone to gather now for kai.

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Liturgy for this service was sourced and adapted from:  
**Sarah Agnew**, Pray the story, <https://praythestory.blogspot.com/>  
**Pilgrim Uniting Church**, <https://pilgrimwr.unitingchurch.org.au/>  
**NZ Hymn Book Trust**, *Alleluia Aotearoa, Faith forever Singing*  
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