



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

Sunday, 25 June 2023
Pentecost 4

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



Learning to grow

We are a multi-racial Christian community:
Methodist in affiliation – Ecumenical in intention
Diverse in theology – Inclusive in outreach.

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 Joy Grove and Seine Samia

10AM Congregation – Order of Service

Worship leader: Hugh Laurenson

Organist: Colin Scarf

Welcome and Safety Briefing

Sarah Laurenson

Call to Worship (Ngā Kupu Whakapūare)

People of God, tell it!

We are not alone! We are children of God!

People of Christ, tell it!

The Light has come in love and truth, teaching us to live in the Light.

People of the Spirit, tell it!

The Spirit of truth reveals hidden things, offering healing through honest confession.

People of God, tell it!

We are not alone! We are children of God! Amen.

Lighting the candle (Kānara Whakamāmā)

As we light this candle, we say together:

**Blow gently on the spark
that lies within our hearts,
that a flame might grow
and shed its warmth and light
upon our daily journeying
with you beside, dear Lord.**

Opening Prayer (Inoi Tuatahi)

God of those empty of hope
and those who are cast out:
into the chaos of every life
you enter with the silence of love;
when we choke on bitter memories,
you hand us the cup of healing;
when we wander down lonely streets,
you bring us home to your heart.

Spirit of the forsaken
and bearer of compassion:
you are the mist shimmering
over the valleys,
stirring the waters of creation;
you are the dew bathing
the flowers every morning,
anointing us with resurrection's grace. **Amen.**

Hymn (Hīmene): All creatures of our God and king (H&P 329)

1. All creatures of our God and King,
lift up your voice and with us sing
Alleluia! Alleluia!
Thou burning sun with golden beam,
thou silver moon with softer gleam,
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
2. Thou rushing wind that art so strong,
ye clouds that sail in heav'n along,
O praise Him! Alleluia!
Thou rising morn, in praise rejoice,
ye lights of ev'ning, find a voice!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
3. And all ye folk of tender heart,
forgiving others, take your part,
O sing ye! Alleluia!
Ye who long pain and sorrow bear,
praise God and on Him cast your care!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!
4. Let all things their Creator bless
and worship Him in humbleness,
O praise Him! Alleluia!

Praise, praise the Father, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit, Three in One!
O praise Him, O praise Him!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Words: St. Francis of Assisi. Tune: Lasst Uns Erfreuen.

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

We come before you, Holy Friend, with the greetings of the risen Christ ringing in our ears!

You have done great things for us, though we barely understand them.

You have done great things for us, though we sparely share their riches.

You have done great things for us, though we rarely live in their full glory.

Today in this ongoing Easter season, please may the Spirit of Christ surprise us again.

With all his deathless truth and grace, and raise us up from the mediocre worship into which we sometimes slide. In his name we pray.

Amen!

Introducing the Theme (Tīmatanga Kōrero)

Hymn (Hīmene): Make me a channel of your peace (CMP 456)

1. Make me a channel of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

***O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.***

2. Make me a channel of your peace:
where there's despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there's sadness, ever joy.

3. Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,
and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

Attributed to St. Francis of Assisi, adapted by Sebastian Temple

Ministry of the Word (Ngā Pānui Karaipiture)

Fabie Masoe

Romans 6: 1-11

What then are we to say? Should we continue in sin in order that grace may increase? By no means! How can we who died to sin go on living in it? Do you not know that all of us who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore we were buried with him by baptism into death, so that, just as Christ was raised from the dead by the glory of the Father, so we also might walk in newness of life.

For if we have been united with him in a death like his, we will certainly be united with him in a resurrection like his. We know that our old self was crucified with him so that the body of sin might be destroyed, so we might no longer be enslaved to sin. For whoever has died is freed[a] from sin. But if we died with Christ, we believe that we will also live with him. We know that Christ, being raised from the dead, will never die again; death no longer has dominion over him. The death he died, he died to sin once for all, but the life he lives, he lives to God. So you also must consider yourselves dead to sin and alive to God in Christ Jesus.

Matthew 10: 24-39

“A disciple is not above the teacher nor a slave above the master; it is enough for the disciple to be like the teacher and the slave like the master. If they have called the master of the house Beelzebul, how much more will they malign those of his household!

“So have no fear of them, for nothing is covered up that will not be uncovered and nothing secret that will not become known. What I say to you in the dark, tell in the light, and what you hear whispered, proclaim from the housetops. Do not fear those who kill the body but cannot kill the soul; rather, fear the one who can destroy both soul and body in hell. Are not two sparrows sold for a penny? Yet

not one of them will fall to the ground apart from your Father. And even the hairs of your head are all counted. So do not be afraid; you are of more value than many sparrows.

“Everyone, therefore, who acknowledges me before others, I also will acknowledge before my Father in heaven, but whoever denies me before others, I also will deny before my Father in heaven.

“Do not think that I have come to bring peace to the earth; I have not come to bring peace but a sword.

For I have come to set a man against his father,
And a daughter against her mother,
And a daughter-in-law against her mother-in-law,
And one’s foes will be members of one’s own household.

“Whoever loves father or mother more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever loves son or daughter more than me is not worthy of me, and whoever does not take up the cross and follow me is not worthy of me. Those who find their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake will find it.

Reflection (He Whakaaroaro)

Hymn (Himene): Lord of the dance (WOV 183)

1. I danced in the morning
When the world was begun,
And I danced in the moon
And the stars and the sun,
And I came down from heaven
And I danced on the earth,
At Bethlehem
I had my birth.

***Dance, then, wherever you may be,
I am the Lord of the Dance, said he,
And I’ll lead you all, wherever you may be,
And I’ll lead you all in the Dance, said he.***

2. I danced for the scribe
And the Pharisee,
But they would not dance
And they wouldn't follow me.
I danced for the fishermen,
For James and John –
They came with me
And the Dance went on.

3. I danced on the Sabbath
And I cured the lame;
The holy people
Said it was a shame.
They whipped and they stripped
And they hung me on high,
And they left me there
On a Cross to die.

4. I danced on a Friday
When the sky turned black –
It's hard to dance
With the devil on your back.
They buried my body
And they thought I'd gone,
But I am the Dance,
And I still go on.

5. They cut me down
And I leapt up high;
I am the life
That'll never, never die;
I'll live in you
If you'll live in me –
I am the Lord
Of the Dance, said he.

Sydney Carter

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 (Ngā Inoi Mō Te Whānau)

Loving God, You tell us it is enough for us to be like you. Yet we are overwhelmed and discouraged by the injustice that surrounds us and our seeming inability to do anything about it. How are we supposed to be like you, all-powerful God, when we feel so powerless?

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You tell us not to fear those who can kill the body but not the soul. Yet the violence in the world threatens to deaden our hearts, and that scares us. How are we supposed to resist fear when threats seem to abound on all sides?

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You tell us we are of more value than sparrows. Yet we notice so many in our neighbourhoods and our world who are treated as less than human, even less than a sparrow. How are we supposed to restore dignity to all those whom the world has devalued?

God, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

You tell us to tell in the light what we receive in the dark, to shout from the rooftops what is whispered in secret. In the face of the world's suffering, violence, and despair, whisper in our hearts that we learn to grow as your disciples who declare in the light the love and goodness of God with our voices and our lives.

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 aiane 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)

**God of transforming grace and love,
We bring our diverse gifts.
By your Holy Spirit enable us
To live as responsible stewards and witnesses
In living the way of Jesus. Amen**

Hymn (Hīmene): Now as we go (AA 99)

1. Now as we go,
kind Spirit keep us,
in all we see,
Christ be our focus,
in all we do,
his story shape us,
that we may grow
to God's good purpose.

2. Now as we go,
sister and brother,
give us good care
one of the other,
more hope to share,
more strength to gather,
more life to know
in faith together.

Words: Shirley Murray, Music: Colin Gibson

Sending forth/Benediction (Ngā Inoi Whakamutunga)

People of God, go and tell it! When it's hard, when it's joyous, when it's inconvenient, when it's healing—go tell the good news of the Light in the light. And remember that you do not go alone. We are children of God! Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

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 Garside family for providing today's kai and manaakitanga.

Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

Disciple Ministries – The United Methodist Church: <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>
Prewer, B: *Brief Prayers for Busy People* - <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocA/41Sun12.htm>
Lectionary Liturgies - <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2014/06/liturgy-for-june-22-2014-pentecost.html>

The Billabong: <https://thebillabong.info>

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>