



WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street

[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

Sunday 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

## BAPTISM JETHRO PETELO TEVITA HENDERSON

*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

SUNDAY – 26<sup>th</sup> November 2023

Worship Leader: Rev. Nicola Teague Grundy

Organist: Colin Scarf

### WELCOME & SAFETY BREIFING

**GATHERING WORDS** (Emi mai ki taua karakia)

**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.**

**WORDS FOR BEGINNING** (Ngā Kupu Whakapūare)

We come, for God gathers us here,  
with that community called faith:  
**where the hungry are served first,**  
**where the thirsty drink life's water.**

We come, for God welcomes us here  
into that home called grace:  
**where the naked are clothed in robes of hope;**  
**where the stranger is embraced as the long-lost prodigal.**

We come, for God reunites us here,  
sisters and brothers in that family called love:  
**where the imprisoned model justice,**  
**where the sick are cradled in God's peace.**

**HYMN: “All people that on earth do dwell”**

Words: William Kethe [H&P 1]

All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing to the Lord with cheerful voice:  
him serve with mirth, his praise forth tell;  
come ye before him and rejoice.

The Lord, ye know, is God indeed;  
without our aid he did us make:  
we are his folk, he doth us feed;  
and for his sheep he doth us take.

O enter then his gates with praise;  
approach with joy his courts unto;  
praise, laud, and bless his name always,  
for it is seemly so to do.

For why, the Lord our God is good;  
his mercy is for ever sure;  
his truth at all times firmly stood,  
and shall from age to age endure.

To Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
the God whom heaven and earth adore,  
from earth and from the angel host  
be praise and glory evermore.

## **OPENING PRAYER** (Inoi whakawhetai)

Mighty and tender God,  
you, the deep within all,  
you, the encompassing heart of all,  
we enter now into your kin-dom,  
your community of wholeness,  
a realm of peace.

We bring our hunger,  
and the hunger of the world.  
We bring our inner stranger,  
and the exiled of the world.  
We bring our hurting selves,  
and the hurting of the world.  
We open to healing.

Inspired,  
we dare to imagine integrity  
in our inner life, our relationships,  
our planet, and our political systems.

We dare to imagine the reign of Christ.  
Love's Servant,  
your heart  
for an unfolding cosmos.

## **BAPTISM OF JETHRO PETELO TEVITA HENDERSON**

Baptism is a moment in the Christian community when we recognise the grace of God living in each newborn creation. So Gertrude and Jeremy, we are glad you have brought Jethro to be baptised today.

Baptism is God's gift to us. It is God who takes the initiative; God chooses us. Long before we can understand or respond, God knows and loves each one of us and wants to be known and loved by us.

Baptism marks and celebrates the gracious, transforming work of God within us, not just in the moment of baptism itself but throughout the whole of life.

From the very beginning of the Christian community, people have been received into the church through baptism. Children belong in the community of faith which is centred on Jesus Christ. Through baptism they become members of the church, God's covenant people, and are united with Christians of every time and place.

Human life is marked by brokenness but forgiveness and new life in Christ are available to all who are open to receive them.

Little children do not understand this yet, but their parents and the church together affirm their faith in God and promise to nurture them in this faith, so that as members of the Body of Christ they may learn to love and serve God all their life.

## **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

*Please stand if you are able*

Let us affirm the faith declared in our baptism:

We are not alone – we live in God's world.

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,**

**who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh,**

**to reconcile and make new,**

**who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,**

**to love and serve others,**

**to seek justice and resist evil,**

**to proclaim Jesus,**

**crucified and risen,**

**our judge and our Hope.**

**In life, in death,**

**in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God.**

*Please be seated*

*Gertrude, Jeremy and their family come forward with Jethro Petelo  
Tevita Henderson*

### **STATEMENT OF INTENT BY PARENTS**

Gertrude and Jeremy, what do you ask of the Church?

**We ask that Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson be baptised.**

Gertrude and Jeremy, you have acknowledged with us your faith  
in God. Do you now entrust Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson to  
God's loving embrace?

**We do.**

Will you share in worship and the life of the church, so that  
Jethro will always know he belongs within it?

**We will.**

Will you make your home a place where Christ is honoured and  
where Jethro may grow in love and faith?

**We will, with God's help.**

Will you by your example encourage Jethro to share in the  
celebration of Holy Communion and the service of God in the  
world, and to come to the confirmation of his baptism?

**We will, with God's help.**

## **PROMISE OF THE FAMILY**

As the close family will you lovingly guide Jethro and give your support to Gertrude and Jeremy, so that Jethro may grow in Christian faith?

**We will, with God's help.**

*Congregation stands*

## **PROMISE OF THE CONGREGATION**

As members of Christ's universal church you are about to receive Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson into membership.

Will you surround Jacob and his family with love, nurture and encourage him in the faith, and with God's help make this a place where all may grow in the knowledge and love of Christ?

**We will. With great joy we welcome Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson into the church.**

*Congregation sits*

## **THE BAPTISM**

Flowing water is the central symbol of baptism.

It is a sign of life and growth, of freshness and delight, of cleansing and new beginnings, of God's Holy Spirit poured out on those who belong to Christ.

*Water is poured into the font by the Parish Steward.*

Eternal God,  
we thank you for the gift of water.  
When nothing existed by chaos,  
you swept across the waters of creation  
and brought forth life;  
when you saw your people as slaves in Egypt,  
you led them to freedom through the sea;  
across the river Jordan you led Israel  
to the land you promised.

In the fullness of time you sent Jesus,  
nurtured in the waters of a womb;  
in the Jordan he was baptised by John  
and anointed by your Spirit;  
at the well in Samaria he offered the gift of living water;  
his followers are called to share the baptism  
of his death and resurrection  
and to make disciples of all nations.

By the power of your Holy Spirit,  
bless this water and Jethro Petelo who is baptised in it,  
that he may be born of water and the Spirit,  
be raised to new life in Christ  
and strengthened to serve you in the world.  
To you be all honour and glory,  
now and for ever. Amen.

*Congregation stands*

Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson  
I baptise you in the name of the Father,  
and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Jethro, from this day on the sign of the cross is upon you.  
Remember always that you are a child of God.

Through the water of birth you were brought into the world.  
Through the waters of baptism you have been brought into the  
church.

*A candle is presented*

Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson walk in the way of Christ.  
Shine with the light of Christ.



The grace of Christ attend you;  
the love of God surround you;  
the Holy Spirit keep you, this day and for ever. Amen.

*Congregation sits*

*Jethro is introduced to the congregation.*

Let us pray:

We thank you, loving God, for the miracle of birth,  
for the gift of children and the richness  
that family life can bring.

Bless Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson and his family.

Give to Gertrude and Jeremy the faith and wisdom  
to fulfil their responsibility.

**We remember with gratitude  
our own baptism.**

**Help us to live lives  
worthy of his high calling.**

May your Spirit continually be at work in us so  
that we may be channels of love and peace.

Amen.

*Jethro Petelo Tevita Henderson is entered in the baptismal  
register. The baptismal certificate is presented by the Parish  
Steward.*

*The parents and family members return to their seat*

**Hymn: A Pei Se Vaitafe [SMHB 19]**

***“It is well with my soul”***

A pei se vaitafe le ffilemu

Pe lutia nei i le sou

I le olaga nei, ou te molimau pea

E lelei, E Lelei le Ali'i

*Chorus: E Lelei. E Lelei. E lelei.  
E Lelei. E Lelei. E lelei le Ali'i.*

A tau mai Satani I lona sauā  
Ou te le to'ilalo iai  
Ou te pi'imau pea ia Iesu le Ali'i  
O ia out e malosi ai.

*Chorus: E lelei...*

O lona satauro ma lona maliu  
E maua ai le ola tumau  
Le toto na tafe I lona itu  
E ola ai e fa'avavau.

*Chorus: E lelei...*

E fia foa'i le olaga nei  
Ma lona malosi lelei  
Ia fai ma taulaga ia viia ai  
Le Ali'i alofa lenei

*Chorus: E lelei...*

## **MINISTRY OF THE WORD** (Ngā Pānui Karaipiture)

### **Matthew 16: 31- 46 [NRSVUE]**

<sup>31</sup> “When the Son of Man comes in his glory and all the angels with him, then he will sit on the throne of his glory. <sup>32</sup> All the nations will be gathered before him, and he will separate people one from another as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats, <sup>33</sup> and he will put the sheep at his right hand and the goats at the left.

<sup>34</sup> Then the king will say to those at his right hand, ‘Come, you who are blessed by my Father, inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world, <sup>35</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me food, I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink, I was a stranger and you welcomed me, <sup>36</sup> I was naked

and you gave me clothing, I was sick and you took care of me, I was in prison and you visited me.’

<sup>37</sup> Then the righteous will answer him, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food or thirsty and gave you something to drink? <sup>38</sup> And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you or naked and gave you clothing? <sup>39</sup> And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?’

<sup>40</sup> And the king will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you did it to me.’ <sup>41</sup> Then he will say to those at his left hand, ‘You who are accursed, depart from me into the eternal fire prepared for the devil and his angels, <sup>42</sup> for I was hungry and you gave me no food, I was thirsty and you gave me nothing to drink, <sup>43</sup> I was a stranger and you did not welcome me, naked and you did not give me clothing, sick and in prison and you did not visit me.’

<sup>44</sup> Then they also will answer, ‘Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and did not take care of you?’

<sup>45</sup> Then he will answer them, ‘Truly I tell you, just as you did not do it to one of the least of these, you did not do it to me.’

<sup>46</sup> And these will go away into eternal punishment but the righteous into eternal life.”

## **REFLECTION (He Whakaaroaro) - *Rev Nicola Teague Grundy***

### **HYMN (Himene) –“When I needed a neighbour, were you there?”**

Words: Sydney Carter [WOV 558]

When I needed a neighbour, were you there, were you there?

When I needed a neighbour, were you there?

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
were you there?*

I was hungry and thirsty, were you there, were you there?  
I was hungry and thirsty, were you there?

I was cold, I was naked, were you there, were you there?  
I was cold, I was naked, were you there?

When I needed a shelter, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a shelter, were you there?

When I needed a healer, were you there, were you there?  
When I needed a healer, were you there?

Wherever you travel I'll be there, I'll be there,  
Wherever you travel I'll be there.

*And the creed and the colour and the name won't matter,  
I'll be there.*

## **COMMUNITY TIME**

### **Notices - Sharing Joys and Sorrows**

### **OFFERING (Tātou Koha ki Te Hāhi)**

This is the time where we may our love visible through the giving of offerings – our money, our time, our gifts of food. Let us give with cheerful hearts.

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We give our material goods in hope that they will become something new, something good beyond our separate gifts. By these offerings We commit ourselves to Christ, and to the reconciling, healing work of Christ, and we commit ourselves to one another as brothers and sisters in faith. Amen.**

## PRAYER FOR OTHERS

Jesus Christ, true ruler of the world, we pray for the peoples of the world:

for victims of war, brutality and oppression;  
for victims of unjust economic and political systems.  
For the hungry, the homeless and the refugee.

We give thanks for leaders who serve the common good, and for all who work for an increase of justice and peace.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your mercy and compassion, and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus Christ, true shepherd to all your sheep, we pray for your church:

for courage in places of persecution;  
for renewed zeal in places of apathy;  
for unity in places of discord and division.

We give you thanks and pray for all who are shepherds to your people, and all who minister in your name.

Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your forgiveness and grace, and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus Christ, true companion to all who seek you, we pray for those to whom our lives are bound:

for our families, our friends and all whom we love;  
for this parish with whom we work and play.

We give you thanks for all whose love or care or daily work enriches our lives. Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your reconciliation and love, and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus Christ, true comforter to all who suffer, we pray for all in special need:

those lost in grief or loneliness or hopelessness;  
those imprisoned by pain or guilt or despair;  
those sick in heart or mind or spirit;

We give you thanks for all who bring healing and hope to those in need. Make us a people whose hearts are ruled by your compassion and hope, and, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

Jesus Christ, true ruler of earth and heaven, we give you thanks and praise for your faithful servants of every age. Help us follow in your footsteps of your saints that we, like them, may be gathered into your eternal presence, a people after your own heart, the sheep of your fold. Jesus Christ, in your mercy, **hear our prayer.**

### **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 'Deep in the human heart'**

Words: William L Wallace Tune: Diademata

Deep in the human heart  
the fire of justice burns;  
a vision of a world renewed  
through radical concern.  
As Christians we are called  
to set the captives free,  
to overthrow the evil powers  
and end hypocrisy.

This is our task today  
to build a world of peace;  
a world of justice, freedom, truth,  
where kindness will increase;  
a world from hunger freed,  
a world where people share,  
where every person is of worth  
and no-one lives in fear.

Taking the step of faith,  
we leave the past behind  
and move into the future's world  
with open heart and mind.  
By grace we work with Christ,  
as one community,  
to bring new hope and fuller life  
to all humanity.

## **PREPARING FOR ADVENT**

As one year comes to an end and another begins ...  
And to remember the familiar story of the hope  
being met in the birth of the man called Jesus.  
The story of hope for all humankind  
The story of hope manifest in Creation.

The biblical prophet Micah speaks of divine hope in his counsel  
to walk humbly with God, ...to walk, ... and listen  
to take our time,  
and notice,  
to be with each other.

Another voice in our own time says further,  
“The way we move through life, the way we interact with the  
world, the way we approach our place in the universe  
Is the way that we dance with God.”

So may we walk humbly.  
Perhaps better yet, ...dance;  
noticing, ...feeling lie's movements,  
listening to its music, ...tasting its sweetness,  
experiencing a growing awareness of the divine work  
being born both in us, and among us.

**As we prepare to enter the season of Advent, may we dance  
in joy, dance in awe and wonder, and dance in constant  
anticipation of the sacred moments, the still points in a  
world that continues its spinning unnoticed – around us.**

**PARTING WORDS** (*Ngā Inoi Whakamutunga*)

*The candle is extinguished*

As the flame rises with light and warmth, receive the gift of life.  
As the wind moves and dances round the earth,  
Receive the gracious gift of the Spirit. Amen.

**MA TE MARIE.** (*Sung unaccompanied*)

Ma te marie a te Atua  
Tatou katoa e tiaki;  
Mana ano e whakau  
O tatou ngakau ki te pai.

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra  
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki  
Ratou, Atua Kotahi nei,  
Tatou katoa e whakapai.



\* \* \* \* \*

Liturgy for this service was sourced and adapted from:  
Thom Shuman, <https://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>  
Opening Prayer by Bruce Sanguin, *If Darwin Prayed* “Imagine Integrity”  
Janet Nelson. Let us Pray (*adapted*)  
Preparing for Advent - *adapted from ‘Dancing with God’ by James  
Armstrong. Prayers of Via de Cristo*  
NZ Hymn Book Trust, *Hope is our Song*

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***Image: ‘Christ in all Creation’***

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