



WESLEY WELLINGTON
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 27th August 2023
Pentecost 13

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

27th August 2023

WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING

GATHERING

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 OF BEGINNING

Creator God, we gather together from many places, pasts and
communities to celebrate and worship together, as your people.

We come to worship God.

Jesus, life-giver, we celebrate all that brings us together. We are on a
journey, learning and celebrating.

We come to worship Jesus.

Spirit of love, we are a living community and we give thanks for the
movement of the Spirit – ever inspiring, strengthening, moving and
challenging us.

We come to worship the Spirit.

Amen!

HYMN (Himene) “God of our every day”

Words: Shirley Murray. Music: Colin Gibson (AA 52)

God of our every day,
friend who will walk our way,
light who can change the focus
of our seeing:
capture our heart and mind,
be in the work we find,
till all we do becomes your
mode of being.

Speak to our spirit’s void,
hands that are unemployed,
lives that are lived without
a true direction:
gifts that are hid, unearth,
lift us to know our worth
that in ourselves we see your
own reflection.

Shine through our winter’s grey,
break through depression’s day,
live in the little deaths we die in growing:
meaning for whom we grope,
home of our strongest hope,
power and peace, through all creation flowing.

OPENING PRAYER (Inoi Tuatahi)

Like the wind swaying through mountain trees,
or surging through thickets of kānuka,
so, God, is your presence with us;
your power thrusts through our lives.
You sweep away our petty worries

and shake us free from fears.

At your pressure we move and sway together,
As if we were of one mind.

Sometimes you are as strong as winter storms,
at others as soft as the rustling of ferns.

We are taught to bend and not be broken,
to be flexible without shifting ground.

You test the strength of our feet
and whatever proves shallow is uprooted.

On calm days we rest content,
Glad to watch each other in stillness;
Enjoying quietness because we know
You are still with us. Amen.

INTRODUCTION OF THE THEME

HYMN (Himene) 'I am the Church! You are the Church!'

Words and Music: Richard Kinsey Avery and Donald Stuart Marsh (CH 204)

I am the Church! You are the Church!

We are the Church together!

All who follow Jesus, all around the world,

Yes, we're the Church together.

The Church is not a building, the Church is not a steeple.
The Church is not a resting-place, the Church is a people!

We're many kinds of people with many kinds of faces:
all colours and all ages, too, from all times and places.

And when the people gather there's singing and there's praying,
there's laughing and there's crying sometimes, all of it saying:

I count if I am ninety, or nine, or just a baby;
there's one thing I am sure about and I don't mean maybe:

PRAYERS OF WHO WE ARE

Sometimes I think I know, and I eagerly praise You,
I confess that I have learned to know God because of You,
I celebrate the fact that my life is fuller because of You,
I recognise that, at great cost, You have made it possible for me
to have a second chance when I mess up my life,
and hurt those around me.

But, then sometimes I confuse You with others
that have helped me or challenged me;
Great teachers and writers, prophets and priests,
parents and authorities.
This can be helpful – sometimes they do point me to You;
but sometimes I can't see You through the image they present,
and my relationship with You gets blurred.

Sometimes I'm not sure if I know You at all;
I begin to get a sense of who You are,
but then, like Peter, I misunderstand Your mission, or Your message,
or what You really want from me.

Who do I say You are, Jesus?
You are the one I have come to love as God,
You are the one I am learning to recognise
and will give eternity to know,
You are the unfathomable mystery
that is always beyond my ability to understand;
You are the Christ, the Son of the Living. Amen.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD (Nгаа Paanui Karaipiture)

Matthew 16: 13-20 (Inclusive Text)

When Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked the disciples, 'Who do people say that the Chosen One is?'

And they said, 'Some say John the Baptist, but others Elijah, and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.'

Jesus said to them, 'But who do you say that I am?'

Simon Peter answered, 'You are the Messiah, the Firstborn of the living God.'

And Jesus answered, 'Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you, but the One in heaven who sent me.

'And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of the underworld will not prevail against it.

'I will give you the keys to God's realm, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.'

Then Jesus sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Christ.

REFLECTION (He Whakaaroaro)

HYMN (Himene) **"Christ, from whom all blessings flow"**

Words: Charles Wesley. (H&P 764)

Christ, from whom all blessings flow,
perfecting the saints below,
hear us, who thy nature share,
who thy mystic body are.

Join us, in one spirit join,
let us still receive of thine;
still for more on thee we call,
thou who fillest all in all.

Closer knit to thee, our Head,
nourished, Lord, by thee, and fed,
let us daily growth receive,
more in Jesus Christ believe.

Never from thy service move,
needful to each other prove,
use the grace on each bestowed,
tempered by the art of God.

Love, like death, has all destroyed,
rendered all distinctions void;
names, and sects, and parties fall:
thou, O Christ, art all in all.

THE OFFERTORY (Taatou Koha Ki Te Haahi)

(We acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and on-line banking)

Let us offer our gifts and lives in this moment.

**Take these gifts of our minds and our hands,
They are never enough but we offer them in faith to you.
Amen.**

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)

Response to: Jesus, 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 aianei
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) 'God of unexplored tomorrows'

Words: Beverley Jones Music: Colin Gibson (FFS 27)

God of unexplored tomorrows,
of today and yesterday,
God of rock and flowing river,
be our refuge, be our way.

Guardian rock above, before us,
strong foundation where we build,
landmark through the haze of doubting,
shelter where our fears are stilled.

Be the cleansing, quenching water,
irrigate, disturb and move,
stir us from our easy shallows,
current of refreshing love.

God of rock and flowing river
now and ever with us stand,
to transform our land of promise
into each one's promised land.

PARTING WORDS

Candle is extinguished.

We say together:

**We now embody this light and promise
to reflect the light of God's love
in all that we say and do. Amen.**

Fall in love with living
wrestling with the chaos and the pain
within ourselves and within the world.
Join the celebration of life,
dancing with the angels and the clowns.

And may the God of peace and joy,
who is continually making all things new,
embrace you
as a partner
in the divine creating.

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:

Opening Prayer: *adapted from* Bruce Prewer, Prayers Encircling the World.

Prayer of who we are: John van de Laar, www.sacredise.com/who-do-i-say/

NZ Hymn Book Trust, *Alleluia Aotearoa, Faith forever Singing*

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Image: “We are many, we are one”

Mixed media art piece by Rhonda Swenson.

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Or the 10am Facebook Page to keep up-to-date with services and news:

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