



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Morning Worship — Pentecost

Sunday 28 May 2023

Kia ora Koutou Katoa_Talofa Lava

Malo e lelei_Bula Vinaka

Greetings to you all!

**Haere
mai ki
tenei
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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

Leader: *Niko Bower*

Organist: *Vivien Chiu*

Welcome to today's service.

A special welcome to visitors. We hope you enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again.

WELCOME & Safety Briefing

CALL TO WORSHIP Psalm 104 (NIV)

Leader Praise the LORD, my soul.
 LORD my God, you are very great;
 you are clothed with splendour and majesty.

People ***The Lord wraps himself in light as with a garment; he stretches out the heavens like a tent and lays the beams of his upper chambers on their waters. He makes the clouds his chariot and rides on the wings of the wind.***

Leader *He makes winds his messengers, flames of fire his servants.
 May the glory of the LORD endure forever;
 May the LORD rejoice in his works
 he who looks at the earth, and it trembles,
 who touches the mountains, and they smoke.*

People ***He made the moon to mark the seasons,
 and the sun knows when to go down.
 You bring darkness, it becomes night,***

***and all the beasts of the forest prowl.
The lions roar for their prey
and seek their food from God.
The sun rises, and they steal away;
they return and lie down in their dens.
Then people go out to their work,
to their labour until evening.***

Leader: I will sing to the LORD all my life;
I will sing praise to my God as long as I live.
May my meditation be pleasing to him,
as I rejoice in the LORD.
But may sinners vanish from the earth
and the wicked be no more.

**All: Praise the LORD, my soul.
Praise the LORD.**

CANDLE LIGHTING – The First Pentecost.

Fifty days we waited patiently, like the apostles who met at the upper room in Jerusalem. As we light this candle, may it be a reminder of Your presence – the I am, the Alpha and the Omega – the light of the world.

May the 'tongues of fire that separated', the Holy Spirit, come rest on each one of us.

OPENING PRAYER

Let us pray

Our Lord God, who is, and who was, and who is to come, the Almighty.

Pause

Amongst all the chaos of the busy and crowded city, like that first Pentecost – we come together in one accord. Though our worries, and uncertainty continue to shatter the dawn of this Pentecost day -we seek inner peace. We await the sound,

Pause

It sounds like the blowing of a violent wind. Come fill our hearts and fill this house of prayer.

In Jesus name we pray.

Amen

HYMN O Worship the King

(H&P 28)

Sir Robert Grant 1779-1838

1. O worship the King
All glorious above,
O gratefully sing
His power and his love—
Our shield and defender,
The ancient of days,
Pavilion'd in splendour,
And girded with praise.
2. Oh tell of his might,
O sing of his grace,
Whose robe is the light,
Whose canopy space.
His chariots of wrath
Deep thunder-clouds form,
And dark is his path
On the wings of the storm.
3. This earth, with its store
Of wonders untold,
Almighty! thy power
Hath founded of old;
Hath stablish'd it fast
By a changeless decree,
And round it hath cast,
Like a mantle, the sea.
4. Thy bountiful care
What tongue can recite?
It breathes in the air,
It shines in the light:
It streams from the hills,
It descends to the plain,
And sweetly distils
In the dew and the rain.

5. Frail children of dust,
And feeble as frail,
In thee do we trust,
Nor find thee to fail:
Thy mercies how tender!
How firm to the end!
Our Maker, Defender,
Redeemer, and Friend!

6. O measureless might!
Ineffable Love!
While angels delight
To hymn thee above,
The humbler creation,
Tho' feeble their lays,
With true adoration
Shall lisp to thy praise

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Leader: As Israel looked back to the Exodus through the Passover meal, we look back to the cross and resurrection of Jesus through the Lord's Supper. As Israel looked back to celebrate the Shavuot – The Feast of the Lord– the first Fruits, we celebrate the coming of the Holy Spirit.

Leader: Today on Pentecost Sunday we are reminded that we are one worldwide family in Christ. We give thanks for people in every generation who have spent their lives sharing the good news of Jesus with others. We remember especially those who were pioneers in missions, who willingly travelled to faraway places, sacrificed their comforts, and faced numerous dangers and persecution to fulfil their calling.

All: Lord, we thank you that we are one family in Christ.

Leader: Let us thank God for those who spread the gospel in our own country, for past leaders of this church and many others who answered God's call to be the voice and hands of Jesus, and to disciple and teach God's Word to others.

All: Lord, we thank you that we are one family in Christ.

Leader: Let us praise God for the work and witness of the Church around the world today. For the national leaders, pastors, evangelists, and missionaries

who tirelessly witness for Christ to their own people, in their own languages and cultural contexts.

All: Lord, we thank you that we are one family in Christ.

LORDS PRAYER (traditional)

Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy kingdom come;
thy will be done;
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation;
but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
the power and the glory,
for ever and ever.

Amen.

CHILDRENS TIME

HYMN Be Still my Soul

(WOV 48)

Katharina von Schelegel 1697

1. Be still, my soul; the Lord is on your side;
bear patiently the cross of grief or pain;
leave to your God to order and provide;
in ev'ry change he faithful will remain.
Be still, my soul; your best, your heav'nly friend
through thorny ways leads to a joyful end.

2. Be still, my soul; your God will undertake
to guide the future as he has the past;
your hope, your confidence, let nothing shake;
all now mysterious shall be bright at last.
Be still, my soul; the waves and winds still know
his voice who ruled them while he lived below.
3. Be still, my soul; when dearest friends depart
and all is darkened in the vale of tears,
then you will better know his love, his heart,
who comes to soothe your sorrows and your fears.
Be still, my soul; your Jesus can repay
from his own fullness all he takes away.
4. Be still, my soul; the hour is hast'ning on
when we shall be forever with the Lord,
when disappointment, grief, and fear are gone,
sorrow forgot, love's purest joys restored.
Be still my soul; when change and tears are past,
all safe and blessed we shall meet at last.

NOTICES

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Loving God, we thank you for your unfailing love and your many blessings.

We give with joy into your Kingdom today.

May you bless our offering.

Come O Lord and work through these gifts.

Extend your love through us we pray! Amen

Scripture Reading:

Acts 2: 1 - 21 (NIV)

When the day of Pentecost came, they were all together in one place. ² Suddenly a sound like the blowing of a violent wind came from heaven and filled the whole house where they were sitting. ³ They saw what seemed to be tongues of fire that separated and came to rest on each of them. ⁴ All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other tongues^[a] as the Spirit enabled them.

⁵ Now there were staying in Jerusalem God-fearing Jews from every nation under heaven. ⁶ When they heard this sound, a crowd came together in bewilderment, because each one heard their own language being spoken. ⁷ Utterly amazed, they asked: "Aren't all these who are speaking Galileans?" ⁸ Then how is it that each of us hears them in our native language? ⁹ Parthians, Medes and Elamites; residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia,^[b] ¹⁰ Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya near Cyrene; visitors from Rome ¹¹ (both Jews and converts to Judaism); Cretans and Arabs—we hear them declaring the wonders of God in our own tongues!" ¹² Amazed and perplexed, they asked one another, "What does this mean?"

¹³ Some, however, made fun of them and said, "They have had too much wine."

Peter Addresses the Crowd

¹⁴ Then Peter stood up with the Eleven, raised his voice and addressed the crowd: "Fellow Jews and all of you who live in Jerusalem, let me explain this to you; listen carefully to what I say. ¹⁵ These people are not drunk, as you suppose. It's only nine in the morning! ¹⁶ No, this is what was spoken by the prophet Joel:

17 "In the last days, God says,

I will pour out my Spirit on all people.

Your sons and daughters will prophesy, your young men will see visions, your old men will dream dreams.

18 Even on my servants, both men and women,

I will pour out my Spirit in those days, and they will prophesy.

19 I will show wonders in the heavens above and signs on the earth below, blood and fire and billows of smoke.

20 The sun will be turned to darkness and the moon to blood before the coming of the great and glorious day of the Lord.

21 And everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.'

John 7: 37 – 39 (NIV)

37 On the last and greatest day of the festival, Jesus stood and said in a loud voice, "Let anyone who is thirsty come to me and drink. 38 Whoever believes in me, as Scripture has said, rivers of living water will flow from within them."^[c] 39 By this he meant the Spirit, whom those who believed in him were later to receive. Up to that time the Spirit had not been given, since Jesus had not yet been glorified.

HYMN Filled With The Spirit's Power, With One Accord (WOV 328)

John Peacey 1896-1971 (Tell out my soul)

1. Filled With The Spirit's Power, With One Accord
The Infant Church Confessed Its Risen Lord.
O Holy Spirit, In The Church Today
No Less Your Power Of Fellowship Display.
2. Now With The Mind Of Christ Set Us On Fire,
That Unity May Be Our Great Desire.
Give Joy And Peace; Give Faith To Hear Your Call,
And Readiness In Each To Work For All.

3. Widen Our Love, Good Spirit, To Embrace
With Your Compassion All The Human Race.
Like Wind And Fire With Life Among Us Move,
Till We Are Known As Christ's, And Christian Prove.

REFLECTION: Holy Spirit- The comforter has come.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Loving God, we pray for unreached peoples, tribes and nations, for those who live in countries where the gospel is banned or in places where there are no Christians.

We pray that mission workers bear the good news to them and may Christians churches be encouraged by supporting mission workers and their programs.

We pray for refugees and displaced people, for those who are listening have no means of hearing the gospel, and for those who are seeking you – may they meet the living God wherever they are.

May you appear to them in dreams and visions, may they find strength in listening to your Word, and may they be touched by the testimonies of workers who are witnessing to them and walking alongside them as your voice and hands.

We pray loving God, that on this Pentecost day, may your Holy Spirit fill many minds that are darkened by prejudice and closed by fear of others. Bring clarity of vision and calmness of mind.

We pray for all mission workers who serve in your ministry and help them to continue to do mission in Christ's way.

Again, we are challenged to be bold like Peter on that Pentecost day. Help us to continue to be your hands, feet and voice to those in our communities. **Amen.**

1. Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
Be thou forever near me,
My Master and my friend;
I shall not fear the battle
If thou art by my side,
Nor wander from the pathway
If thou wilt be my guide.

2. O let me feel thee near me!
The world is ever near:
I see the sights that dazzle,
The tempting sounds I hear.
My foes are ever near me,
Around me and within;
But, Jesus, draw thou nearer,
And shield my soul from sin.

3. O let me hear thee speaking
In accents clear and still,
Above the storms of passion,
The murmurs of self-will.
O speak to reassure me,
To hasten or control;
O speak, and make me listen,
Thou guardian of my soul.

4. O Jesus, thou hast promised, to all who follow thee
That where thou art in glory, there shall thy servant be
And, Jesus, I have promised
To serve thee to the end;
O give me grace to follow,
My Master and my friend.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE AND BENEDICTION

CLOSING PRAYER

Today on Pentecost Sunday, we offer ourselves to work with you Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, not just in our homes and in our local church, but we promise to step out of our comfort zone, to pray and to support your mission to the unreached.

Enlarge our vision of the world we pray and give us the strength, love, and wisdom to reach all nations, peoples and tribes in your name and for your glory. Amen

Acknowledgement: Reachbeyond.org.uk, www.living-prayers.com



*Please join us for refreshments in the New Hall after this service.
Thank you for the refreshments*