



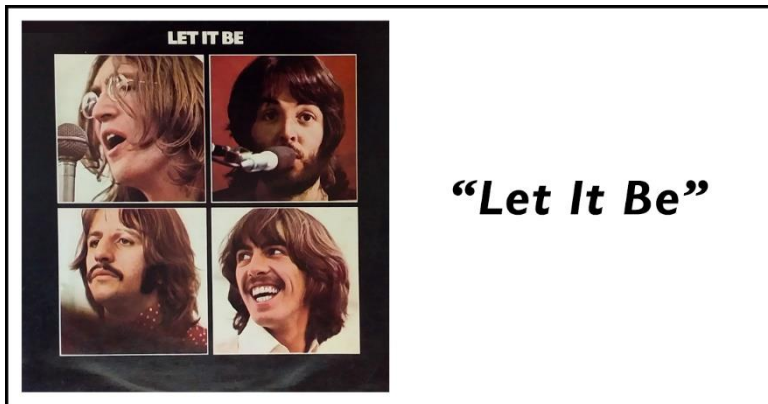
Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 29 January 2023

Epiphany 4

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

Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street
10am Congregation

29 January 2023 Epiphany 4

Leader: Philip Garside. Organist: Vivien Chiu.

Welcome, Introduction & Safety Briefing

Call to Worship

Spirit of new creation

Renew us with your holy love

Be in our deeds

**That our hands may surprise us
with their skills and gentleness**

Be in our minds

**That our thoughts may startle us
with new wisdom and humility**

Be in our feelings

**That our hearts may uplift us
with compassion and courage**

Be in our praying

**That your love may flood us
with wonder, peace and joy**

Spirit of new creation

**let your glory flame out
from our ordinary lives, Amen.**

Lighting the candles

As we light these candles:

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *light* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *justice* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *hope* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *peace* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *love* shine through. Amen.

Hymn: Master Speak Thy Servant Heareth (H&P 535 (i))

1. Master speak! Thy servant heareth,
Waiting for Thy gracious word,
Longing for Thy voice that cheereth;
Master, let it now be heard.
I am listening, Lord, for Thee;
What hast Thou to say to me?
2. Speak to me by name, O Master
Let me know it is to me;
Speak, that I may follow faster,
With a step more firm and free,
Where the shepherd leads the flock
In the shadow of the rock.
3. Master speak! Though least and lowest,
Let me not unheard depart;
Master, speak! for O thou knowest,
All the yearning of my heart.
Knowest all its truest need;
Speak, and make me blest indeed.
4. Master, speak; and make me ready,
When thy voice is truly heard,
With obedience glad and steady,
Still to follow every word.
I am listening, Lord, for Thee;
Master, speak! O speak to me!

Prayer of Approach:

We come before you today, O God, thinking about healing.

We all have some part of us in need of healing:

- **in our bodies,**
- **in our minds,**
- **in our souls,**
- **from our past and in our present,**
- **in our hearts and in our thoughts.**

Some hurts we carry on our sleeve, some can be coaxed from us, others we show only to our nearest and dearest, and some we will need you to unearth for us.

Help us to understand, trust, and be open to your many ways of healing as we open our hearts to your love:

(a time of *Silence*)

Words of Assurance

God's love is forever and extends to the heavens.
We are forgiven and beloved children of God.
Let this love and the Spirit continue to move and guide us.
May we be shining lights in this world. Amen.

Time with children / Introducing the Theme

Hymn: Here I am Lord.

(Words and Music: Dan Schutte)

1. I the Lord of sea and sky
I have heard my people cry
All who dwell in dark and sin
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night
I will make their darkness bright
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

Refrain:

Here I am Lord, is it I Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night
I will go Lord, if you lead me,
I will hold your people in my heart.

2. I, the Lord of snow and rain
I have borne my people's pain
I have wept for love of them
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone
Give them hearts for love alone
I will speak my words to them
Whom shall I send?
3. I, the Lord of wind and flame
I will tend the poor and lame
I will set a feast for them
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
'Til their hearts be satisfied
I will give my life to them
Whom shall I send?

Readings – Matthew 5:1-12

New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition

The Beatitudes

5 When Jesus[a] saw the crowds, he went up the mountain, and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. 2 And he began to speak and taught them, saying:

3 “Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

4 “Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

5 “Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

6 “Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

7 “Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

8 “Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

9 “Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

10 “Blessed are those who are persecuted for the sake of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

11 “Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely[b] on my account. 12. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.



The Message

5: 1-2 When Jesus saw his ministry drawing huge crowds, he climbed a hillside. Those who were apprenticed to him, the committed, climbed with him. Arriving at a quiet place, he sat down and taught his climbing companions. This is what he said:

3 “You’re blessed when you’re at the end of your rope. With less of you there is more of God and his rule.

4 “You’re blessed when you feel you’ve lost what is most dear to you. Only then can you be embraced by the One most dear to you.

5 “You’re blessed when you’re content with just who you are—no more, no less. That’s the moment you find yourselves proud owners of everything that can’t be bought.

6 “You’re blessed when you’ve worked up a good appetite for God. He’s food and drink in the best meal you’ll ever eat.

7 “You’re blessed when you care. At the moment of being ‘care-full,’ you find yourselves cared for.

8 “You’re blessed when you get your inside world—your mind and heart—put right. Then you can see God in the outside world.

9 “You’re blessed when you can show people how to cooperate instead of compete or fight. That’s when you discover who you really are, and your place in God’s family.

10 “You’re blessed when your commitment to God provokes persecution. The persecution drives you even deeper into God’s kingdom.

11-12 “Not only that—count yourselves blessed every time people put you down or throw you out or speak lies about you to discredit me. What it means is that the truth is too close for comfort and they are uncomfortable. You can be glad when that happens – give a cheer, even! – for though they don’t like it, I do! And all heaven applauds. And know that you are in good company. My prophets and witnesses have always gotten into this kind of trouble.

Sermon: Let It Be



Song: Let It Be (Lennon/McCartney)

Sung for you by Philip and Heather

1. When I find myself in times of trouble
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be.
And in my hour of darkness
She is standing right in front of me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be.

*Let it be, Let it be, Let it be, Let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, Let it be.*

2. And when the broken hearted people
living in the world agree
There will be an answer, let it be.
For though they may be parted
there is still a chance that they will see
There will be an answer, let it be.

*Let it be, Let it be, Let it be, Let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, Let it be.*

3. And when the night is cloudy
there is still a light that shines on me
Shine until tomorrow, let it be.
I wake up to the sound of music
Mother Mary comes to me
Speaking words of wisdom, let it be.

*Let it be, Let it be, Let it be, Let it be
There will be an answer, let it be.
Let it be, Let it be, Let it be, Let it be
Whisper words of wisdom, Let it be.*

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

Let's greet each other saying: **"Peace be with you."**

Notices

Sharing Joys, Things we are Grateful for, Sorrows & Concerns

Prayers of Intercession

To the bidding: "Challenge our values again, Jesus, and in your mercy,"
would you please respond with: **"hear our prayer."**

Lord's Prayer [Sung]

**Our Father in heaven
holy be your Name,
your kingdom come,**

**your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not put us to the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Offering

(We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Blessing of Offering (said together)

**We bring our gifts in gratitude for the generosity of God.
We bring our gifts in expectation
that they will be used for the work of God.
We bring our gifts in love for the people of God.
We bring our gifts asking for God's blessing upon them.
Amen.**

Hymn: Will you come and follow me.

(John Bell & Graham Maule. Tune: Kelvingrove)

1. Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?
2. Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?
3. Will you let the blinded see if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean in you and you in me?

4. Will you love the "you" you hide if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound in you and you in me?
5. Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.
In Your company I'll go where Your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

Benediction

You are God's servants, gifted with dreams and visions.
Upon you rests the grace of God like flames of fire.
Love and serve the Lord in the strength of the Spirit.

May the deep peace of Christ be with you,
the strong arms of God sustain you,
and the power of the Holy Spirit
strengthen you in every way. **Amen.**

The Grace (Said together)

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen**



Liturgy and readings for this service were sourced from: *Gathering* – The United Church of Canada; *Let Us Pray*, Janet Nelson 1999; Diane Karay Tripp, quoted in *Art of Curating Worship*, Mark Pierson 2010; Philip Garside.

The Beatles: Get Back | Official Trailer | Disney+. © Walt Disney Studios 14 Oct 2021
<https://youtu.be/Auta2lagtw4>

Let It Be lyrics by John Lennon and Paul McCartney.
© 1970 Northern Songs Ltd / Blackwood Music Inc

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>