



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

Sunday 3rd December 2023
COMBINED SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

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 – Parish Combined Service of Holy Communion

SUNDAY –3rd December 2023

Worship Leader: Rev. Simote Pomale Taunga

Organist: Vivien Chiu

PRAISE & WORSHIP

Tongan Youth

WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING

Tongan Youth

INTROIT

Fijian Choir

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

Centering Words (*Isaiah 64*)

Tongan Youth

God is the potter; we are the clay. May God fashion us into vessels of beauty and purpose this Advent season.

Call to worship (*Isaiah 64, Psalm 80*)

The Lord of hosts redeems us when we stray.

With a Mighty arm, God comes to save us.

When God hid his face, we stray.

When God withdrew her presence, we stumbled.

God had fed us with the bread of tears,

And given us tears to drink in full measure.

Yet, through his son, God calls us back from the pit,

And restores our future.

God shines upon us with love, that we might be saved.

Come let us worship.

Opening Prayer (*Isaiah 64, Mark 13*)

Tongan Youth

God of glory, your power darkens the skies,

And causes the moon to grow dim.

When we scatter to the four winds,

Gather us from the ends of the earth,

And restore us as your people.

Awaken us from slumber,

That we may be found ready,

When the master of the house return.

Amen.

HYMN: “Joy to the world”

Words: Isaac Watts [H&P 77]

Remain standing.

GLORIA IN EXCELSIS

Sokopeti Na’a Sina

**All: Glory to God in the highest, and peace to God’s people on earth. Lord God, heavenly king, Almighty God, and Father,
We worship you; we give you thanks,
We praise you for your glory.
Lord Jesus Christ, only Son of the Father,
Lord God, Lamb of God,
You take away the sin of the world.
Have mercy on us;
You are seated at the right hand of the Father:
Receive our prayer.
For you alone are the most high, Jesus Christ
With the Holy Spirit, in the Glory of God the Father.
Amen**

Confession & declaration of forgiveness:

Leader: Our Lord Jesus Christ said, the first commandment is;
Love the lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with
all your mind, and with all your strength.

All: **Lord, we have not loved you with all our heart and soul, with
all our mind, and strength.**

Leader: The second commandment is: love your neighbour as yourself.

All: **Lord, we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.**

Leader: He also said, I give you a new commandment; love on another; as I
have loved you, so you are to love one another.

All: **Lord, we have not loved one another as you have loved us.**

Leader: Lord have Mercy.

All: **Christ have mercy.**

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

Silence

Leader: Here the word of grace:
If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just,
And still forgive our sins and cleanse us from
All unrighteousness.
Therefore I declare to you, your sins are forgiven.

All: **Amen. Thanks be to God.**

(Let us say together the Lord’s Prayer in the language of your choice).

10am Singing Group

Children's time

Tongan youth

THE MINISTRY OF THE WORD

First reading: Isaiah 64:1-9

10am

Second reading: Mark 13:24-37

Tongan youth

HYMN: "Hark! The Herald Angels Sing"

Words: Charles Wesley

REFLECTION

Theme: Be prepared for the day of the Lord.

Text. Mark 13:35-37.

"Therefore, keep awake, for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, or else he may find you are asleep when he comes suddenly. And what I say to you I say to all, keep awake."

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

**All: We believe in God, the Father Almighty,
Creator of heaven and earth.
We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
Who was conceived by the Holy Spirit
And born of the virgin Mary.
He suffered under Pontius Pilate,
Was Crucified, died, and was buried;
He descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
He ascended into heaven,
He is seated at the right hand of the Father,
And he will come to judge the living and the dead.
I believe in the Holy Spirit,
The holy Catholic church,
The communion of saints,
The resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting.
Amen.**

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION

Rev. Nicola Grundy

Leader: Let us pray for the whole church of Christ and for the human family; for the union of all Christians in one holy church; for all who bear responsibility among God's people; for all ministers of the word and sacraments; for mission and outreach of this congregation.

Silence

Leader: God of love.

All: Receive our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for the peace of the world; for the ruler of all Nations; for government in accordance with God's holy will; and for a just and proper use of the natural resources of the world.

Silence

Leader: God of love.

All: Receive our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for the concerns and activities of this parish and of this neighbourhood; and for ourselves, our families, friends and neighbours.

Silence

Leader: God of love.

All: Receive our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for all in sorrow, need, anxiety or sickness; for the dying and those who watch over them; for the neglected and lonely; for the unemployed; for those who are imprisoned; for those who suffer for conscience sake.

Leader: God of love,

All: Receive our prayer.

Leader: Let us pray for all men and women in their daily life and work. For young people and children; for places of healing, teaching study and research; for travellers.

Silence

Leader: God of love,

All: Receive our prayer.

Leader: Let us praise God for those in every generation in whom Christ has been honoured, and pray that we also, inspired by their example, may have grace to glorify Christ.

Silence

Leader: God of love.

All: Receive our prayer.

All: Almighty God, you know our needs before we ask; help us to ask only what accords with your will; and those good things which we dare not or in our blindness cannot ask, grant us for the sake of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

ANTHEM

Samoans

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

Leader: We many as we are, are one body in Christ. If we do not love our brothers and sisters whom we have seen, how can we love God whom we have not seen? The peace of God be with you.

All: And God's peace be with you.

A sign of peace may be exchanged among the people.

OFFERTORY

Sokopeti Na'a Sina

Leader: I implore you by God's mercy to offer your very selves to God; A living sacrifice, dedicated and fit for God's acceptance, the worship offered by mind and heart.

Please stand

Leader: You have enriched us in every way, O God, through our faith in Christ Jesus. You have granted us grace and blessed us with every spiritual gift. In gratitude for your many blessings, we offer our tithes and offerings this day. Enrich and bless these gifts, that they may go into the world and help build your kingdom. Amen.

We acknowledge our gifts for the food bank and the work of the parish through, Envelope and cash offerings, and through bank automatic payments.

THANKSGIVING

Leader: The Lord is here.

All: God's Spirit is with you.

Leader: Lift up your heart.

All: We Lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give thanks and praise.

Leader: With all your people in heaven and on earth we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, through whom all things were made; who in the fullness of time became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth. who in obedience suffered death on the cross, and was raised in triumph that we might have life. Therefore we worship and praise your glorious name.

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the bread of life, and the cup of salvation. Bind us into one body, that we may grow into the fullness of Christ, who is the head.

All: We come to your table, Lord, trusting not in our own righteousness but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under the table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat this bread and drink this wine that Christ may evermore dwell in us and we in him.

BREAKING OF BREAD

Leader: The bread which we break, is a sharing in the body of Christ
The wine which we pour, is a sharing in the blood of Christ
Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sins of the world.

The **10am Congregation**, who will sing during today's communion are invited to come forward first, followed by the congregation. All are welcome to receive the sacrament.

Please approach by the centre aisle and return by the side.
You may stand or kneel, as you prefer.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

All: **We thank you with all your heart for your mercy and grace.
Grant us now and in the days to come a living hope in you; and
as we serve you in the world, help us look and work for that.
day when at your name, every knee shall bow and every
tongue, confess you Lord, to the glory of God. Amen.**

HYMN "TO GOD BE THE GLORY" [H&P 463]

BENEDICTION

Keep awake; hope is coming to us.

We await God's salvation.

Keep alert, God's blessings.

We await God's blessings.

Be ready; Christ is among us now.

We go with God's blessing.

BLESSING

Leader: The peace of God, which passes all understanding keep your
Hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his
Son Jesus Christ our Lord.

And the blessing of Almighty
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
Be with you always, Amen.

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE

Tongan youth

GRACE

**All: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ
The love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
Be with us all.
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.

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Visit the parish website; <https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>
Or the 10am Facebook Page to keep up-to-date with services and news:

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