



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 12th May 2024

For All Mothers: We give thanks

*Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia
Welcome to this House of Prayer*



Living God's Love – Acting for the Common Good

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!

WESLEY TARANAKI

12TH OF MAY 2024

FOR ALL MOTHERS: WE GIVE THANKS

CALL TO WORSHIP – *(Joy Kingsbury-Aitken)*

Today we celebrate families,
and the mothers who nurture them.

Today we celebrate discipleship
and the church that nurtures us.

Today we celebrate the Holy One,
who unites us into one holy family;
and to whom we offer our humble praise
and heartfelt thanksgiving this day in this place,
as we gather together, your people,
listening for your voice in what is said, sung
and reflected upon during our hour of worship. Amen.

HYMN - AA 158 “Who is my mother?”

Who is my mother?

Who is my brother?

All those who gather round Jesus Christ:

Spirit blown people

born from the Gospel

sit at the table, round Jesus Christ.

Differently abled

differently labelled

widen the circle round Jesus Christ,

crutches and stigmas

cultures' enigmas

all come together round Jesus Christ.

Love will relate us –
colour or status
can't segregate us round Jesus Christ:
family failings
human derailings,
all are accepted, round Jesus Christ.

Bound by one vision,
met for one mission
we claim each other, round Jesus Christ.
Here is my mother,
here is my brother,
kindred in Spirit, round Jesus Christ.

Shirley Murray

MOTHER'S DAY PRAYER.....

(after the prayer above - all mothers, women, and girls are invited to stand as they are able)

PRAYER OF BLESSING: (adpt - Magrey deVega)

Gracious and loving God,
we give you thanks for the mothers among us, and ask that you strengthen them in their daily tasks. Grant them wisdom in the lessons they teach, patience in the discipline they foster, and persistence in their promotion of decency and compassion, both by word and example. May they be given the honour and thanks they deserve but often do not receive. In each of them, we celebrate your divine love, reflected in human expressions of motherhood. On this special day, we pray that you bless each of them in your special way. For the women amongst us:

We give thanks and praise
(please be seated)

Hear now the names of some of the women who have inspired us by their motherly examples . . . *(people are invited to say out names of mother figures in their life)*
For the women named and unnamed,
we give thanks and praise. Amen.

HYMN – Thank you God for parents.
(Tune: St Gertrude - "Onward, Christian Soldiers")

Thank you, God, for parents
who have — day by day —
sought to lead their children
in your loving way.
They show through their nurture,
through deeds great and small,
love without condition
as you love us all.

*Thank you, God, for parents
here and everywhere.
Bless them in their calling;
Lord, this is our prayer.*

Thank you, God, for guardians,
foster parents, kin,
grandparents and all who
welcome children in.
May we be a witness
to each loving home:
all are loved and welcomed.
None need walk alone.

Refrain

Carolyn Gillette

OLD TESTAMENT READING - Exodus 2.1-10

Birth and Youth of Moses

Now a man from the house of Levi went and married a Levite woman. ² The woman conceived and bore a son, and when she saw that he was a fine baby, she hid him three months. ³ When she could hide him no longer she got a papyrus basket for him and plastered it with bitumen and pitch; she put the child in it and placed it among the reeds on the bank of the river. ⁴ His sister stood at a distance, to see what would happen to him.

⁵ The daughter of Pharaoh came down to bathe at the river, while her attendants walked beside the river. She saw the basket among the reeds and sent her maid to bring it. ⁶ When she opened it, she saw the child. He was crying, and she took pity on him. “This must be one of the Hebrews’ children,” she said. ⁷ Then his sister said to Pharaoh’s daughter, “Shall I go and get you a nurse from the Hebrew women to nurse the child for you?” ⁸ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Yes.” So the girl went and called the child’s mother. ⁹ Pharaoh’s daughter said to her, “Take this child and nurse it for me, and I will give you your wages.” So the woman took the child and nursed it. ¹⁰ When the child grew up, she brought him to Pharaoh’s daughter, and he became her son. She named him Moses, ^[a] “because,” she said, “I drew him out of the water.”

CHILDREN’S TIME: The ‘hand-basket’ – Care & Love

GOSPEL READING – John 19.25b-27

And that is what the soldiers did. Meanwhile, standing near the cross of Jesus were his mother, and his mother's sister, Mary the wife of Clopas, and Mary Magdalene. ²⁶ When Jesus saw his mother and the disciple whom he loved standing beside her, he said to his mother, "Woman, here is your son." ²⁷ Then he said to the disciple, "Here is your mother." And from that hour the disciple took her into his own home.

HYMN – God of the women. (*Tune: Slane - "Be Thou My Vision"*)

God of the women who answered your call,
Trusting your promises, giving their all,
Women like Sarah and Hannah and Ruth —
Give us their courage to live in your truth.

God of the women who walked Jesus' Way,
Giving their resources, learning to pray,
Mary, Joanna, Susanna, and more —
May we give freely as they did before.

God of the women long put to the test,
Left out of stories, forgotten, oppressed,
Quietly asking: "Who smiled at my birth?" —
In Jesus' dying you show us our worth.

Carolyn Gillette

REFLECTION

INTERCESSORY PRAYERS

OFFERING AND DEDICATION (*Let's pray together*)

**God of Great gifts,
we give you these gifts today
knowing that you are the Father of gifts.
You mother us constantly providing for us, caring for us.
As we have been abundantly provided for,
so, we give abundantly to the work that you give us to do,
Accept these, our gifts in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Carol Penner

HYMN – Bind us together, Lord.

Refrain

*Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together
With cords that cannot be broken
Bind us together, Lord
Bind us together
Bind us together in Love*

There is only one God,
There is only one King
There is only one Body,
That is why we sing.

Refrain

Made for the glory of God,
Purchased by His precious Son
Born with the right to be free
For Jesus the victory has won.

Refrain

We are the family of God
We are the promise divine
We are God's chosen desire
We are the glorious new wine.

Bob Gillman

THE BLESSING

May God, who gave birth to all creation, bless us:
may God, who became incarnate by an earthly mother, bless us:
may God, who broods as a mother over her children, bless us.
May almighty God bless us, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
now and for ever.

Amen.

THE DISMISAL

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

In the name of Christ. Amen.