



Wesley Wellington
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday, 20 October 2024
Pentecost 22 (61B)

Haere mai ki tēnei whare karakia
Welcome to this house of prayer



The Greatest

Living God's love – acting for the common Good

**Kia ora koutou katoa — Tālofa lava
Mālō e lelei — Bula vinaka — Greetings to you all!**

Welcome to today's service. A special welcome to visitors. We hope you will enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again.

**10AM Congregation – Order of Service
Worship leader: Tahi Kato
Organist: Colin Scarf**

WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING

GATHERING

Tena tatou katoa, Talofa lava, Malo e lelei, Bula Vinaka, welcome.

Welcome to our worship – whether you are here in person or joining us on-line, you are welcome here.

*On your order of service, please response with the text in **bold**.*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Ngā Kupu Whakapūare)

Welcome all who long to encounter Jesus, the one who loves, tends, sustains, and saves us.

Jesus said, “the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.”

Welcome all who walk the halls of power, who feel pushed and pulled to fight for position, status, and authority.

Jesus said, “the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.”

Welcome all who feel burned out, who have given more than they have day in and day out and long for someone to notice that you, too, need help and support.

Jesus said, “the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve.”

Welcome, followers of Christ, who came to serve and show God's abundant love and grace among us.

We come to worship Jesus who shows us that serving is the fruit of our love and being served by one another is the source of our power as the Body of Christ. Amen.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE (Kānara Whakamāmā)

We gather today in the light of Christ, who redefines greatness through humble service and sacrifice. As we light this candle, we remember His call to serve, not to be served, and to give our lives as He gave His for us.

Candle is lit

OPENING PRAYER (Inoi Tuatahi)

(Garnaas-Holmes – Inspired by Psalm 104)

Holy One,
breath of the big bang,
idea of creation,
you who make spring come forth,
who make life out of nothing,
breathe yourself into me.

Create me.
you are the flame,
I am your light. You are the nerve,
I am your muscle. You are the Word,
I am the story. You are the song,
I am the singing.

I am one with you
and one with all Creation. One Spirit,
one flesh, many forms. In your Spirit
I am we.

Holy One, live in me;
I am your body. I remember,
and I live.

HYMN (Himene): SIMPLY TO BE

Shirley E. Murray (HIOS 118)

Simply to be, to be in stillness,
simply to trust that God is here,
simply to know the Holy Presence,
is to be blessed:
so am I blessed,

simply to hold the given moment,
simply to lay concern aside,
simply to let the heart be speaking,
is to be blessed:
so am I blessed,

so am I blessed within God's keeping,
so am I freed from pointless stress,
steadied to feel the soul replenished,
given this grace,
folded in peace.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Call to Reconciliation

We do not pray in order to alleviate our guilt, but to express our gratitude to God. For we know all the things we have said and done that we shouldn't, and all those words we could have spoken, all those actions we could have undertaken, but did not. Despite such lives, God still loves us, surrounding us with mercy and hope, waiting to restore us to new life. Please join me, as we pray together saying,

Creation's Heart, we look around and see how we fall short in our attempts at faithfulness. We often do things, not because it is what you call us to do, but in hopes of earning points with you. We can become so self-absorbed, we cannot see the suffering and struggles of friends, family, strangers. We are so desperate to get to the front of the line, we push aside the very ones you seek to honour.

Forgive us, Holy One. Remind us that the cup we are offered overflows with grace, that the waters of baptism cleanse and make us new, and that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior, is the One who calls us to service, standing by our side, as we seek to be faithful disciples.

Silence is kept

Assurance of Pardon

The One who poured the foundations of creation fills us with grace and hope. The One who numbered the clouds, tips over rain barrels of living water into our parched souls.

The One who writes anthems for the early morning stars, fills us with songs of joy. The One who provides food for all living things, feeds us with mercies which come fresh and new each day. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.

SO WHAT'S THE STORY?

HYMN – Brother, sister, let me serve you (AA 8)

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

2. We are pilgrims on a journey,
and travellers on the road;
we are here to help each other
walk the mile and bear the load.

3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
in the nighttime of your fear;
I will hold my hand out to you,
speak the peace you long to hear.

4. I will weep when you are weeping;
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;
I will share your joy and sorrow,
till we've seen this journey through.

5. When we sing to God in heaven,
we shall find such harmony,
born of all we've known together
of Christ's love and agony.

6. Brother, sister, let me serve you;
let me be as Christ to you;
pray that I may have the grace
to let you be my servant too.

MINISTRY OF THE WORD (Ngā Pānui Karaipiture)

Hebrews 5:1-10 (NRSVUE)

1 Every high priest chosen from among mortals is put in charge of things pertaining to God on their behalf, to offer gifts and sacrifices for sins. 2 He is able to deal gently with the ignorant and wayward, since he himself is subject to weakness, 3 and because of this he must offer sacrifice for his own sins as well as for those of the people. 4 And one does not presume to take this honor but takes it only when called by God, just as Aaron was.

5 So also Christ did not glorify himself in becoming a high priest but was appointed by[a] the one who said to him,

“You are my Son;
today I have begotten you”;

6 as he says also in another place,

“You are a priest forever,
according to the order of Melchizedek.”

7 In the days of his flesh, Jesus[b] offered up prayers and supplications, with loud cries and tears, to the one who was able to save him from death, and he was heard because of his reverent submission. 8 Although he was a Son, he learned obedience through what he suffered, 9 and having been made perfect, he became the source of eternal salvation for all who obey him, 10 having been designated by God a high priest according to the order of Melchizedek.

Mark 10:35-45 (NRSVUE)

35 James and John, the sons of Zebedee, came forward to him and said to him, “Teacher, we want you to do for us whatever we ask of you.” 36 And he said to them, “What is it you want me to do for you?” 37 And they said to him, “Appoint us to sit, one at your right hand and one at your left, in your glory.” 38 But Jesus said to them, “You do not know what you are asking. Are you able to drink the cup that I drink or be baptized with the baptism that I am baptized with?” 39 They replied, “We are able.” Then Jesus said to them, “The cup that I drink you will drink, and with the baptism with which I am baptized you will be baptized, 40 but to sit at my right hand or at my left is not mine to appoint, but it is for those for whom it has been prepared.”

41 When the ten heard this, they began to be angry with James and John. 42 So Jesus called them and said to them, “You know that among the gentiles those whom they recognize as their rulers lord it over them, and their great ones are tyrants over them. 43 But it is not so among you; instead, whoever wishes to become great among you must be your servant, 44 and whoever wishes to be first among you must be slave of all. 45 For the Son of Man came not to be served but to serve and to give his life a ransom for many.”

REFLECTION (He Whakaaroaro)

HYMN (Himene): O JESUS, I HAVE PROMISED

WORDS: John E. Bode TUNE: Angel’s Story METER: 76.76D (The United Methodist Hymnal #396)

O 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.

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.

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.

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.

COMMUNITY TIME

Sharing the Peace

We greet each other saying **“God’s peace be with you.”**

Notices

Sharing joys, things we are grateful for, sorrows and concerns

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION (Ngā Inoi Mō Te Whānau)

The word angel originally meant “messenger.”
For God’s angels on this earth,
let us now pray.

We thank you, loving God,
that you do not leave us without helpers.
thank for your special agents, those guardian angels—
both human and heavenly—who never cease to care.

Wherever there are situations of confusion,
where doubts proliferate and anxieties spawn,
please send in your angels of light.

Wherever people are crippled by guilt,
or deeply regret damage to others which they can never rectify,
send in your angels of mercy.

Wherever there is arrogance and deceit,
corruption and rapacious greed,
send in your fiery angels of judgement.

Wherever ignorance reigns
or superstition cripples individuals or communities,
please send in your angels of truth.

Wherever persons or nations become obsessed with aggression,
or resort to terrorism and warfare,
send in your agents of peace and goodwill.

Wherever families are at loggerheads,
or in the workplace folk feel alienated from one another,

send in your angels of reconciliation.

Wherever people see their future as bleak or dangerous,
and fall into the trap of inertia or despair,
please send in your angels of hope.

Wherever the church becomes exclusive,
or gets caught up in its own regulations, traditions, or inflexible dogma,
send in your angels of reformation.

Wherever ministers lose their passion for the Gospel,
or congregations become self-satisfied or apathetic,
please send in your angels of rebuke.

Wherever there are people who are afflicted by disease
or injured in accidents,
struggle against mental ills
or suffer from criminal violence,
send in your angels of healing.

Wherever the dying endure fears or pain,
and the bereaved either shed the hot tears of a fresh grief
or endure the long-term loss of a partner or friend,
send in your angels of comfort.

Loving God,
Lord of all the messengers of grace on earth and in heaven,
hear our prayers and enlist us, please God,
within the ranks of your caring angels.
Through Jesus Christ your only True Son,
our Saviour and our inspiration.
Amen!

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 aianeī 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.**

OFFERING (Tātou Koha Ki Te Hāhi)

We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking.

Loving God, you teach us humility and service. We bring our offerings today with grateful hearts. As we reflect on your holy scripture today, may we give as a testament to our commitment to serve others, not seeking the highest places but embracing the path of sacrificial love. Bless these gifts and use them to advance your kingdom. Remind us that true greatness always comes through serving. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen

HĪMENE: TE ARIKI, HEI A AU KOE NOHO AI

Te Ariki, hei a au koe noho ai,
He pōnga hoki tēnei nō te rā;
Tūpono noa ngā mate o te ao,
Kia tata mai; hei au Koe noho ai.

Refrain

Te Ariki, hei a au koe noho ai,
He pōnga hoki tēnei nō te rā;
Tūpono noa ngā mate o te ao,
Kia tata mai; hei au Koe noho ai.

Lord, remain with me,
This is but the shadow of the day;
The troubles of the world unexpectedly arise,
Come close to me; remain with me.

Ngā rā e ora ai te tangata,
Anō he tai e timu atu nei:
Ko Koe, te take o te oranga,
Kia tata mai; hei a au Koe noho ai.

Refrain

Te Ariki, hei a au koe noho ai,
He pōnga hoki tēnei nō te rā;
Tūpono noa ngā mate o te ao,
Kia tata mai; hei au Koe noho ai.

Māu anō ra ka tino pono ai,
He whāinga tupu ki te hoa whawhai,
Māu anō au e āta ārahi:
Kia tata mai; hei a au Koe noho ai.

Refrain

Te Ariki, hei a au koe noho ai,
He pōnga hoki tēnei nō te rā;
Tūpono noa ngā mate o te ao,
Kia tata mai; hei au Koe noho ai.

Whakaaria mai Tōu Rīpeka ki a au;
Tiaho mai ra roto i te pō:
Ki kōna au titiro atu ai:
Ora, mate, hei a au Koe noho ai.

Refrain

Te Ariki, hei a au koe noho ai,
He pōnga hoki tēnei nō te rā;
Tūpono noa ngā mate o te ao,
Kia tata mai; hei au Koe noho ai.

Extinguishing the candle

The days in which people live,
Are like the tide that ebbs away:
You are the source of life,
Come close to me; remain with me.

Only through You will I have true faith,
A growing goal against the enemy,
You will guide me carefully:
Come close to me; remain with me.

Show your Cross to me;
Shine brightly in the night:
There I will look to You:
In life or death, remain with me.

BENEDICTION (Ngā Inoi Whakamutunga)

Beloved, go today in the blessing of Jesus Christ, who challenges us to share our love through service and receive love through the service others, binding us together as a community through holy interdependence. Amen.

THE GRACE

**Kia tau ki a tātou katoa,
te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki o Ihu Karaiti,
me te aroha o te Atua,
me te whiwhinga tahitanga
ki te Wairua Tapu. Āmine**

Please join us for morning tea in the New Hall following the service.

Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

Discipleship Ministries – The United Methodist Church <https://www.umcdiscipleship.org/>

Steve Garnass-Holmes - Unfolding Light <https://www.unfoldinglight.net/>

Thom Shuman – Lectionary Liturgies <http://lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/>

Bruce Prewer <http://www.bruceprewer.com/DocC/C38sun9.htm>

<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

<https://www.hymnsite.com/lyrics/umh396.sht>

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Or the 10AM Congregation's Facebook Page:

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