



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 21 January 2024

Epiphany 3

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



Casting the net

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!**

**Order of Service
10am Congregation
Sunday 21 January 2024
Epiphany 3**

**Leader: Philip Garside Organist: Colin Scarf
Guitar: Heather Garside**

Welcome & Introduction

Call to Worship

Beautiful Presence, how can we name You?
Words are too small for the one who is all.
How can we speak of Your gentleness in us,
the warmth of our hearts in response to Your call?

**Beautiful Presence, ocean of love,
Strong as forever, soft as a dove,
words often fail us but this we know true,
You live within us as we live in You.**

There have been times of spiritual blindness,
when error and pain have distorted our sight.
Beautiful Presence, You were there with us
to show us how darkness can turn in to light.

**Beautiful Presence, ocean of love,
Strong as forever, soft as a dove,
words often fail us but this we know true,
You live within us as we live in You.**

Nothing that happens to us will be wasted.
All of our living is grounded in grace.
Gently You take down the walls of division,
leading us on to a larger place.

**Beautiful Presence, ocean of love,
Strong as forever, soft as a dove,
words often fail us but this we know true,
You live within us as we live in You. Amen.**

Lighting the candle

**In a cold world, the light of Christ can warm hearts.
In a shadowed world,
the light of Christ can challenge us to the ways of peace.
In a world in despair, the light of Christ can give real hope.
May we be the light of Christ and bring hope, warmth, and peace.**

Opening Prayer

**In a world filled with noise, you are a place of quiet, God.
In a world filled with complexity, you are wisdom.
In a world filled with brokenness and loss,
you are the sturdy ground of our being.
Through this time together, through the love of Christ,
may the world be changed, and may all be made whole. Amen.**

Hymn: Give thanks for life. AA 45. Words: Shirley Murray. Tune: Sine Nomine

1. Give thanks for life,
the measure of our days,
mortal, we pass through
beauty that decays,
yet sing to God our hope,
our love, our praise,
Alleluia!
2. Give thanks for those
who made their life a light
caught from the Christ-flame,
bursting through the night,
who touched the truth, who
burned for what is right,
Alleluia!
3. And for our own, our living
and our dead,
thanks for the love by

which our life is fed,
yet sing to God our hope,
our love, our praise,
Alleluia!

4. Give thanks for hope,
that like the wheat, the grain
lying in darkness
does its life retain,
in resurrection
to grow green again.
Alleluia!

Prayer of Approach & Words of Assurance

**God of Infinite Love,
we concern ourselves with distractions.**

**We fill our hearts and minds with things:
our things, new things, their things.**

We are possessed by things.

We need to empty ourselves.

Only then can we be filled with your spirit.

**We need to embrace your son's path,
so that we can come to know you.**

**Your forgiveness is our new beginning,
as we strive to learn and grow
and to become what you have planned
for our part in your creation.**

Words of Assurance

The God of infinite love has forgiven us.
Through God's grace, we begin again,
as it has ever been, and as it will ever be. **Amen.**

Introducing the Theme / Story Time

Hymn: Hail to the Lord's Anointed. Words: James Montgomery. Music: Betty Pulkingham

1. Hail to the Lord's anointed, great David's greater Son!
Hail in the time appointed, His reign on earth begun!
He comes to break oppression, to set the captive free
To take away transgression, and rule in equity.
2. He shall come down like showers, upon the fruitful earth
And love, joy, hope, like flowers, spring in his path to birth:
Before him on the mountains, shall peace the herald go;
And righteousness in fountains from hill to valley flow.
3. Kings shall bow down before him, and gold and incense bring;
All nations shall adore him, His praise all people sing;
For he shall have dominion o'er every sea and shore;
His kingdom still increasing, a kingdom for evermore.
4. O'er every foe victorious, He on his throne shall rest;
From age to age more glorious, all blessing and all blest:
The tide of time shall never His covenant remove;
His name shall stand for ever, His changeless name of love.

Readings (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

Mark 1:14-20

The Beginning of the Galilean Ministry

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee proclaiming the good news of God and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

Jesus Calls the First Disciples

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the sea, for they were fishers. And Jesus said to them, "Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people." And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

1 Corinthians 7:29-31

I mean, brothers and sisters, the appointed time has grown short; from now on, let even those who have wives be as though they had none, and those who mourn as though they were not mourning, and those who rejoice as though they were not rejoicing, and those who buy as though they had no possessions, and those who deal with the world as though they had no dealings with it. For the present form of this world is passing away.

Sermon/Reflection: Casting the net

Song: E te Atua AA31 Arrangement: Nicola Jansen and Guy Jansen

1. E te Atua aroha mai, *God have mercy*
E te Atua aroha mai,
E te Atua aroha mai,
ake ake tonu e *forever and ever*
ake ake tonu e
2. E te Atua manaaki mai, *God bless you*
E te Atua manaaki mai,
E te Atua manaaki mai,
ake ake tonu e *forever and ever*
ake ake tonu e
3. E te Atua awhina mai, *God help me*
E te Atua awhina mai,
E te Atua awhina mai,
ake ake tonu e *forever and ever*
ake ake tonu e

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

Let's greet each other saying: "God's peace be with you."

Notices

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

Prayers of Intercession

To the bidding "...God in whom we trust and hope, in your mercy" would you please respond "**hear our prayer.**"

Lord's Prayer

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

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

Blessing of Offering (said together)

**Gracious God we ask your blessing on ourselves and what we give.
Help us use our money and our talents well.
May our gifts encourage generous living and abundant life. Amen.**

Hymn: Jesus, lover of my soul H&P 528(i) Words: Charles Wesley. Music: Joseph Parry.

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
Let me to thy bosom fly,
While the nearer waters roll,
While the tempest still is high;
Hide me, O my Saviour, hide,
Till the storm of life is past;
Safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

2. Other refuge have I none;
Hangs my helpless soul on thee;
Leave, ah, leave me not alone,
Still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
All my help from thee I bring;
Cover my defenceless head
With the shadow of thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in Thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick and lead the blind.
Just and holy is Thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
Vile and full of sin I am,
Thou art full of truth and grace.

4. Plenteous grace with thee is found,
Grace to cover all my sin;
Let the healing streams abound;
Make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
Freely let me take of thee;
Spring thou up within my heart,
Rise to all eternity.

Sending forth / Benediction

Be confident that God is good, and love is of God.
Be confident that God is in you and you are in God.
Be confident that there is good and God in everyone.
Go confident in the power of the Holy Spirit.

**We go to reflect goodness and love,
We go to live confident Godly lives.**

The Grace

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

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

Come and See, Joy Cowley, Pleroma 2008;

Let Us Pray, Janet Nelson, HarperCollins 1999;

Gathering: Advent, Christmas, Epiphany 2023-24, and Pentecost 2 - 2023

United Church of Canada 2023;

Lay Preaching Basics, Rosalie Sugrue, Philip Garside Publishing Ltd, 2018.

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<https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:

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