



**Wesley Methodist Church**

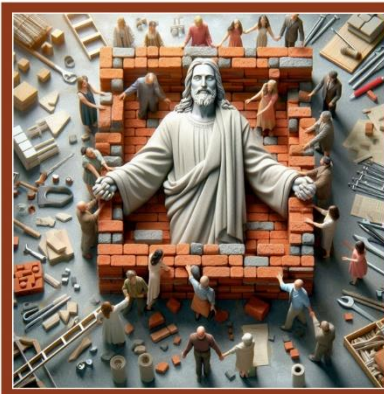
75 Taranaki Street  
Wellington

[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

**Sunday 21 July 2024**

**Pentecost 9**

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



*“Making a  
Home for God”*

**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 July 2024**

**Pentecost 9**

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

**Welcome & Introduction**

**Call to Worship** (John Howell – adapted)

We come to find a place set apart,  
**We come to feel the pulse of your heart,**

We come to wonder, to pause, to thank,  
**We come to fill an empty tank.**

We come to laugh at what is imposed,  
**We come to open the door that is closed,**

We come to find an olive branch,  
**We come to ask the world to dance.**

Find from the compassionate shepherd  
**bread for our deep hunger.**

**Opening Prayer**

Loving creator God,  
we have come to this place,  
**a place where your presence has been sensed in the past  
and we expect to experience you close again.**

As we rest in your love this day,  
remind us that it is not in our striving,  
**or our building, or our creating  
that you are made known.**

Your presence is in all places,  
and at all times,  
**waiting for us to be awake  
to your wonder and love surrounding us.**

Open our senses to your presence this day.  
**Amen.**

### **Lighting the Candle**

In times of struggle,  
**Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.**

In times of wonder,  
**Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.**

In times of anxious anticipation,  
**Jesus Christ is the Light of the World.**

In this time and place, here and now, and in all the days of our lives,  
**Jesus Christ is the Light of the World. Amen.**

### **Hymn: The Church's one foundation H&P 515.**

Tune: AURELIA. Words: Samuel John Stone (1839-1900)

1. The Church's one foundation  
Is Jesus Christ her Lord;  
She is his new creation  
By water and the Word:  
From heav'n he came and sought her  
To be his holy bride;  
With his own blood He bought her  
And for her life He died.

2. Elect from every nation,  
Yet one o'er all the earth,  
Her charter of salvation  
One Lord, one faith, one birth;  
One holy name she blesses,  
Partakes one holy food,  
And to one hope she presses,  
With every grace endued.
3. 'Mid toil and tribulation  
And tumult of her war,  
She waits the consummation  
Of peace forevermore;  
Till with the vision glorious  
Her longing eyes are blest,  
And the great Church victorious  
Shall be the Church at rest.
4. Yet she on earth hath union  
With God the Three in One,  
And mystic sweet communion  
With those whose rest is won;  
O happy ones and holy!  
Lord, give us grace that we,  
Like them, the meek and lowly,  
On high may dwell with Thee.

### **Prayer of Approach**

Let us gather before God and  
open our hearts and minds to the presence of grace,  
which frees us from the burden of sin:

**Gracious God,  
you share with us the gift of the law, a path of faith,  
so we will follow you in the wilderness of this world.**

Yet we turn away, crying out that it is too difficult to follow.  
We want a law that we can shape to our own desires.

**We build temples,  
where we believe we can control you through offerings,  
treating faith like a commodity,  
something to be bought and sold in the market.**

We try to ignore your voice that cries out,  
“Be free from the wisdom of the world and  
proclaim the Good News, the Kingdom of God is near!”

**God, forgive us.  
Renew us, so once more,  
we will return to the path of faith.**

### **Words of Assurance**

God is full of compassion, longing to dwell in harmony with us.  
If we open our hearts to the goodness shown in Christ,  
longing to live enveloped in his grace and power,  
then we can be assured that we are always forgiven.  
So, I declare to you, our sin is forgiven. Amen.

## **Introducing the theme / Story time**

### **Waiata – E te Ariki**

E te Ariki whakarongo mai ra kia ma tou

E te Ariki titiro mai ra kia ma tou

Tenei matou o tamariki

E whakapono ana matou ki a koe

Aue!

Aue!

Aue!

Aue!

Te Matua te Tamaiti Wairua tapu e

Te Matua te Tamaiti Wairua tapu e

Oh Lord, listen to us

Oh Lord, look at us

This is us, your children,

we believe, in you

The Father, the Son

and the Holy Spirit

(Sing three times)

## **Bible Readings**

**2 Samuel 7:1-14** (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

### **God's Covenant with David**

Now when the king was settled in his house and the Lord had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent." Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind, for the Lord is with you."

But that same night the word of the Lord came to Nathan, "Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the Lord:

Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, 'Why have you not built me a house of cedar?'

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the Lord of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel, and I have been with you wherever you went and have cut off all your enemies from before you, and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place and be disturbed no more, and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel, and I will give you rest from all your enemies.

Moreover, the Lord declares to you that the Lord will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me. When he commits iniquity, I will punish him with a rod such as mortals use, with blows inflicted by human beings.

## **Ephesians 2:11-22** (The Message)

But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether, are in on everything.

The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes, that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You belong here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

**Sermon: Making a Home for God**

## Hymn: Loving God of Aotearoa

Words: Philip Garside. Music: Gustav Holst. Tune: THAXTED

1. Loving God of Aotearoa,  
hear now our call to you,  
We have gathered in your presence,  
to celebrate anew!  
We have come from many places,  
speaking, thinking differently,  
But in you we are united,  
One whole, strong family.

*Refrain:*

Let us heed your call to service  
and follow lovingly,  
May we be compassionate people,  
Alive in you and free.

2. Scripture tells of faithful people,  
who spread your light and love.  
Now inspire, lead, direct us,  
so we can be like them.  
May the Way that Christ has taught us,  
and the power of your Word,  
set a fire burning in us,  
for justice and for love.
3. Rimu tall, with tui singing,  
proclaim your majesty,  
You who care for all creation,  
will always care for me.  
Matariki's spirit guide us,  
rise within us all the year.  
Help us live and speak forgiveness,  
your people want to hear.



## 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 *"...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.

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)

As God reaches out to us,  
so we would reach out to others in his name.  
The offering we make is a sign of our discipleship and commitment.  
The work of our hands is a sharing in the mission of Christ.

**Blessing of Offering** (said together)

**Loving God,  
in gratitude for the knowledge that we can rest in your love,  
we bring these gifts and ourselves before you.  
As those who know the love, joy and peace  
of dwelling in your presence,  
may these gifts and our lives  
bring your love and rest to others. Amen.**

## Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with your Love H&P 145

Tune: CHEREPONI from Ghana. Words: T.S. Colvin (1925-2000)

*Refrain:*

Jesu, Jesu,  
Fill us with your love,  
Show us how to serve  
The neighbours we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends,  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.
2. Neighbours are rich folk and poor,  
Neighbours are black folk and white  
Neighbours are nearby and far away.
3. These are the ones we should serve,  
These are the ones we should love.  
All these are neighbours to us and you.
4. Kneel at the feet of our friends,  
Silently washing their feet  
This is the way we should live with you.

## **Sending forth / Benediction**

Let us go with the compassion of Christ,  
sharing the providential grace of God  
to serve and to heal,  
witnessing to the endless love of God.  
May all we do honour God's holy name.  
And may the truth of Christ be on our lips,  
the love of God be in our hearts and hands,  
and the peace of the Holy Spirit fill our souls  
with compassion, this day and forevermore. **Amen.**

## **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**

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

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

*Words for Worship 21 July 2024* – Mediacom, Aust.

*L3 - Liturgy, Learning, and (purposeful) Life 21 July 2024* – Mediacom, Aust.

*Gathering – Lent Easter 2024* – Uniting Church of Canada

*Let Us Pray*, Janet Nelson, HarperCollins 1999.

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

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:

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