

WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street www.wesleychurch.org.nz

24th Poutū-te-rangi/March 2024 Te Rātapu tuaono o Rēneti: te Rātapu Nikau

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



Living God's Love Acting for the common Good

Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!

Order of Service 24th Poutū-te-rangi/March 2024 Te Rātapu tuaono o Rēneti: te Rātapu Nikau

Worship Leader: Nicola Teague Grundy Organist: Colin Scarf

SAFETY BRIEFING

LIGHTING THE CANDLE / Kānara Whakamāmā

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. As we continue to journey toward the cross, let the light of this Christ candle remind us of who we are and whose we are: struggling, wondering, and anxiously anticipating people of the Way.

The candle is lit.

GATHERING / Whakaemi mai ki taua karakia

OPENING PRAYER / Inoi Whakawhetai

Loving God, we greet you on this Palm Sunday morning with our songs and shouts of praise. We give thanks for your openness and inclusivity. We celebrate the way you reach out to the broken, the downcast, the lonely and the excluded. Let us come to worship you today with humility and compassion. Let us turn our backs on pride and power. Let us follow in your footsteps. Let us seek to be more like you. Amen.

WAIATA – He Honore

He Hōnore, he korōria Maungārongo ki te whenua Whakaaro pai e Ki ngā tangata katoa Āke ake, ake ake Āmine Te Atua, te piringa Tōku oranga

HYMN / Himene - All glory, laud, and honour

Theodulph of Orleans (d.821) [H&P 160]

All glory, laud, and honour to thee, Redeemer King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring! Thou art the King of Israel, Thou David's royal Son, Who in the Lord's name comest, the King and Blessed One.

The company of angels are praising thee on high, and mortal men and all things created make reply. The people of the Hebrews with palms before thee went; our praise and prayer and anthems before thee we present.

To thee before thy Passion they sang their hymns of praise; to thee now high exalted our melody we raise. Thou didst accept their praises; accept the prayers we bring, who in all good delightest, thou good and gracious King.

All glory, laud and honour to thee, Redeemer, King, to whom the lips of children made sweet hosannas ring!

OUR JOURNEY BEGINS ...

THE SCRIPTURE / Ngā Karaipiture

Mark 11: 1-11 (The Message)

When they were nearing Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany on Mount Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions:

"Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never yet been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'The Master needs him, and will return him right away.""

They went and found a colt tied to a door at the street corner and untied it. Some of those standing there said, "What are you doing untying that colt?"

The disciples replied exactly as Jesus had instructed them, and the people let them alone. They brought the colt to Jesus, spread their coats on it, and he mounted.

The people gave him a wonderful welcome, some throwing their coats on the street, others spreading out rushes they had cut in the fields. Running ahead and following after, they were calling out,

Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in God's name! Blessed the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in highest heaven!

He entered Jerusalem, then entered the Temple. He looked around, taking it all in. But by now it was late, so he went back to Bethany with the Twelve.

PUT YOURSELF IN THE STORY ...

Why are you here today?

If you had lived in Jerusalem at that time would you have left your house that morning and found your way to this crowd?

What would you have called out to Jesus as he went by?

I invite you to go to one of the three stations that have been set up. Each of the stations has an activity. The stations are for us all – no matter what your age.

Three stations

- 1. A palm branch
- 2. Party blowers and palms
- 3. Riding on a donkey

During the singing of the hymn – we will have a parade using the material made during the activity.

HYMN / Himene

Words and Music: Graham Kendrick (StF 264) https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=alCQ7fb0hEA

Make way, make way, for Christ the King In splendour arrives; Fling wide the gates and welcome him Into your lives.

> Make way (Make way), make way (make way), For the King of kings (for the King of kings); make way (make way), make way (make way), and let his Kingdom in.

He comes the broken hearts to heal, the prisoners to free; the deaf shall hear, the lame shall dance, the blind shall see.

And those who mourn with heavy hearts, who weep and sigh, with laughter, joy and royal crown he'll beautify.

We call you now to worship him as Lord of all, to have no gods before him, their thrones must fall!

PRAYER OF HOPE / Ngā Inoi Tūmanako

In the quiet moments, in the still places, I can sometimes hear it; An urgent voice, echoing through the wildernesses of the world, and of my heart calling me to prepare and to participate in the new world that wants to be born. How can I be part of something that I haven't seen, that I struggle even to conceptualise, let alone understand? Yet, still the voice calls, and my heart stirs.

I begin to imagine a world of joy and creativity, a world where the poor are always cared for and the rich are always generous; a world where justice guides, and where mourning is always temporary; a world where the highest values are valued most highly and where priorities and agendas are set with the greatest good in mind. This world exists, Jesus, in the Gospel you preached, in the stable and the cross and the empty tomb, in Baptismal waters and Eucharistic meals in your constant calling, and your constant coming.

And so we praise you for this world, and for the dream that we can learn to know it here and now even as you do.

REFLECTION

HYMN / Himene – Lift high the cross

Words: Shirley Murray; Music: Sydney Nicholson (AA 87)

Lift high the cross, the love of Christ proclaim Till all the world adore his glorious name!

Come, Chistian people, sing your praises, shout! If we are silent, even stones cry out ...

Jesus, you wept to see our human strife, teach us compassion for each human life ... Peace was your plea and peace your loving theme let peace be our passport, peace a living dream ...

Great is the cost of walking on this road, to follow and suffer with the Son of God ...

Worlds to be born and children yet to be Come, take up this song into eternity ...

OFFERING / Tātou Koha ki te Haahi

(*We acknowledge offering made by automatic payment and online banking*)

We are called to make real the sharing of the gifts God has given to us. Let us offer what we have for the good of all.

Offertory Prayer

Loving God, we express our thanksgiving for our blessings through these offerings. May they further our work in the church, community and beyond. Amen.

COMMUNITY TIME

Notices - Sharing Joys and Sorrows

PRAYERS FOR OTHERS / Ngā Inoi mō te Whānau

Loving and Holy Spirit of God, hear our prayers.

We believe that You want us not just to serve but to pray for the world to whose service You have called us, in all its longing for peace, for justice, for reconciliation.

Hear our prayers today for those who struggle against tyrannies, those damaged by natural disasters

or blight caused by others' greed, those forced out from their communities to seek refuge elsewhere; for aid agencies, peace-keeping forces, rescue services, world organisations and alliances, national governments, and those offering a welcome to those displaced seeking refuge in our towns.

If statistics are tears, the world weeps for release for so many: the dispossessed, the falsely imprisoned, the undervalued, the cruelly undernourished, the exploited, and the sick; the deeply anxious who have everything and yet nothing, miserable in their comfort, longing for love, to feel of value. May they and we travel with You to Easter.

We pray now for those people who are on our hearts ...

With these petitions, we give thanks for saints and martyrs through the centuries, and the many people forgotten by us but known to You, who have challenged injustice and discrimination, given voice to those unnoticed and unheard, and helped to create communities where all are valued.

And all through Jesus Christ, in whose words we say together,

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 aianei 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.

HYMN / Himene – Have you Heard God's Voice

Words and Music: Jacqueline G. Jones; (StF 663)

Have you heard God's voice; Has your heart been stirred? Are you still prepared to follow? Have you made a choice to remain and serve, though the way be rough and narrow?

> Will you walk the path that will cost you much and embrace the pain and sorrow? Will you trust the One who entrusts to you the disciples of tomorrow?

Will you use your voice; will you not sit down when the multitudes are silent? Will you make a choice to stand your ground when the crowds are turning violent?

In your city streets will you be God's heart? Will you listen to the voiceless? Will you stop and eat, and when friendships start, will you share your faith with the faithless?

Will you watch the news with the eyes of faith and believe it could be different? Will you share your views using words of grace? Will you leave a thoughtful imprint?

> We will walk the path that will cost us much and embrace the pain and sorrow.

We will trust in One who entrusts to us The disciples of tomorrow.

PARTING WORDS (Ngā Inoi Whakamutunga)

Time has now come for us to leave this sacred place. As we do, may we embrace the challenges of our lives and our world ...

The candle is extinguished

The peace of God, which is beyond all understanding, guard your thoughts and your hearts in Jesus Christ. And the blessing of God Almighty, Our Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer, be with you and those you love, this day and always. Amen.

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 Liturgy for this service was sourced and adapted from: Roddy Hamilton, <u>https://www.churchofscotland.org.uk/</u> John van de Laar, <u>https://sacredise.com/a-new-world-3-2/</u> SUNZ © Scripture Union NZ 2015 Andrew Gamman and Caroline Bindon, Stations for Lent and Easter, Kereru Publishing.com

(AA) Alleluia Aotearoa. Hymns and Songs for all Churches. Raumati. New Zealand Hymnbook Trust, 1993.
(StF) Singing the Faith. Compilation © 2011, Trustees for Methodist Church Purposes

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