



**WESLEY WELLINGTON**  
**75 Taranaki Street**  
[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

**Sunday, 3 November 2024**  
**Pentecost 24**

**Combined Service & Holy Communion**



**CONNEXION**

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

**Wellington Wesley Parish – Order of Service**  
*Worship leader: Rev Tahi Kato Organist: Vivien Chiu*

**WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING**

*Samoan Congregation*

**GATHERING**

**INTROIT**

*Tongan Choir*

*Please stand if you are able*

**LIGHTING THE CANDLE**

*Candle is lit*

Let this candle burn as a beacon of connection of faith, hope, and love – drawing us closer to God and each other.

**Amen**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

What does the Lord require of you?

**To do justice, and to love kindness,  
and to walk humbly with our God.**

What does God command of us?

**To love God with all our heart,  
and all our soul,  
and all our mind,  
and all our strength,  
and to love our neighbour as ourselves.**

God does not call us to ease or to comfort.

**But to presence, and abundance,  
and grace in our struggle.**

Let us worship the God who believes in us,  
and trusts in us, and abides with us.

**Let us worship the God who will ask much of us,  
but will be beside us every step of the way.**

**HYMN: AND ARE WE YET ALIVE?**

**(H&P 707) Charles Wesley**

TUNE: ST. MICHAEL

And are we yet alive,  
And see each other's face?  
Glory and praise to Jesus give  
For His redeeming grace.

'Oku tau kei mo'ui,  
Mo femamata'aki!  
Fakafeta'i hotau malu'i  
He Tamai Fakalangi.

Preserved by power divine  
To full salvation here,  
Again in Jesus' praise we join,  
And in His sight appear.

Sa maua i matou  
I puapuaga  
Sa tupu tele ai le sou  
Ma mea faigata

But out of all the Lord  
Hath brought us by His love;  
And still He doth His help afford,  
And hides our life above.

Sa sivi oti tu  
Na leqa kecega  
Ni kauti keda ko Jisu  
E na loloma ga.

Let us take up the cross  
Till we the crown obtain;  
And gladly reckon all things loss,  
So we may Jesus gain.

## **OPENING PRAYER**

We thank You, God,  
for a love so strong,

That You would fashion a universe  
place within it a world,  
and give life to creatures  
so that You could have someone to love.

That You would confront the worst that people can do  
and conquer  
without drawing any blood  
but Your own.

That You would breathe Your Spirit into what You made,  
allowing human hands to share  
in building your life and purpose in the world.

That You would live in that which You created,  
and inspire love for You in our hearts,  
so that when we take the time to look  
we would find you in each other  
and share the love we have found in You.

**Amen.**

## **SO WHAT'S THE STORY...?**

**10AM Singing Group: God is With Us.** Words and Music: Jonathan Berkahn

## **WE CONFESS and WE CELEBRATE**

Lord, we have heard Your call so many times,

**But, we have run away; we have hidden from Your Presence**

Lord, we have seen Your beauty in so many ways,

**But, we have turned away;**

**we have closed our eyes to Your Goodness**

Lord, we have felt Your touch in so many gentle encounters,  
**But, we have shrugged You off;**  
**we have shut ourselves from Your Love**

And You have not rejected us.  
You have not ceased to woo us.  
You have given Yourself for us,  
and have shown us Your immense love again and again.  
You have remained faithful,  
You have continued to care,  
You have showered us with compassion.

**We praise You and thank You for this eternal, immeasurable Love.**  
**We celebrate Your longing for us,**  
**and we turn back to You with open hearts.**  
**Forgive us for denying You, and teach us to love with true abandon.**  
**In Jesus' Name. Amen.**

#### **LORD'S PRAYER**

*We say together in language of your choice.*

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 – Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love**

**(H&P 145) T.S Colvin**

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

Kneels at the feet of his friends  
silently washes their feet,  
Master who acts as a slave to them.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

Neighbours are wealthy and poor,  
varied in colour and race,  
neighbours are near us and far away.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

These are the ones we should serve,  
these are the ones we should love,  
all these are neighbours to us and you.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

Loving puts us on our knees,  
silently washing their feet,  
this is the way we should live with you.  
Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,  
show us how to serve the neighbours we have from you.

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD**

***Ruth 1:8-18 (NRSVUE)***

*Tongan Congregation*

Naomi said to her two daughters-in-law, “Go back each of you to your mother’s house. May the Lord deal kindly with you, as you have dealt with the dead and with me. 9 The Lord grant that you may find security, each of you in the house of your husband.” Then she kissed them, and they wept aloud. 10 They said to her, “No, we will return with you to your people.” 11 But Naomi said, “Turn back, my daughters. Why will you go with me? Do I still have sons in my womb

that they may become your husbands? 12 Turn back, my daughters, go your way, for I am too old to have a husband. Even if I thought there was hope for me, even if I should have a husband tonight and bear sons, 13 would you then wait until they were grown? Would you then refrain from marrying? No, my daughters, it has been far more bitter for me than for you, because the hand of the Lord has turned against me.” 14 Then they wept aloud again. Orpah kissed her mother-in-law goodbye, but Ruth clung to her.

15 So she said, “Look, your sister-in-law has gone back to her people and to her gods; return after your sister-in-law.” 16 But Ruth said,

“Do not press me to leave you,  
to turn back from following you!

Where you go, I will go;  
where you lodge, I will lodge;  
your people shall be my people  
and your God my God.

17 Where you die, I will die,  
and there will I be buried.

May the Lord do thus to me,  
and more as well,  
if even death parts me from you!”

18 When Naomi saw that she was determined to go with her, she said no more to her.

**Mark 12:28-34 (NRSVUE)**

*10am Congregation*

28 One of the scribes came near and heard them disputing with one another, and seeing that he answered them well he asked him, “Which commandment is the first of all?” 29 Jesus answered, “The first is, ‘Hear, O Israel: the Lord our God, the Lord is one; 30 you shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind and with all your strength.’ 31 The second is this, ‘You shall love your neighbour as yourself.’ There is no other commandment greater than these.” 32 Then the scribe said to him, “You are right, Teacher; you have truly said that ‘he is one, and besides him there is no other’; 33 and ‘to love him with all the heart and with all the understanding and with all the strength’ and ‘to love one’s neighbour as oneself’—this is

much more important than all whole burnt offerings and sacrifices.” 34 When Jesus saw that he answered wisely, he said to him, “You are not far from the kingdom of God.” After that no one dared to ask him any question.

## **ANTHEM**

*Samoaan Choir*

## **REFLECTION**

**HYMN (Hīmene): JESUS, LOVER OF MY SOUL (H&P 528) Charles Wesley**

MUSIC: S B MARSH METER: 7.7.7.7.D.

*(The offering will be collected and brought forward while the hymn is being sung.)*

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,  
oh, receive my soul at last!

Jisu, Ni lomani au  
Au sa dro vei Kemuni,  
Me’u sa vakaruru no  
E Lomaseremuni  
Ni sa tubu na biau  
Ni sa liwa na cava  
Mo Ni taqomaki au,  
Me’u sa vakacegu ga

Au sa i valavala ca  
Ko ni sa dodonu tu;  
Ko Ni dina tikoga;  
Au dau caka cala tu,  
Ka sa tu vei Kemuni



Na loloma levu ga,  
Rauti au na cala tu,  
Rauta tikotiko ga.

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.

## **OFFERING**

*Rev Simote Taunga*

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

Blessed are you, God of all Creation. Through your Goodness we have these gifts to offer which earth has given and human hands have made.

**Blessed be God for ever. Amen**

## **MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT**

### **WE PROCLAIM OUR FAITH**

We believe in God,  
the Creator and Lover of the Universe;

**And we respond to this God in love.**

We believe in Jesus Christ,  
the embodiment of Love and the Saviour of all;

**And we respond to this God in love.**

We believe in the Holy Spirit,  
Love's power poured out, and the Presence of Love within;

**And we respond to this God in love.**

We believe in the Church,  
The community of Love;

And we believe in life renewed and eternal;  
Love enjoyed and shared with God and creation for ever.

**And again we dedicate ourselves  
to this love and to the God who gives it. Amen.**

### **WE ACKNOWLEDGE OUR NEEDS**

Lord, You have made Your love and commitment to us so clear,  
You have revealed Your involvement in our world and our lives  
And You have repeatedly saved us, healed us and restored us.

**So, with confidence and thanks, we ask for Your help once again:**

We remember the many in our world  
who are alone, neglected, abused and unloved;

**Hear us, O Lord, and in Your love, answer.**

We remember the ones

who have forgotten how to love, and who know only hate;

**Hear us, O Lord, and in Your love, answer.**

We remember all who mistake love for control, obsession or power;

**Hear us, O Lord, and in Your love, answer.**

We remember those who lovingly give themselves  
to serve, protect, comfort and heal others;

**Hear us, O Lord, and in Your love, answer.**

We remember the ones that we hold in our hearts,  
our families and friends, and all with whom we share Your love;

**Hear us, O Lord, and in Your love, answer.**

**May Your love grow within us,  
and through us, may Your love grow in the world,  
For the sake of Your Kingdom. Amen**

### **WE COME TO THE LORD'S TABLE**

Our Lover invites us to His table.

**We are so happy to hear His voice,  
We are excited to share this meal with Him.**

He has prepared a feast for us;

The table is laden with good things

– the bread of life, the cup of salvation.

**We are so thankful to receive the Lord's gifts,  
We are so blessed to enjoy the Lord's Presence.**

All are welcome at this meal;  
All are loved and all are invited to receive God's abundance  
and enjoy it freely.

We meet at this table with all of God's children;  
Those born of earth and those born of heaven;  
And together we say:

**Glory to God, the Holy One  
Glory to God in the heavens  
Glory to God on the earth  
Glory to God now and always  
For God's love is never ending.**

We remember and celebrate how God made His love known to us.  
Jesus lived among us,  
and taught us to love God,  
and to love our neighbours as we love ourselves.  
But, His clearest, most powerful act of love,  
was His choice to lay down His life so that we might find ours.

On the eve of His death He gave us this sacred meal  
to remind us of all He did and said;

While He and His friends were eating,  
He took bread and blessed it,  
Then He broke it and passed it around:  
This is my body broken for You;  
Eat it as a way to remember Me and My love for you.

After the meal, He took wine and blessed it,  
Then He passed it among His friends:  
This is my blood poured out for You;  
Drink it as a way to remember Me and My love for you.

The body of the Lord Jesus Christ, the bread of life.  
(O le tino o lo tatou Alii o Iesu Keriso, o le areto o le ola.)

(Na yago ni noda Turaga ko Jisu Karisito, na madrai ni bula.)  
(Ko e sino tapu 'a hotau 'Eiki ko Sisu Kalaisi, ko e ma 'o e mo'ui.)

Ko e ta'ata'a 'o hotau 'Eiki ko Sisu Kalaisi, ko e vaine mo'onia.  
(Na dra ni noda Turaga ko Jisu Karisito, na vaine dina.)  
(O le toto o lo tatou Alii o Iesu Keriso, o le vine moni.)  
(The blood of the Lord Jesus Christ, the true vine.)

And so now again we eat and we drink,  
And we proclaim Jesus' life and death, His love and mercy;  
And we open our hearts to this Lover once more.

*Communion is received.*

*The Fijian Choir will be served first and will sing during communion*

### **WE GIVE THANKS AND COMMIT TO LOVE**

Thank You, God of our hearts,  
For this meal and the love it expresses;  
For Your sacrifice and the intimacy with You that it brings;  
For Your commitment to reconcile the world to Yourself.

**We have shared the bread and the wine,  
We have experienced the love and compassion of God,  
And we have remembered the mission of Jesus,  
which we are called to continue;**

May Your love, Your friendship and Your undeserved acceptance  
fill us, change us and inspire us  
That the world may grow into a place  
where all of God's children know they have found a home  
For all eternity.

**Amen.**

**HYMN (Himene): IT PASSES KNOWLEDGE (H&P 526) Mary Shekleton**  
MUSIC: IRA DAVID SANKEY TUNE: IT PASSETH KNOWLEDGE METER: 10.10.10.10.4

It passes knowledge, that dear love of Thine!  
My Jesus! Saviour! yet this soul of mine  
Would of that love, in all its depth and length,  
Its height and breadth, and everlasting strength  
Know more and more.

Ko e 'ofa hulu si'o 'ofa ē,  
Mama'o 'i he 'atamai kotoa;  
Kae feinga hoku loto ke tatae  
Laulahi, mā'olunga, mo e loloa  
He 'ofa na.

Le Atua e, a a'u tafao  
I ala ese ma mamao  
Ia tautai mai e lou aao  
Alofa mai, alofa mai,  
alofa mai

A tupu mai le faigata  
Ma o'o puapuaga  
Ua lutia a'u ma ou tiga  
Alofa mai, alofa mai,  
alofa mai

Ko e 'ofa hulu si'o 'ofa, 'Eiki;  
Ko hai ha taha te ne fa'a a'au?  
Kau fie tala hano kongā si'i  
'Ofa ne kumi ki he hia ko au,  
'O fakaofi.

And when my Jesus face to face I see,  
When at His lofty throne I bow the knee,  
Then of His love, in all its breadth and length,  
Its height and depth, its everlasting strength,  
My soul shall sing.

*Extinguishing the candle*

## **BENEDICTION**

May the God who calls us to love with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength go with you, binding you in deep connection to Himself and to one another. May you be a beacon of unity and peace, sharing God's love with all you meet. Go now in love and in the strength of the Spirit, to walk together as one.

**MA TE MARIE** (*Sung unaccompanied*)

**Mā te mārie a te Atua  
Tātou katoa e tiaki;  
Mana anō e whakaū  
O tātou ngākau ki te pai.**

**Mā te Atua Tamaiti rā,  
Mā te Wairua Tapu hoki,  
Rātou, Atua kotahi nei.  
Tātou katoa e whakapai.  
Amine.**

*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/>

Eliza Buchakjian-Tweedy <http://sermonizing.wordpress.com/>

<https://sacredise.com/a-love-so-strong/>

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

<http://www.missionresourcing.org.nz/song.html>

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

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

Or the 10AM Congregation's Facebook Page:

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