



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 5 May 2024

Easter 6 – Year B

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



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 5 May 2024 – Easter 6

Leader: Tahi Kato
Organist: Colin Scarf

WELCOME

INTRODUCTION

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

Let us remember the words of Jesus, who said to love one another as He has loved us.

The candle is lit.

We light this candle as a symbol of Christ, who gives commands so that we love one another.

Christ Jesus may you rejoice as we abide in your love.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Easter people, Jesus chose you and calls you friend!

We abide in Christ because Christ abides in us.

Jesus made a home among us to show us how to love.

We abide in Love because Love abides in us.

Jesus invites us in and beckons us to come to the Table to know the joy that comes when we love one another the way God loves us.

We abide in Joy because Joy abides with us.

Easter people, Jesus welcomes you home!

We come to make our home with God and one another, bound together by Love and enlivened by Joy. Amen.

HYMN: And Can It Be That I Should Gain

(H&P 216)

Words: Charles Wesley (1738) Tune: SAGINA WOVS 138

And can it be that I should gain
an interest in the Saviour's blood?
Died he for me, who caused his pain –
for me, who him to death pursued?
Amazing love! how can it be
that thou, my God, shouldst die for me!

'Tis mystery all! The Immortal dies:
who can explore this strange design?
In vain the first-born seraph tries
to sound the depths of love divine.
'Tis mercy all! Let earth adore,
let angel minds inquire no more.

He left his Father's throne above,
(so free, so infinite his grace!)
emptied himself of all but love,
and bled for Adam's helpless race.
'Tis mercy all, immense and free;
for, O my God, it found out me.

Long my imprisoned spirit lay
fast bound in sin and nature's night:
thine eye diffused a quickening ray –
I woke; the dungeon flamed with light!
My chains fell off, my heart was free,
I rose, went forth, and followed thee.

No condemnation now I dread;
Jesus, and all in him, is mine!
Alive in him, my living Head,
and clothed in righteousness divine,
bold I approach the eternal throne,
and claim the crown, through Christ, my own.

OPENING PRAYER

We, who so often take the wonders of creation for granted, welcome the opportunity to make a joyful noise before you, O God. We come here this morning to worship and to praise you, glad that we live in this country filled with such diverse and beautiful examples of your creation. Yet, joyful noises are not easy for everyone to make, as we come from differing situations and lifestyles. Some are burdened down with the stresses of daily living and all that involves; some wearied from tasks of serving others; some worried over the state of the world and where that is all leading.

Speak to us all, O God, in the stillness of this time and remind us of Jesus' willingness to take our burdens upon himself and to learn from him - to experience his gentleness and steadfast love for all. Jesus also offers us his joy so that our joy might be complete. Confident in these promises, we offer this time of worship to you, O God, praying that it may reflect our praise and thanksgiving for the gifts of creation and for all that Jesus has done for us. This we pray in his name. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Almighty God,

You love us, but we have not loved you;

You call, but we have not listened.

We walk away from neighbours in need,
wrapped up in our own concerns.

We have gone along with evil,
with pride, quarrelling, and divisiveness.

**Holy God, help us to face up to ourselves,
so that, as you move toward us in mercy,
we may repent, turn to you, and receive mercy;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Sing to the Lord a new song

For God has done marvelous things
In love, God sent Jesus
to bless and redeem God's people.
God forgives us our sins
and restores us to new life.
Let us rejoice in God's mercy.

SO WHATS THE STORY...

HYMN: A New Commandment I Give Unto You.

WOV 571

A new commandment I give unto you,
that you love one another as I have loved you,
that you love one another as I have loved you.

By this shall all know that you are my disciples,
if you have love one for another;
by this shall all know that you are my disciples:
if you have love one for another.

READING (NRSVUE)

Acts 10:44-48

44 While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word.
45 The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the gentiles, 46 for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, 47 "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" 48 So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

John 15:9-17

9 As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. 10 If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. 11 I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you and that your joy may be complete.

12 “This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. 13 No one has greater love than this, to lay down one’s life for one’s friends. 14 You are my friends if you do what I command you. 15 I do not call you servants[d] any longer, because the servant[e] does not know what the master is doing, but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. 16 You did not choose me, but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. 17 I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

SERMON: LOVE ONE ANOTHER

HYMN: Make Me A Channel Of Your Peace

(H&P 776)

Make me a channel of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there’s doubt, true faith in you.

O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace:
where there’s despair in life let me bring hope;
Where there is darkness, only light,
and where there’s sadness, ever joy.

O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace:
it is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
in giving to all that we receive,

and in dying that we're born to eternal life.

O, Spirit, grant that I may never seek
so much to be consoled as to console,
to be understood as to understand,
to be loved as to love with all my soul.

Make me a channel of your peace:
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love;
where there is injury, your healing power,
and where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Sebatian Temple

NOTICES

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

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION

to the bidding "...Ever-loving God, 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

Blessing of Offering

God of joy, we offer our gifts this day, as we reflect on the wisdom of your Word. Jesus urges us to hold onto him, to stay connected to his example, presence, and the fulfilment he brings. He reveals that our joy finds completeness when it is woven into his divine joy. Help us abide in him through love, obeying his commandment to love one another. In acts of service, healing, and selfless generosity, may our joy be sustained, a shared and everlasting gift from the source of all joy. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

(Liturgy by Ian Boddy from words of Shirley Murray & Colin Gibson)

We are many, we are one, when we learn to live in true community.

And the work of Christ is done when we build as one in peace and loving harmony.

When at this table I receive a blessing,

The broken bread,

The wine of life for me;

Then let me share the peace with you my neighbour,

And let the Spirit set our spirits free.

Let me share the peace with you my neighbour.

Share the peace with each other

If at this table I have need of healing,

Unbidden grief, relationship gone wrong,

Then let me know the hands of God enfolding,

And let lament become believing song.

**If at this table I make a dedication
to give my life in serving what is good,
then let my centre be where God invites me
and show the words of Jesus understood.**

What faith I have, I bring to join this table,
What hope I hold, in Christ is taught and true;
With brothers, sisters, I will share the blessing,
the feast where God is making all things new.

We recall that the Lord Jesus on the night when he was betrayed took a loaf of bread and when he had given thanks he broke it and said, "This is my body that is for you. Do this in remembrance of me".

In the same way he took the cup also, after supper, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me".

We do this in faith, proclaiming that the Lord lives.

Christ, let us come with you to the upper room where the feast is laid.

Holy Spirit, bless the bread and wine.

Come Holy Spirit, be present with us now where our peace is made.

Christ, let us come with you.

Christ, let us come with you.

Everyone is invited to the front around the communion table

For the bread and wine and blessing,
For the friends around this table,
For the peace and for the healing, we celebrate you, Jesus Christ.

Behold the lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

Communion is distributed to be received only but not to be consumed yet

In this bread and in this wine we receive again
the generous, and costly gift of life,
offered to us through the sacrifice of Jesus.
Please eat and drink.

Prayer after Communion

When your love breaks through our darkness
When the broken come to wholeness, for each sign of resurrection, We
celebrate you, Jesus Christ. **Amen.**

HYMN: In Christ There Is No East Or West

(H&P 758)

Words: John Oxenham Tune: St Peter (Reinagle) (Voices Together #390)

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in him no south or north,
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts ev'rywhere
their high communion find.
His service is the golden cord
close binding humankind.

3 Join hands, then, people of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.

All children of the living God
are surely kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in him meet south and north.
All Christly souls are joined as one
throughout the whole wide earth.

Candle is extinguished.

BENEDICTION

Beloved, may God bless you with the strength to love one another as God loves each and every one of you, that you may find the complete, total, and everlasting joy that comes when we abide together with God who is Love. 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**

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

Let Us Pray, Janet Nelson, HarperCollins 1999,
Discipleship Ministries – The United Methodist Church,
<https://www.umcdiscipleship.org>

Hymnary.org <https://hymnary.org/>

Alleluia Aotearoa – Hymns and songs for all churches. Raumati. New Zealand
Hymnbook Trust, 1993

Faith Forever Singing – New Zealand Hymns and Songs for a New Day

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<https://gominno.com/blog/5-bible-memory-verses-for-kids-about-love/>

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To keep up-to-date with services and news, visit the parish website:

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

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:

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