



**Wesley Methodist Church**  
75 Taranaki Street  
Wellington  
[www.wesleychurch.org.nz](http://www.wesleychurch.org.nz)

**Sunday 16 February 2025**  
**Epiphany 6**

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



**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  
WESLEY WELLINGTON PARISH  
16<sup>TH</sup> FEBRUARY 2025 – EPIPHANY 6**

**WELCOME AND SAFETY BRIEFING:**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Blessed are those who trust in the Lord,  
*whose trust is in God.*

they will be like a tree planted by the water,  
*sending out roots by the stream.*

This tree does not fear when heat comes,  
*its leaves are green, its fruit endures.*

So come, let us place our trust in God,  
*Let us live in blessed faith together.*

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION:**

Great Planter and Provider, we rejoice at the streams of living water you send within our reach. Help us to grow deep roots that partake of your truth, and thick branches that reach out in loving support, to all in need of our embrace. In this hour we seek with enthusiasm, the energy you provide as we sense your presence, blessing us. Amen.

**LIGHTING OF THE CANDLE:**

**PRAYER FOR CANDLE LIGHTING:**

As our candle is lit, O Lord, we ask you to set our hearts on fire with love for You.

May this flame, which represents Your love, power, and nature, burn bright in us, and shine through us so that our neighbours, and the world, may know the wonder of Your love.

*May the light of Your Word live in us, and always kindle our desire to walk with You, serve You, and to be a witness for You. Amen.*

**HYMN:**    **H&P - 535** – Master speak thy servant heareth (*Frances Ridley Havergal – 1836-79*)

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH AND ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS:**

We gather to discover together the good grain within and among us, and to rid ourselves of the chaff.

We seek the cleansing winds of the Spirit, that what is unnecessary, and evil may be removed from us. Let us confess our sin, that God's loving presence may be real to us.

***O God, our hearts are deceitful, and our ears are tuned to the advice of this world. Our lips join the chorus of scoffers, and our deeds betray the impurity of our motives. We seek personal gain more than the reign of your love, and individual fulfilment more than the building of community. Heal us O God, of the diseases that distort our perception and trouble our spirits. Free us to drink the pure water you provide. Amen.***

## **ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS.**

By the power of God, Jesus reached out to heal the afflicted and cleanse troubled spirits. When we want that transformation within and among us, more than we want to cling to the past, we will know the blessings of forgiveness. Jesus Christ has been raised from the dead and suffers to lift us from the death of sin. Claim the victory over sin that comes to those who hope in Christ. Amen.

**INTRODUCING THE THEME:** In this week's passage from the gospel of Luke, we read the way that Jesus *comes down* to be *with* people at a level place – a place where we may all genuinely meet one another, a place where we may become a jubilee community.

**HYMN:** H&P - 776 – Make me a channel of your peace (*prayer of St Francis of Assisi*)

**MINISTRY OF THE WORD:** Luke 6:17-26, (Joy Grove)

## **REFLECTION:**

**HYMN:** H&P - 86 – Tell out my soul (*Timothy Dudley-Smith 1926*)

## **NOTICES:**

## **SHARING JOYS, SORROWS AND CONCERNS:**

## **PRAYER OF INTERCESSION & LORD'S PRAYER.**

Gather around Jesus,  
He is with us here,  
standing on level ground,  
and all who are struggling  
and the unwell may come to him,  
for healing, for connection,  
for community, for a word that uplifts.

***May your healing power go forth, dear Jesus.***

We pray at this time for all those  
on our hearts whose spirits are troubled –  
troubled by illness,  
troubled by conflict,  
troubled by uncertainty  
troubled by hunger or some other need.

We lift up in prayer those we know  
who long for your care, loving Jesus.

***May your healing power go forth, dear Jesus.***

We pray for those around the world whose lives  
are endangered or displaced by war.

Keep people safe, somehow.

Bring peace and hope loving God.

Turn weapons of war into instruments for connection,  
for healing and hope,  
for feeding those who are hungry.

Teach all of us the things that make peace.

Let your jubilee dream come,

let your will be done,

in all of these desperate places,

as it is in heaven.

***May your healing power go forth, dear Jesus.***

**Amen.**

**LORDS PRAYER: (said 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 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.

**OFFERTORY PRAYER: (said together)**

*Gracious God, who blesses us in our brokenness and rejoices with us in our joy, we bring these gifts as an offering of hope and love. May they be used to heal the hurting, feed the hungry, and welcome the weary. Help us to be a community that reflects your kingdom, where all find acceptance and grace. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen*

**HYMN:**    **H&P** - 437 – Guide me O thou great Jehovah (*William Williams 1717-91*)

**EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE:**

**BLESSING & BENEDICTION:**

The singing here, in this place, will come to an end.

We will pack up the instruments.

We will clean up.

We will shut the doors behind us

and ready ourselves to go from this place.

***But this is not the end of our worship.***

***The jubilee parade simply streams forth,  
into our neighborhoods, into our homes,  
into our workplaces, and into our relationships.***

God goes before us.

God is with us.

***The joy and courage of God live within us.***

So, go forth.

Go in peace to serve and love with freedom.

***Amen.***

**THE GRACE: (said together)**

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa

Te atawhai o tō tatou Ariki

O Ihu Karaiti,

Me te aroha o te Atua

Me te whiwhinga tahitanga

Ki te Wairua Tapu

Ake ake ake

Āmine.

Resources used for this service were from  
Mustard Seeds  
Discipleship Ministries  
United Methodist church  
Holy Sepulchre – Inspirational Prayers  
Refreshing Rains of the Living Word Yr C – by Lavon Bayler  
L3 Words for Worship and Gathering