



WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street

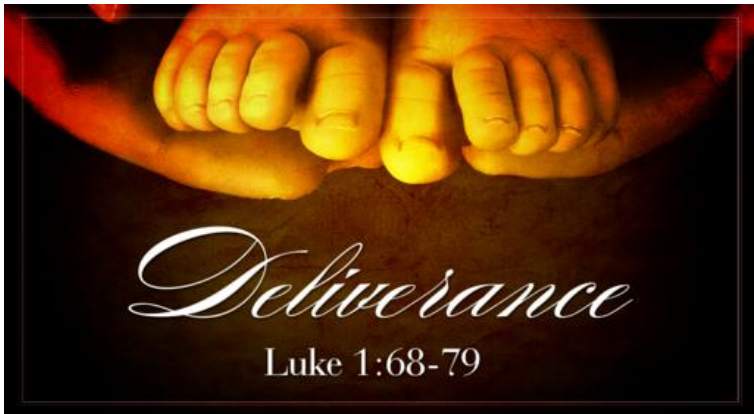
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 23rd November 2025

Reign of Christ

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



“A Father’s Joy – The coming of the Son”

Welcome to our gathering as a community of faith

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!

10AM Congregation – Order of Service
Worship leader: Rev. Sikeli Cawanikawai
Organist: Vivien Chiu

Housekeeping & Safety Briefing

Lighting of the Candle

Candle Lighting Prayer:

O Blessed Lord, Lord of Light. As we light this candle,
We are mindful of your love for us and our faith in you.
We ask you to help us be light in this world for you
We desire to reflect your light
Be good witnesses and point people to the light
May this light shine in our worship and in our hearts,
guiding us to live as people of resurrection.
Amen.

Call to Worship:

Leader: Creator God,

We come before you as a small piece of your vast creation.
We come in awe at the beauty and wonder of our planet, and we
feel its pain. Let the embers of our burning bushland rekindle the
flame of Pentecost.

Shine your light in us that we may strive for a greener future.

Let the dryness of the land in seasons of drought remind us to thirst
for your leadership

**Holy Spirit, lead us towards the well of hope for a sustainable
planet.**

Let the waters of our flooded plains and rivers drench our hearts
with your mercy.

Living water, fill us with mercy for your suffering creation

Let the roaring of raging winds and cyclones help us hear
the crying of Mother Earth.

**Jesus, give us peace to calm our storm and peace to strengthen
our calling.**

Let the rise in sea levels raise our concern and love towards our neighbour.

Risen Christ, resource us with your love for the world

Creator God, we are your people called
And purposed to be good stewards of our planet
Bless this day, and all your creation
in Jesus' name
Amen.

Opening Prayer:

Living God,
we come before You with grateful hearts.
You are the God who brings life out of death,
hope out of despair, and joy out of sorrow.
Thank You for the promise of resurrection —
a promise that changes how we see this world
and how we live within it.

Bless our worship this morning.
Open our hearts to Your Word,
our ears to Your voice,
and our lives to Your Spirit.
May the power of the risen Christ be felt among us today,
and may we leave this place renewed in faith and hope.
Through Jesus Christ, our Lord.
Amen.

Sharing the Peace:

Let's greet each other saying: **"God's peace be with you."**

Hymn: *O for a thousand tongues to sing (H&P 744)*

1. O for a thousand tongues to sing
My great Redeemer's praise
The glories of my God and King
The triumphs of His grace.

2. My gracious Master and my God
Assist me to proclaim
To spread through all the earth abroad
The honours of thy name.
3. Jesus, the name that charms our fears
That bids our sorrow cease
'Tis music in the sinner's ears
'Tis life, and health, and peace.
4. He breaks the power of cancelled sin
He sets the prisoner free
His blood can make the foulest clean
His blood availed for me.
5. He speaks, and list'ning to his voice
New life the dead receive
The mournful, broken hearts rejoice
The humble poor believe.
6. Hear him, ye deaf, his praise,
ye dumb, your loosened tongues employ;
Ye blind, behold your Saviour come;
And leap, ye lame, for joy!

Prayer of Thanksgiving:

O God, the great creator and sovereign Lord of heaven and earth. Father of Angels and men. Giver of life and protector of all your creations. Mercifully accept our morning sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Which we desire to offer with all humility, to your divine majesty. You are praised, O Lord by all your works and magnified by everything which you have created. The sun rejoices to run its course. That he may set forth your praise who made him nor do the moon and stars refrain from manifesting your glory. Even amidst the silent night. The earth breathes for each day perfumes as incense to you. Who crowned earth with herbs and trees and beautified it with hills and dales. The deep utters its voice

and lifts up its hands on high to you. The great creator, the universal King, the everlasting God. The floods clap their hands, and the hills are joyful, together before you. You made light for our comfort and brought forth darkness to overshadow the earth that every living creature takes rest. The rain and hail, snow and vapour, wind and storm fulfil your word and manifest your glory. Intimate creation declares you, O Lord of life. Prosper, whatever we shall undertake this day that it may tend to your glory, the good to our neighbours and the salvation to our souls.

In Jesus name, we pray

Amen

(All to pray the Lord's prayer in their desired language)

Scripture Reading: *Luke 1: 68-79 (GNB)*

“Let us praise the Lord, the God of Israel!

He has come to the help of his people and has set them free.

He has provided for us a mighty Savior, a descendant of his servant David.

He promised through his holy prophets long ago that he would save us from our enemies, from the power of all those who hate us.

He said he would show mercy to our ancestors and remember his sacred covenant.

With a solemn oath to our ancestor Abraham he promised to rescue us from our enemies and allow us to serve him without fear, so that we might be holy and righteous before him all the days of our life.

“You, my child, will be called a prophet of the Most High God.

You will go ahead of the Lord to prepare his road for him, to tell his people that they will be saved by having their sins forgiven.

Our God is merciful and tender.

He will cause the bright dawn of salvation to rise on us and to shine from heaven on all those who live in the dark shadow of death, to guide our steps into the path of peace.”

Hymn: *To God be the Glory (H&P 463)*

1. To God be the glory, great things he has done
So loved he the world that he gave us his son
Who yielded his life an atonement for sin
And opened the life gate that all may go in.

*Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son.
And give him the glory great things he has done!*

2. O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood
To every believer the promise of God
And every offender who truly believes
That moment from Jesus a pardon receives.
3. Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son
But purer, and higher, and greater will be
Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see.

Reflection – *A Father's Joy (The coming of the Son)*

Prayer of your Confession

O God who sends gifts of the Holy Spirit to those first saints
We know that you continue to send gifts to us even though we do not claim them. We confess that we do not always open our gifts. We have often chosen to keep them packed away or buried. Loving God, move us by your Spirit to pick up our presents that you freely give. To open them and to spend them lavishly on the stewardship of your world. We confess to you how often our thoughts and motives are confused. Both individually and when we are together as your people and that this confusion has often blinded us to your

interest in our lives. Break in on our confusion and astonish us anew, O God our prayer is that you will claim us again and silence within us our desire to always have words for every occasion. That we might hear the whisper of the wings of your spirit dove. In the name of our Lord, Jesus Christ, we pray.

Amen

Hymn: *He came Singing Love (WOV 636)*

1. He came singing love
 And he lived singing love
 He died singing love
 He arose in silence
 for the love to go on
 We must make it our song
 You and I be the singers

2. He came singing faith
 And he lived singing faith
 He died singing faith
 He arose in silence
 for the love to go on
 We must make it our song
 You and I be the singers

3. He came singing hope
 And he lived singing hope
 He died singing hope
 He arose in silence
 for the love to go on
 We must make it our song
 You and I be the singers

4. He came singing peace
 And he lived singing peace
 He died singing peace
 He arose in silence
 for the love to go on

We must make it our song
You and I be the singers

Prayers of Intercession:

For the Church and the World:

We pray for the church throughout the world, especially for Christians facing persecution. May they find strength and protection in their faith. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

For our Community:

We lift up those in our local community who are struggling with poverty, homelessness, and isolation. May we be inspired to help those in need and provide warmth and support. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

For Peace and Reconciliation:

We pray for peace in areas torn by conflict and violence. May world leaders strive for justice and fairness, and may communities work together to rebuild in hope. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

For Refugees and Migrants:

We remember refugees and migrants seeking safety and security. May they find compassion and support in their journeys. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

For Global Events:

As we reflect on current global events, we pray for those affected by violence and oppression. May God guide us to be instruments of peace and reconciliation in our world. Lord, in your mercy: **Hear our prayer.**

Community Time – Notices

Offering (We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Prayer

Generous God,

All that we have comes from you.

We present to you what we have received from you.

Receive these gifts, the work of our hands and the love of our hearts.

Use them to bring hope, healing, and resurrection life to others.
In Jesus' name we pray.

Amen.

Closing Hymn: *All hail the power of Jesus' name (H&P 252)*

1. All hail the power of Jesus' name
Let angels prostrate fall
Bring forth the royal diadem
And crown him, Lord of all
2. O seed of Israel's chosen race
Now ransomed from the fall
Hail him who saves you by his grace
And crown him, Lord of all
3. Let every tongue and every tribe
Responsive to his call
To him all majesty subscribe
And crown him, Lord of all
4. Oh, that with all the sacred throng
We at his feet may fall
We'll join the everlasting song
And crown him, Lord of all

Closing Prayer

O God of all creation, You have given us life and set us in a world that is filled with your Glory. Be with us on this journey of discovery and gift us with insight and understanding as we continue to explore the unfolding wonders of your creation.

Amen

Benediction

**May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
And the fellowship of the holy spirit be with you all, now and
forevermore.**

Amen.

Mā Te Mārie

Mā te mārie a te Atua
Tātou katoa e tiaki
Māna anō e whakaū
O tātuo ngākau ki te po.

Mā te Atua Tamariti rā
Mā te Wairua Tapu hoki
Rātou, Atua Kotahi nei
Tātou katoa e whakapai
Āmine

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Please join us for morning tea in the New Hall.

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