



Wesley Methodist Church

75 Taranaki Street
Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 25 October 2026

22nd Sunday after Pentecost

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



Love God and Neighbour

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 25 October 2026
22nd Sunday after Pentecost
Leader: Shelly Rao Organist: Vivien Chiu

Acknowledgment

As we gather, we acknowledge Māori, te tangata whenua, the people of this land, and Te Tiriti o Waitangi that established our nation, recognising mana [sovereignty] and rangatiratanga [chieftainship] as the right foundation to govern our people with justice and mercy. We seek to honour this commitment in our lives and in our worship.

Welcome & Introduction

Call to Worship (inspired by Psalm 90)

Holy One, you are our dwelling place!

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God!

**Satisfy us in the morning with your steadfast love,
so that we may rejoice and be glad all of our days.**

Holy One, you are our dwelling place!

From everlasting to everlasting, you are Sovereign!

**Let your work be manifested to your servants
and your glorious power to their children.**

Holy One, you are our dwelling place!

From everlasting to everlasting, you are God!

**Let your favor be upon us and prosper for us the work of our hands.
O prosper the work of our hands!**

Lighting the Candle

Gracious God.

Our hearts are open to you.

If a thought crosses our minds, you are present and are ready to hold it for us.

There is no emotion radiating from our souls that is too heavy or painful for you.

Your Spirit encourages our dreams as we seek to find ways to build your Kingdom here on earth.

May we work side-by-side, co-creating a world of possibilities where all experience your love and joy. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Loving God, we gather before you in praise and thanksgiving,
wonder and awe, doubt and uncertainty, joy and pain.

We seek your guidance and direction, assurance and challenge,
correction, and encouragement.

Make your presence known amongst us on this day.

Let your Spirit reign in our worship, in our hearts, and in our lives.

Just your presence among us gives us comfort, strength, and joy.

Be glorified in our love, O God. **Amen.**

Hymn: God of love and God of power *(Gerald H Kennedy)*

1. God of love and God of power,
grant us in this burning hour
grace to ask these gifts of thee,
daring hearts and spirits free.
God of love and God of power,
thou hast called us for this hour.
2. We are not the first to be
banished by our fears from thee;
give us courage, let us hear
heaven's trumpets ringing clear.
God of love and God of power,
thou hast called us for this hour.
3. All our lives belong to thee,
thou our final loyalty
slaves are we whene'er we share
that devotion anywhere
God of love and God of power
thou has called us for this hour.
4. God of love and God of power
make us worthy of this hour
offering lives if it's they will
keeping free our spirits still.
God of love and God of power
thou hast called us for this hour.

Prayer of Approach

Everlasting God,

The range of emotions that wash through us are often triggers for the ways we hold ourselves.

At times, we seek humility but often find ourselves believing we do not deserve your love.

Other times, as we search for confidence, we believe we are your favourites and find ourselves in moments of comparison, contrast, and judgment.

Are we better than our neighbours?

How can we relate to siblings in Christ when their lives are not like ours and they stand out when visiting our spaces?

We are misguided as we give thanks that our lives are not as chaotic and unkempt as theirs.

Yet you ask us to seek humility and know that each of your children are loved equally. Help us to extend mercy to our neighbours and fill their minds with words of encouragement.

May each of us know our value in your realm and experience your love in its fullness. **Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Receive this good news:

God, who tests our hearts,

gives us abundant grace to

turn from sin and back to God

again and again and again.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

Glory to God! Amen.

Introducing the theme/Story Time

Waiata: He Hōnore

Ranui Ngarimu 1992

He hōnore, he korōria
Maungārongo ki te whenua.
Whakaaro pai e
Ki ngā tangata katoa
Ake ake, ake ake.
Āmine
Te Atua, te piringa,
Toku oranga. (2x)

Honour, glory and
peace to the land.
May good thoughts come
to all men
for ever and ever, for ever and ever
Amen.
The Lord is the refuge
and my life.

Readings

On the Mountain's Edge

Inspired by Deut 34: 1-12

Upon the crest of Nebo's height,
the wind unrolls the promised land
fields like gold in autumn's hand,
rivers threading silver light.

From Pisgah's gaze the world expands:
Judah's hills, the olive's shade,
the sea where twilight dreams are laid,
the plains where Jordan's waters stand.

Yet feet that bore the desert's dust
shall never tread that fertile ground;
the voice of God, both stern and sound,
speaks promise kept, and limits just.

A servant's breath, in silence drawn,
falls gentle as the morning's flame;
Israel weeps, yet calls his name
Moses, gone, yet leading on.

Matthew 22: 34 - 46 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, an expert in the law, asked him a question to test him. “Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?”

He said to him, “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and with all your soul and with all your mind. This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: “You shall love your neighbour as yourself. On these two commandments hang all the Law and the Prophets.”

Now while the Pharisees were gathered together, Jesus asked them this question: “What do you think of the Messiah? Whose son is he?” They said to him, “The son of David.” He said to them, “How is it then that David by the Spirit calls him Lord, saying,

The Lord said to my Lord,
“Sit at my right hand,
until I put your enemies under your feet”?

“If David thus calls him Lord, how can he be his son?”

No one was able to give him an answer, nor from that day did anyone dare to ask him any more questions.

Reflection: *Faithfulness*

Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love WOV 561

(Thomas S Colvin)

*Jesu, Jesu,
Fill us with your love, show us how to serve
The neighbours we have from you.*

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends,
Silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.

Refrain

2. Neighbours are rich and poor,
Neighbours are black and white,
Neighbours are near and far away.

Refrain

3. These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love;
All these are neighbours to us and you.

Refrain

4. Loving puts us on our knees,
Serving as though we are slaves,
This is the way we should live with you.

Refrain

5. Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet,
This is the way we should live with you.

Refrain

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

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

Notices

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

Prayers of Intercession

Loving God, sustain us today
through your Word and the act of worship.
Deepen our longing to understand and fulfil your will.
Guide our hearts toward your path of righteousness,
enabling us to walk confidently in your guidance.
Hear our prayers, God of love,
as we name not only our own needs
but also, those of people across the world.
God of mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We lift up in prayer those grappling
with the aftermath of natural disasters,
those working to rebuild their lives
after floods and wildfires,
and those mourning the loss of loved ones,
homes, and livelihoods.
We pray for those who are weary,
those facing the daily struggle to pay bills and provide meals,
and those burdened by overwhelming challenges.
We also remember those enduring life in war zones,
individuals yearning for justice and peace amid chaos.
God of mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for leaders, administrators and decision makers
who face the challenge of not being able to satisfy everyone,
yet remain committed to pursuing justice and righteousness.
We ask that our nation's leaders support those in need,
Stand up for the oppressed and
resist the temptations of wealth and power.
We seek an end to conflicts,
a spirit of collaboration among people,
and a path toward peace for our nation.
God of mercy, **hear our prayers.**

We pray for those who are unwell
and the caregivers who support them.
We remember those battling depression,
anxiety, and other mental health challenges.

Release us from the shame and stigma
that prevent us from recognising our needs
and seeking the help we truly deserve.
Foster within us a shared sense of responsibility
for the health and wellbeing of all your children.
God of mercy, **hear our prayers.**

Finally, God, shape us for service,
so that we may become the answers to the prayers we raise.
Let our actions reflect your Word and be inspired by Jesus Christ,
the One who saves.
United as a family of faith and as the Body of Christ
we lift these prayers to you,
God our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer,
as we pray how Christ taught us....

Lords 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 - Let us give and live generously in response to all that God has done for us. (We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Blessing of Offering (said together)

Heavenly Father, we dedicate these gifts to you in hope and trust that, through you, our generosity makes a difference in the world.

We give you thanks in advance for the fruit nurtured by this offering.

As you bless these gifts, also bless the giver and those entrusted with the stewardship of these resources in your name and for your church and world.

Amen.

Hymn: Brother, sister, let me serve you *(Richard Gillard)*

1. Brother, sister, let me serve you
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too
2. We are pilgrims on a journey
We are travellers on the road
We are here to help each other
Walk the mile and bear the load
3. I will hold the Christ-light for you
In the night time of your fear
I will hold my hand out to you
Speak the peace you long to hear
4. I will weep when you are weeping
When you laugh I'll laugh with you
I will share your joy and sorrow
Till we've seen this journey through
5. When we sing to God in heaven
We shall find such harmony
Born of all we've known together
Of Christ's love and agony
6. Brother, sister, let me serve you
Let me be as Christ to you
Pray that I may have the grace to
Let you be my servant too

Blessing

God loves you and your journey.

Let love be your law.

Let love be your compass.

Let love abound and abide.

And know that the God of love

is with you and for you, now and forever.

With the help of God, we continue on this journey

with faith, hope, trust, and love. **Amen.**

The Grace (said together)

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.**

Please join us for morning tea in the New Hall following the service.

Material for this service was sourced from:

Let Us Pray, Janet Nelson, HarperCollins 1999.

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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>

All church services can be viewed on YouTube – *Wellington Methodist Parish*.