



Wesley Methodist Church

75 Taranaki Street

Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 09 August 2026

11th Sunday after Pentecost

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



“Walk by Faith and not by Sight”

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 09 August 2026

11th Sunday after Pentecost

Leader: Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o Organist: Vivien Chiu

Welcome & Safety Briefing:

Lighting the Candle

Leader

We light this candle as a reminder that Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.

His light shines into our darkness,
His presence calms our fears,
and His love leads us in faith.

May His light guide our worship and our lives.

All

Amen.

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader:

Come, people of God. Christ calls us from places of comfort into the adventure of faith.

People:

We come to worship the One who calms every storm.

Leader:

When fear surrounds us, Christ says, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

People:

We place our trust in Christ alone.

Leader:

Come, let us worship the Lord.

People:

We will praise God with joyful hearts. Amen.

Opening Prayer

Gracious and loving God,

We gather in Your presence with thankful hearts.

Some of us come with joy, others with worries,
some carrying heavy burdens,
and others seeking hope.

Thank You that wherever we are,
You welcome us.

As we worship today, lift our eyes above our fears.
Help us to hear Your voice, to trust Your promises,
and to follow wherever You lead.

Fill us with Your Holy Spirit, that our faith may grow stronger
and our love for You may deepen.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn: Be Still, for the Presence of the Lord - CMP 50 *by David J. Evans*

1. Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.
Come, bow before Him now,
with reverence and fear.

In Him no sin is found,
we stand on holy ground.
Be still, for the presence of the Lord,
the Holy One is here.

2. Be still, for the glory of the Lord,
is shining all around.
He burns with holy fire,
with splendor He is crowned.

How awesome is the sight,
our radiant King of Light!
Be still, for the glory of the Lord,
is shining all around.

3. Be still, for the power of the Lord,
is moving in this place.
He comes to cleanse and heal,
to minister His grace.

No work too hard for Him,
in faith receive from Him.
Be still, for the power of the Lord,
is moving in this place.

Prayer of Confession

Merciful God,

Too often we allow fear to speak louder than faith.

We worry about tomorrow, instead of trusting Your promises.

We become distracted by the storms around us, instead of fixing our eyes on Jesus.

Forgive us when doubt replaces trust,
when anxiety replaces hope,
and when we rely only on what we can see.

Strengthen our faith. Lift us when we begin to sink.

Help us hear again Your words,

"Take heart. It is I. Do not be afraid."

In Jesus' name.

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the Good News.

If we confess our sins,
God is faithful and just to forgive us
and to cleanse us from all unrighteousness.

In Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Children's story

Hymn: Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus - CMP 712 *Words and Music by Helen H Lemmel (1864-1961)*

1. O soul are you weary and troubled?
No light in the darkness you see?
There's light for a look at the Savior,
And life more abundant and free.

Refrain: *Turn your eyes upon Jesus,
Look full in His wonderful face,
And the things of the earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of His glory and grace.*

2. Through death into life everlasting
He passed, and we follow Him there;
O'er us sin no more hath dominion
For more than conquerors we are!
3. His Word shall not fail you, He promised;
Believe Him and all will be well;
Then go to a world that is dying,
His perfect salvation to tell!

Scripture Reading

Matthew 14:22–33 (New International Version)

Jesus Walks on the Water

²² Immediately Jesus made the disciples get into the boat and go on ahead of him to the other side, while he dismissed the crowd. ²³ After he had dismissed them, he went up on a mountainside by himself to pray. Later that night, he was there alone, ²⁴ and the boat was already a considerable distance from land, buffeted by the waves because the wind was against it.

²⁵ Shortly before dawn Jesus went out to them, walking on the lake. ²⁶ When the disciples saw him walking on the lake, they were terrified. “It’s a ghost,” they said, and cried out in fear.

²⁷ But Jesus immediately said to them: “Take courage! It is I. Don’t be afraid.”

²⁸ “Lord, if it’s you,” Peter replied, “tell me to come to you on the water.”

²⁹ “Come,” he said.

Then Peter got down out of the boat, walked on the water and came toward Jesus. ³⁰ But when he saw the wind, he was afraid and, beginning to sink, cried out, “Lord, save me!”

³¹ Immediately Jesus reached out his hand and caught him. “You of little faith,” he said, “why did you doubt?”

³² And when they climbed into the boat, the wind died down. ³³ Then those who were in the boat worshiped him, saying, “Truly you are the Son of God.”

Sermon: *‘Walk by Faith and not by Sight’*

Hymn: **When we walk with the Lord - H&P 687**

1. When we walk with the Lord
In the light of His Word
What a glory He sheds on our way
While we do His good will
He abides with us still
And with all who will trust and obey

Refrain: ***Trust and obey***
 For there's no other way
 To be happy in Jesus
 But to trust and obey

2. Not a burden we bear
Not a sorrow we share
But our toil He doth richly repay
Not a grief nor a loss
Not a frown nor a cross
But is blest if we trust and obey

3. But we never can prove
The delights of his love
Until all on the altar we lay
For the favour he shows
And the joy he bestows
Are for them who will trust and obey.

4. Then in fellowship sweet
We will sit at his feet
Or we'll walk by his side in the way
What he says we will do
Where he sends, we will go
Never fear, only trust and obey.

John Henry Sammis (1846-1919)

Offering Invitation:

Jesus gave Himself completely for us. Out of gratitude, we now bring our gifts, our tithes, our offerings, and indeed our whole lives to God.

May these gifts become signs of God's love and hope in a world that longs for peace.

Offering Prayer: *(we also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)*

Generous God,
every good and perfect gift comes from You.
Today we offer these gifts as an act of worship and thanksgiving.

**Receive not only our money, but also our time, our talents,
our compassion, and our willingness to serve.**

May these offerings help bring hope to those who are discouraged,
comfort to those who suffer,
and the good news of Jesus Christ to all people.

**Teach us each day to walk by faith and not by sight,
trusting that You will use what we offer for Your Kingdom.**

In the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Community Time

The Peace of God be with you

And God's peace be with you

(please share that peace with one another)

Notices

Prayers of Intercessions

Faithful God,

You are the Lord of land and sea, the One who walks upon the waves
and never abandons Your people.

When life's storms overwhelm us, help us to hear again Your words,
"Take heart. It is I. Do not be afraid."

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for Your world.

We remember places torn apart by war,
violence, hatred, and injustice.

Bring peace where there is conflict,
hope where there is despair,
and reconciliation where people are divided.

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for all who suffer because of climate change.

For communities facing floods,
storms, drought, wildfires, and rising seas.

Give wisdom to world leaders,
scientists, and communities,
that together we may care faithfully for Your creation.

Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those burdened by the rising cost of living.

For families struggling to buy food,
pay rent, meet mortgage payments,
or simply make ends meet.
Provide daily bread, open doors of opportunity,
and move us to be generous neighbours who care for one another.
Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for those who feel overwhelmed by anxiety,
loneliness, illness, or grief.
Reach out Your hand,
as You reached out to Peter,
and lift them with Your love.
May they know that they are never alone.
Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for Your Church throughout the world.
Strengthen us to be people of faith.
Help us not to be distracted by fear,
but to keep our eyes fixed on Jesus.
May our churches become places of welcome,
compassion, justice, and hope.
Lord, in Your mercy,

Hear our prayer.

We pray for our own congregation.
Bless our children, our young people,
our families, our elderly,
those who lead,
and those who quietly serve.
As we go into another week,
help us to walk by faith and not by sight,
trusting in Your unfailing love.
We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ,
our Lord and Saviour.
Amen.

The Lord's 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 whakaorangia mātou i te kino
Nou hoki re rangatira-tanga
Te kaha,
me te kororia,
Ake, ake, ake, Āmine.

Final Hymn: Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah - H&P 437

1. Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
 pilgrim through this barren land.
 I am weak, but thou art mighty;
 hold me with thy powerful hand.
 Bread of heaven, bread of heaven
 feed me now and ever more.
 feed me now and ever
2. Open thou the crystal fountain,
 whence the healing stream shall flow;
 let the fiery cloudy pillar
 lead me all my journey through.
 Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
 be thou still my strength and shield;
 be thou still my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises,
I will ever give to thee;
I will ever give to thee.

William Williams (1717-91)

Benediction:

Go now in the peace of Christ.

When life is calm, walk by faith.

When the winds become strong,
walk by faith.

When fear whispers louder than hope,
walk by faith.

Keep your eyes fixed upon Jesus,
who calls you, holds you,
and never lets you go.

And may the blessing of God Almighty,
Father, Son, and the Holy Spirit,
be among you, and remain with you always.

Amen.

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



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

<https://wesleychurchorg.nz/>

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Pages:

<https://www.facebook.com/weleywellington.methodistchurch.10>