



WESLEY WELLINGTON
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Ratapu, te 5 o Paengawhāwhā, (April) 2026
Easter

Combined Parish Holy Communion Service
Haere mai ki tēnei karakia

CHRIST IS RISEN



Kia ora koutou katoa — Tālofa lava
Mālō e lelei — Bula vinaka — Greetings to you all!
Wellington Wesley Parish – Order of Service

Worship leader: Kisione Finau

Organist: Colin Scarf

Welcome & Safety Briefing:

Introit:

Fijian Congregation

Leader: CHRIST IS RISEN!!!

All: Christ is risen indeed

Exchange of Greeting to the Person next to you.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Today is not an ordinary Sunday, it is a special morning. Today is a day of great Joy. Overwhelming happiness, Eternal surprise.

Easter is a day of rejoicing, because he who died for us lives again.

Today, we gather to announce good news to the entire world. Good News that Jesus Christ, our Lord and Saviour, is not dead. He is alive! He is Risen! Good news that hope has won. Good news that joy is victorious. Good news that darkness has been defeated by the LOVE of his Grace.

Risen God, faithful and merciful, we bring to you our prayers for all your people; hear our prayers and answer us when we call on you.

ALL: We Thank you and We Praise you Risen God, both now, and through your living words. **Amen**

Lighting the Easter Candle

Leader: We light the candle, aware that the power of resurrection has forever changed who we are and given us the courage to boldly proclaim a living faith.

All: Christ is risen.

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Risen Christ, rise in our hearts with faith. Raise our voices in praise and lift our eyes to the hills of hope. Reveal your presence to us. Raise us up to new life, even as you were risen, that we may proclaim to the world.

God of new life, where there is despair, rise in us with hope. When we are buried in the tomb of our sin, rise in us with mercy and grace. Bloom forth with grace in our lives, that we might explode forth in promise, and live with resurrection faith each day.

Hear the words of Jesus Christ – the first commandment is: Love the Lord your God with all your heart, with all your soul, with all your mind, with all your strength.

All: Lord, we have not loved you with all our heart and soul and mind and strength

Leader: The second commandment is: Love your neighbour as yourself.

All: Lord, we have not loved our neighbour as ourselves.

Leader: He also said – I give you a new commandment: Love one another, as I have loved you, so you are to love one another.

All: Lord, we have not loved one another as you have loved us.

Leader: Lord, have mercy.

All: Christ, have mercy

Hymn – “Christ the Lord is Risen Today” – *H&P 193 by Charles Wesley*

1. Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Sons of men and angels say,
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens: thou earth, reply:
2. Love’s redeeming work is done,
Fought the fight, the battle won,
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal,
Christ hath burst the gates of hell,
3. Lives again our glorious King,
Where, O death, is now thy sting?
Once He died our souls to save,
Where thy victory, boasting grave?
4. Soar we now where Christ hath led,

Following our exalted Head,
Made like Him, like Him we rise,
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,

5. King of glory, Soul of bliss, Alleluia!
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!
Thee to know, Thy power to prove, Alleluia!
Thus to sing, and thus to love, Alleluia!

Words of Assurance

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead, victorious over sin and death, over suffering and shame, over all evil and wrong.

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead, overcoming by the power of love, by patient trust and perseverance, by faith in God alone.

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead, proving that nothing can separate us from God's love, showing us how far that love will go, and suffering for the sins of the world.

Lord Jesus, we greet You, risen from the dead, and we offer You our thanks and our praise, our prayers and our worship, our devotion and our service.

Lord, Jesus, we greet You, and we pray to you, and we pray through you, and we pray with joy and confidence as you taught us, saying Our Father...

TE INOI O TE ARIKI (Lord's Prayer in Te Reo)

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.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (New King James version) *Shelly Rao*

1 O give thanks unto the LORD; for he is good: because his mercy endureth for ever.

2 Let Israel now say, that his mercy endureth forever.

14 The Lord is my strength and song and is become my salvation.

15 The voice of rejoicing and salvation is in the tabernacles of the righteous: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

16 The right hand of the Lord is exalted: the right hand of the Lord doeth valiantly.

17 I shall not die, but live, and declare the works of the Lord.

18 The Lord hath chastened me sore: but he hath not given me over unto death.

19 Open to me the gates of righteousness: I will go into them, and I will praise the Lord:

20 This gate of the Lord, into which the righteous shall enter.

21 I will praise thee: for thou hast heard me, and art become my salvation.

22 The stone which the builders refused is become the head stone of the corner.

23 This is the Lord's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

24 This is the day which the Lord hath made; we will rejoice and be glad in it.

Matthew 28: 1-10 (New King James version) *Fijian*

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to look at the tomb.

2 There was a violent earthquake, for an angel of the Lord came down from heaven and, going to the tomb, rolled back the stone and sat on it. 3 His appearance was like lightning, and his clothes were white as snow. 4 The guards were so afraid of him that they shook and became like dead men.

5 The angel said to the women, "Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus, who was crucified. 6 He is not here; he has risen, just as he said. Come and see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples: 'He has risen from the dead and is going ahead of you into Galilee. There you will see him.' Now I have told you."

8 So the women hurried away from the tomb, afraid yet filled with joy, and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them. "Greetings," he said. They came to him, clasped his feet and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, "Do not be afraid. Go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me."

Children Story Time: *Tongan Youth Easter Camp (Action Songs)*

Hymn: “Spirit of the Living God” - H&P 295 by Daniel Iverson

<p>Spirit of the living God Fall afresh on me Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me, Break me, melt me, Mould me, fill me Spirit of the living God, Fall afresh on me.</p>	<p>Fijian Yalo Tabu ni Kalou, liwa mai oqo Yalo Tabu ni Kalou, liwa mai oqo Liwa mai, liwa mai, Cu-ru mai me'u yalo vou. Yalo Tabu ni Kalou, Liwa mai oqo.</p>
<p>Samoan Le Agaga e, o le Atua Fa'atumu a'u (<i>repeat line</i>) Liliu a'u, fa'afou a'u Avatu a'u, fa'aaoga a'u Le Agaga e, o le Atua Fa'atumu a'u.</p>	<p>Tongan Laumālie 'aahi mai Teu'i kimautolu Laumālie 'aahi mai Ka mau hanga atu To'o 'Eiki, hoku loto ni Fokotu'u ho taloni Fai ho mau le'ohi.</p>

Reflection: *“Do not be afraid, for Jesus has been raised from the dead”.*

Affirmation of Faith (Apostles' Creed)

All: We believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. We believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third

day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the Father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. We believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. **Amen.**

Time of Offering: while collecting the offering, Tongan Choir and Brass Band will play.

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

OFFERTORY PRAYER

Heavenly Father, bless every cheerful giver today. Thank You for their willing hearts and generous spirits. Pour out blessings upon them. In Jesus name, **Amen.**

THE CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION

Leader: The Lord is here.

All: God's Spirit is with us.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise

Leader: With all your people in heaven and on earth we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, through whom all things were

made; who in the fullness of time became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth; who in obedience suffered death on the cross, and was raised in triumph that we might have life. Therefore, we worship and praise your glorious name.

All: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, Heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took the bread and after giving thanks broke it and gave it to his disciples saying; “Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you”.

Do this in remembrance of me.

In the same way he took the cup after supper and said, “This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this to remember me.”

**All: Glory to you, Lord Christ; your death we proclaim; your resurrection we celebrate; your coming we await.
Amen.**

PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

Leader: Come Holy Spirit, that these gifts may be to us the bread of life and the cup of salvation. Bind us into one body, that we may grow into the fullness of Christ who is the head.
Amen.

All: We come to your table, Lord, trusting not in our own righteousness but in your great mercy. We are not worthy even to gather the crumbs from under your table. But you are the same Lord, whose nature is always to have mercy. Grant us therefore, gracious Lord, so to eat this bread and drink this wine that Christ may evermore dwell in us and we in him. Amen

BREAKING OF BREAD

The bread we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.
The cup of blessing for which we give thanks is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

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

INVITATION & DISTRIBUTION

Come for all things, they are now ready. Draw near in faith and take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for you. You are all invited to come forward and receive the Holy Communion. (if you have difficulty walking, communion will be served to you in your seat).

(The Samoan Choir who will sing during today's communion, are invited to come forward first, followed by everyone. Please approach by the centre aisle and return down the side.)

PRAYER AFTER HOLY COMMUNION

All: I am no longer my own, but yours. Put me to what you will, rank me with whom you will; put me to doing, put me to

suffering; let me be employed for you or laid aside for you, exalted for you or brought low for you. Let me have all things, let me have nothing; I freely and wholeheartedly yield all things to your pleasure and disposal. And now, glorious and blessed God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit, you are mine and I am yours.

HYMN – “Blessed Assurance” (H&P 668) *by Frances Jane van Alstyne*

1. Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine
Heir of salvation, purchase of God
Born of his Spirit, washed in His blood

Refrain

*This is my story, this is my song
Praising my Saviour all the day long*

2. Perfect submission, perfect delight
Visions of rapture now burst on my sight
Angels descending bring from above
Echoes of mercy, whispers of love

Refrain

3. Perfect submission, all is at rest,
I in my Saviour am happy and blest
Watching and waiting, looking above,
Filled with his goodness, lost in his love

Refrain

EXTINGUISHING THE CANDLE

As we go forth with resurrection joy, may we bring Christ's living presence with our words, our actions, and our love.

BLESSING

The Peace of God which passes all understanding, keep your hearts and minds in the knowledge and love of God and of his Son Jesus Christ our Lord. And the Blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, remain with you always. Amen

Himene: 'Mā te mārie' (sung unaccompanied to tune: Old 100th)

Ma te marie a te Atua Tatou katoa e tiaki Mano ano e whakau O tatou ngakau ki te pai	The peace of God Keeps us all. He will confirm Our hearts in goodness.
Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki Ratou Atua ko tahi ne Tatou katoa e whakapai Amine.	May the Son of God And the Holy Spirit too, One God Bless us all. Amen.

Anthem:

Tongan Congregation

<p>Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah</p>	<p>King of Kings Forever and ever Hallelujah, hallelujah And Lord of Lords Forever and ever Hallelujah, hallelujah</p>
<p>For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah</p>	<p>King of Kings Forever and ever Hallelujah, hallelujah And Lord of Lords Forever and ever Hallelujah, hallelujah</p>
<p>For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah For the Lord God Omnipotent reigneth Hallelujah</p>	<p>King of Kings Forever and ever Hallelujah, hallelujah And Lord of Lords King of Kings, and Lord of Lords And He shall reign for ever and ever And He shall reign for ever and ever</p>
<p>The Kingdom of this world is become The Kingdom of our Lord And of His Christ, and of His Christ And He shall reign forever and ever And He shall reign forever and ever</p>	<p>King of Kings And Lord of Lords And He shall reign for ever and ever King of Kings And Lord of Lords King of Kings And Lord of Lords And He shall reign forever and ever King of Kings</p>

And He shall reign forever and ever And He shall reign forever and ever	And Lord of Lords Hallelujah, hallelujah Hallelujah, hallelujah.... Hallelujah
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Please join us for Refreshments in the New Hall

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website:

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

and the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:

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

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