



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

**Sunday 17<sup>th</sup> April 2022**  
**EASTER DAY**

*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.**

**Order of Service**  
**Combined Parish Service**  
**Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street**  
**17<sup>th</sup> April 2022**

Reflection: **Rev Nicola Teague Grundy**  
Organ: **Colin Scarf**

**Welcome and safety briefing**

**Introit**                      Tongan Choir

**Call to Worship – Procession of symbols**

**Cloth**

*The communion cloth is placed on the communion table*

This reminds us of the cloth in which they wrapped the body of Jesus. On Easter morning it was found empty, lying in the tomb where Christ's body had been placed.

Alleluia Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

**Fragrant Oil**

*A jar of fragrant oil is placed on the communion table*

This fragrance reminds us that very early on Easter Day some women came to the tomb to prepare Jesus' body for proper burial. The women were the first to hear of Jesus resurrection.

Alleluia Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

**The Stone**

*A stone is placed in front of the table*

This stone reminds us that on the resurrection morning, the stone which sealed the tomb was rolled away.

Alleluia Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

**Bread**

*The bread is placed on the table*

The bread reminds us that on the first Easter evening, Jesus walked and talked with two of his followers on the road to Emmaus. It was not until he broke bread with them that they recognised who he was.

Alleluia Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

### **The Wine**

*The chalice and communion trays are placed on the table*

This wine, representing Christ's blood,  
helps us to remember that Jesus died for us.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

### **The Candle**

*A 'Candle' is placed on the table then lit*

This candle reminds us that Jesus Christ is the light of the world.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

### **The Cross**

The cross you see is an empty cross. Jesus is not dead. He is risen.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed.**

The old has passed away, all things have become new.

**Hallelujah!**

Let us with supreme happiness celebrate this day

**Christ is risen indeed!**

**Hymn            Christ the Lord is risen today            H&P 193**

Christ the Lord is risen today; Alleluia!  
All creation joins to say: Alleluia!  
Raise your joys and triumphs high; Alleluia!  
Sing, you heavens; let earth reply: Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!  
Fought the fight, the battle won; Alleluia!  
Vain the stone, the watch, the seal; Alleluia!  
Christ has burst the gates of hell: Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King; Alleluia!  
Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!  
Once he died our souls to save; Alleluia!  
Where's your victory, boasting grave? Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!  
Following our exalted Head; Alleluia!  
Made like him, like him we rise; Alleluia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies: Alleluia!

King of Glory! Soul of bliss! Alleluia!  
Everlasting life is this, Alleluia!  
You to know, your power to prove, Alleluia!  
Thus to sing, and thus to love: Alleluia!

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

### **Opening Prayer** (Rev Utumau'u Pupulu)

Rising Christ,  
You are rising indeed.  
Rising up hope where hope has died  
Rising up people to follow your way  
Rising up justice in the hearts of those who would take up compassion  
Rising up grace as a challenge to the world  
Rising up repentance and reconciliation in the face of arrogance, hate,  
bitterness and resentment  
Rising up peace as a possibility to be striven and worked for  
Rising up the way of the cross as the roadmap to meaning, purpose and  
eternal life.  
Christ, you are rising indeed,  
Rise up in us,  
That we may live you and your love to others  
Rise up in us,  
That we may be who you call us into being  
Rise up in us,  
That we may be your resurrection people,  
Your body of followers  
Your disciples  
Always striving to be better  
Always on the way to the promised end  
Now and always so  
Amen.

### **Prayer of confession**

Living God, even as we announce your rising,  
we confess that hidden within our lives  
lie questions which challenge our faith and your victory.  
Doubts beset us as we look at the world around us,  
fears that we may be wrong in holding to faith  
when your life among us seems so often to be defeated.

**Forgive our doubts, O God.**

**Spring forth in truth before us, we pray.**

Then there are the times, O God,  
when we choose to stay with our own deaths,  
rather than accepting your gift of life to us.  
We hold onto our old guilts.  
We stay paralysed before our fears.  
We are stricken by events long pasts  
which you call us to leave behind us.  
**Forgive our doubts, O God.**  
**Spring forth in truth before us, we pray,**  
**that we may share more fully your risen life.**  
**Amen.**

### **Words of assurance**

On this day, the day of the risen life of God,  
we affirm that God loves us and will never bow to our deaths,  
not even the deaths of guilt and shame.  
We are forgiven.  
The offer rings through the clouds of life  
and into the light of this moment.  
Receive the life of Christ!  
**Thanks be to God.**

**Story Time - Easter Eggs** (Rev Nicola Teague Grundy)

**10am Singing Group** – “This Joyful Eastertide”

**Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 65: 17-25 The Message** (*Read in Tongan*)

“Pay close attention now:  
I’m creating new heavens and a new earth.  
All the earlier troubles, chaos, and pain  
are things of the past, to be forgotten.  
Look ahead with joy.  
Anticipate what I’m creating:  
I’ll create Jerusalem as sheer joy,  
create my people as pure delight.  
I’ll take joy in Jerusalem,  
take delight in my people:  
No more sounds of weeping in the city,  
no cries of anguish;  
No more babies dying in the cradle,  
or old people who don’t enjoy a full lifetime;  
One-hundredth birthdays will be considered normal—  
anything less will seem like a cheat.  
They’ll build houses

and move in.  
They'll plant fields  
and eat what they grow.  
No more building a house  
that some outsider takes over,  
No more planting fields  
that some enemy confiscates,  
For my people will be as long-lived as trees,  
my chosen ones will have satisfaction in their work.  
They won't work and have nothing come of it,  
they won't have children snatched out from under them.  
For they themselves are plantings blessed by GOD,  
with their children and grandchildren likewise GOD-blessed.  
Before they call out, I'll answer.  
Before they've finished speaking, I'll have heard.  
Wolf and lamb will graze the same meadow,  
lion and ox eat straw from the same trough,  
but snakes—they'll get a diet of dirt!  
Neither animal nor human will hurt or kill  
anywhere on my Holy Mountain," says GOD.

**Christian Scriptures: Luke 24: 1-12 The Message** (Read in Samoan)

At the crack of dawn on Sunday, the women came to the tomb carrying the burial spices they had prepared. They found the entrance stone rolled back from the tomb, so they walked in. But once inside, they couldn't find the body of the Master Jesus. They were puzzled, wondering what to make of this. Then, out of nowhere it seemed, two men, light cascading over them, stood there. The women were awestruck and bowed down in worship. The men said, "Why are you looking for the Living One in a cemetery? He is not here, but raised up. Remember how he told you when you were still back in Galilee that he had to be handed over to sinners, be killed on a cross, and in three days rise up?" Then they remembered Jesus' words. They left the tomb and broke the news of all this to the Eleven and the rest. Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them kept telling these things to the apostles, but the apostles didn't believe a word of it, thought they were making it all up. But Peter jumped to his feet and ran to the tomb. He stooped to look in and saw a few grave clothes, that's all. He walked away puzzled, shaking his head.

## Reflection – Rev Nicola Teague Grundy

*Time of silence for personal reflection*

### **Affirmation of Faith**

In response to the word, let us stand and affirm our faith together.

**You, O God, are supreme and Holy.  
You create our world and give us life.  
Your purpose overarches everything we do.  
You have always been with us.  
You are God.  
You, O God, are infinitely generous,  
good beyond all measure.  
You came to us before we came to you.  
You have revealed and proved  
your love for us in Jesus Christ,  
who lived and died and rose again.  
You are with us now.  
You are God.**

### **Hymn          Love Divine          H&P 267**

#### **English**

Love divine, all loves excelling,  
Joy of heaven to earth come down,  
Fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
All thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesu, thou art all compassion,  
Pure, unbounded love thou art;  
Visit us with thy salvation,  
Enter every trembling heart.

#### **Fijian**

Sa dau yaco mai na gauna  
Kivei keda kecega,  
Me da digitaka kina  
Na vinaka se na ca:  
Me da vakatudaliga  
Ki na kaci i Jisu,  
Se muria ga na meca  
Era cati Koya tu.

## **Tongan**

Ofaange ke lilingi  
Ki he fakataha ni  
'A e kelesi Hotau 'Eiki  
Hono ivi ngaue mai!  
Ka tau hao mei he kovi,  
Ka tau laka pe ki mu'a  
'O tau tupu ai ke ofi  
Ki he anga he 'Otua.

## **Samoaan**

Le Alii e, silasila  
Ia i matou uma nei  
O tagata agasala  
Ma ua matua sese  
A ia e sisila lava  
I le maliu o Iesu  
Le na matua saunia  
O le olataga fou.

## **English**

Finish then thy new creation,  
Pure and spotless let us be;  
Let us see thy great salvation,  
Perfectly restored in thee:  
Changed from glory into glory,  
Till in heaven we take our place,  
Till we cast our crowns before thee,  
Lost in wonder, love, and praise!

*Charles Wesley (1707-88)*

## **Prayers of Intercession (Rev Simote Taunga)**

Gracious God, as the risen Christ touched the broken hearts of his first disciples, may that same Spirit touch our world where lives and communities are broken.

When loss leaves us empty and hope dies, you name us with tenderness. For all who are at a loss, may new possibilities dawn.

### **Let new life be seen and known.**

Where justice is broken and fear grips us, you come to share your calm and courage. For all who face oppression, may support and strength be found.

### **Let new life be seen and known.**

When guilt is a burden, you open the way to forgiveness and new responsibility. For those who yearn to start again, may opportunities



be allowed and opened.

**Let new life be seen and known.**

When we walk with problems and perplexity, you stir fresh insight and warm our hearts. For those facing uncertain times or hard decisions, may there be good counsel and clear purpose.

**Let new life be seen and known.**

If we lose faith in your future and go back to old ways, you call us to cast our life again with you. For those who see no meaning to life, may care be given and inspiration found.

**Let new life be seen and known.**

You call your people to leave the shoreline of outworn endeavour or complacency and share your hope and joy and generosity.

**We welcome your Spirit and pray that new life may be seen and known through us.**

**Amen.**

**The Lord's Prayer** (to be said in the language of your choice)

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 aianei  
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.

**Anthem – Samoan Choir**

**Offering and blessing of Offerings** (Rev Nicola Teague Grundy)

*(Please leave your offering in the bag provided at the back of the church after the service. We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking.)*

## Exchange of Peace

The peace of Christ is here for you.  
**Peace is here for all to share.**

## Celebrating Community in The Tradition of The Meal

May God of all hopefulness be with you!  
**And also with you!**

Followers of Christ, lift up your hearts.  
**We offer them to the one who denied himself,  
so that God's love and grace might be carried  
into the world forever.**

Sing songs of praise to the God who is faithful in keeping promises.  
**We call upon our God, the One who calls us by name.**

## Prayer Of Thanksgiving

O God of never-ending New Life,  
we give thanks for the awe-filled experiences in our lives  
that have helped us see beyond the present  
and have called us to live in hope and trust.

We give thanks for Jesus of Nazareth  
**who leads us to put our hope and trust in the Spirit of Life and  
love moving in the depths of our being.**

We give thanks for the way he opens our minds and hearts  
**to see and appreciate the intimate and never-ending  
connection between our loving and the Spirit of Love.**

We give thanks for the courage given us  
**to move outside ourselves  
and experience the vastness of your Creation.**

Bless this bread before us.  
**We take it and share it  
as our pledge of openness to God's miracles in our midst.**

Bless this cup before us.  
**We take it and share it,  
believing, as Jesus believed,  
that beyond pain and darkness and death,**

**life in God's Spirit continues in ways beyond imagining.**

*Silence*

To being the Body of Christ  
and to sharing the Spirit of New Life in our lives with the world:  
**Amen.**

## **The Breaking Of The Bread**

At this gathering in this sacred place  
we take bread as Jesus took bread,  
and we remember as Jesus remembered,  
the constant presence  
of the Spirit of Life and Love.

We break and share this bread  
as Jesus broke and shared it.

**We share it as our pledge of openness to the Spirit in our midst,  
and in acknowledgement of our eternal  
connectedness with the Spirit of Life.**

We pour this wine into this cup as Jesus poured it.  
We drink as Jesus invited his friends to drink, mindful of a relationship  
of love and trust between ourselves and the Spirit of Life,  
**Believing as Jesus believed,  
that beyond pain and darkness and death,  
life in the Spirit continues in ways beyond our imagining.**

*Silence*

## **Communion**

Everyone is welcome at this table.

*The Bread and white Wine are served to the people. During communion  
the Tongan choir will sing.*

## **Prayer after communion**

**Hymn**

**Now let us from this table rise**

**WOV 450**

Now let us from this table rise  
Renewed in body, mind and soul;  
With Christ we die and live again,  
His selfless love has made us whole.

With minds alert, upheld by grace,  
To spread the Word in speech and deed,  
We follow in the steps of Christ,  
At one with all in hope and need.

To fill each human house with love,  
It is the sacrament of care;  
The work that Christ began to do  
We humbly pledge ourselves to share.

Then grant us courage, Father-God,  
To choose again the pilgrim way  
And help us to accept with joy  
The challenge of tomorrow's day.

*Fred Kaan*

## **Blessing**

### **Ma te Marie (Sung unaccompanied)**

Ma te marie a te Atua     *The peace of God*  
Tatou katoa e tiaki; *keep us all.*  
Mana ano e whakau *He will confirm our*  
O tatou ngakau ki te pai     *hearts in goodness.*

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra     *May the Son of God*  
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki     *and the Holy Spirit*  
Ratou, Atua Kotahi nei.     *too, one God,*  
Tatou katoa e whakapai.     *Bless us all.*  
Amine.     *Amen.*

\* \* \* \* \*

Following worship morning tea will be served in the New Hall. Everyone is welcome to share in fellowship and hospitality.

Liturgy for this service was sourced from:

Worship Words UK, Pilgrim Uniting Church, Australia, <http://bruceprewer.com>  
and Liturgies for High Days by Dorothy McRae McMahan.

Image: **He Qi, China: "He is Risen"** [heqiarts.com](http://heqiarts.com)

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