



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 13 March 2022 Lent 2

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



10am Congregation
Service

10am 13 March 2022

In the Church
75 Taranaki Street
Wellington

“Our many-layered 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!**

Order of Service
10am Congregation
Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street
13 March 2022 Lent 2

Leader: **Lay Preacher – Philip Garside**
Organ: **Colin Scarf** Guitar: **Heather Garside**

Welcome & Introduction

Call to Worship

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord,
when I will make a new covenant.

The new covenant of God is written on our hearts.

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord,
when I shall be your God and you shall be my people.

The new covenant of God is written on our hearts.

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord,
when all people shall know me, from the least to the greatest.

The new covenant of God is written on our hearts.

Behold, the days are coming, says the Lord,
when I will remember your sin no more.

Thanks be to God. Let us now worship.

Lighting the Candles

As we light these candles:

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *light* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your *justice* shine through

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your hope shine through
Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your peace shine through
Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
and let your love shine through. Amen.

Opening Prayer

**Holy God, we give you thanks and praise
for the ways that you make your presence known among us
and for your covenant in which we live;**

for the gift of creation,
whose beauty surprises us season in and season out;

**for our Jewish forebears in faith,
who became your people, showing the world
what it means to live in relationship with you;**

for Jesus Christ,
through whom your covenant of mercy and grace
became open to each of us;

**for your Holy Spirit,
which fills us with your power and sends us out
to preach the good news in word and deed;**

and for the gift of this congregation,
which enables us to live out our ministry in our time and place.

**For these and all your gifts,
we give you thanks and lift up our voices
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Hymn: Tell Out my Soul H&P 86.

Words: Timothy Dudley-Smith. Music: Walter Greatorex.

1. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord!
Unnumbered blessings give my spirit voice;
tender to me the promise of his word;
in God my Saviour shall my heart rejoice.
2. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his Name!
Make known his might, the deeds his arm has done;
his mercy sure, from age to age to same;
his holy Name - the Lord, the Mighty One.
3. Tell out, my soul, the greatness of his might!
Powers and dominions lay their glory by.
Proud hearts and stubborn wills are put to flight,
the hungry fed, the humble lifted high.
4. Tell out, my soul, the glories of his word!
Firm is his promise, and his mercy sure.
Tell out, my soul, the greatness of the Lord
to children's children and for evermore!

Prayer of Approach

Ever-Abundant God, we open our hearts to you this day,
and offer these truths:

Today we live in the fear that encompasses us.

**Today we live with the prejudice
that is right in front of us.**

Today we live with the ignorance that dwells within us.

Today we live with the doubt that holds us back.

Help us, we pray,

**that we will find courage in unlikely places,
discover the world with new and gracious understandings,**

**move to those places where love is needed,
and have faith that you are with us.
This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

Friends, hear the good news that God listens to our prayers, understands our concerns, and holds us close in this time of confession and truth telling. Know today that we have been given the grace and the courage to go into the world and spread this good news. **Amen.**
[Silence]

Story Time

Song: 10am Singing Group: Let there be peace on earth

1. Let there be peace on earth
And let it begin with me:
Let there be peace on earth,
The peace that was meant to be.
With God always with us
Family all are we.
Let us walk together
In perfect harmony.
2. Let peace begin with me,
Let this be the moment now.
With every step I take,
Let this be my solemn vow:
To take each moment
and live each moment
In peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth
and let it begin with me.

Readings

Genesis 15:1-12 *The Message*

After all these things, this word of GOD came to Abram in a vision: “Don’t be afraid, Abram. I’m your shield. Your reward will be grand!”

Abram said, “GOD, Master, what use are your gifts as long as I’m childless and Eliezer of Damascus is going to inherit everything?” Abram continued, “See, you’ve given me no children, and now a mere house servant is going to get it all.”

Then GOD’s Message came: “Don’t worry, he won’t be your heir; a son from your body will be your heir.”

Then he took him outside and said, “Look at the sky. Count the stars. Can you do it? Count your descendants! You’re going to have a big family, Abram!”

And he believed! Believed GOD! God declared him “Set-Right-with-God.”

GOD continued, “I’m the same GOD who brought you from Ur of the Chaldees and gave you this land to own.”

Abram said, “Master GOD, how am I to know this, that it will all be mine?”

GOD said, “Bring me a heifer, a goat, and a ram, each three years old, and a dove and a young pigeon.”

He brought all these animals to him, split them down the middle, and laid the halves opposite each other. But he didn’t split the birds.

Vultures swooped down on the carcasses, but Abram scared them off. As the sun went down a deep sleep overcame Abram and then a sense of dread, dark and heavy.

When the sun was down and it was dark, a smoking firepot and a flaming torch moved between the split carcasses. That’s when GOD made a covenant with Abram: “I’m giving this land to your children, from the Nile River in Egypt to the River Euphrates in

Assyria—the country of the Kenites, Kenizzites, Kadmonites, Hittites, Perizzites, Rephaim, Amorites, Canaanites, Girgashites, and Jebusites.”

Psalm 27 *The Message [Adapted]*

Light, space, zest—
that's God!

So, with God on my side I'm fearless,
afraid of no one and nothing.

When vandal hordes ride down
ready to eat me alive,

Those bullies and toughs
fall flat on their faces.

When besieged,
I'm calm as a baby.

When all hell breaks loose,
I'm collected and cool.

I'm asking God for one thing,
only one thing:

To live with God in God's house
my whole life long.

I'll contemplate God's beauty;
I'll study at his feet.

That's the only quiet, secure place
in a noisy world,

The perfect getaway,
far from the buzz of traffic.

God holds me head and shoulders
above all who try to pull me down.

I'm headed for God's place to offer anthems
that will raise the roof!

Already I'm singing God-songs;
I'm making music to God.
Listen, God, I'm calling at the top of my lungs:
"Be good to me! Answer me!"
When my heart whispered, "Seek God,"
my whole being replied,
"I'm seeking God!"
Don't hide from me now!
You've always been right there for me;
don't turn your back on me now.
Don't throw me out, don't abandon me;
you've always kept the door open.
My father and mother walked out and left me,
but God took me in.
Point me down your highway, God;
direct me along a well-lighted street;
show my enemies whose side you're on.
Don't throw me to the dogs,
those liars who are out to get me,
filling the air with their threats.
I'm sure now I'll see God's goodness
in the exuberant earth.
Stay with God!
Take heart. Don't quit.
I'll say it again:
Stay with God.

Sermon: Our many-layered faith

Song: Like a river glorious

[Accompanied by Heather Garside – Guitar]

1. Like a river glorious, is God's perfect peace,
Over all victorious, in its bright increase;
Perfect, yet it floweth, fuller every day,
Perfect, yet it groweth, deeper all the way.

Refrain:

Stayed upon Jehovah, hearts are fully blest
Finding, as He promised, perfect peace and rest.

2. Hidden in the hollow of His blessed hand,
Never foe can follow, never traitor stand;
Not a surge of worry, not a shade of care,
Not a blast of hurry touch the spirit there.
3. Every joy or trial falleth from above,
Traced upon our dial by the Sun of Love;
We may trust Him fully all for us to do.
They who trust Him wholly find Him wholly true.

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

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

Notices

Sharing Joys and Sorrows

Prayers of Intercession

To the bidding: "...God of our ancestors," please respond with:
"hear the prayers we bring today."

Lord's Prayer [Sung]

**Our Father in heaven
holy be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Do not put us to the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Offering

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

Blessing of Offering *(said together)*

**They seem so little and the world is so big
and so overwhelming right now,
yet we offer these gifts to you, O God.
Take what we offer and bless it for your mission of love.
In a world of conflict and pandemic,
may these gifts, and we ourselves,
become agents of change and transformation,
in Jesus' name of self-giving love. Amen**

Hymn: O God, Each Day You Bless Us.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (2004). Tune Ellacombe

1. O God, each day you bless us with gifts of your shalom:
You give us peace and jus-tice, you welcome lost ones home.
You care for your creation and set your people free;
You offer us salvation and build community.

2. You make us sons and daughters baptised and reconciled!
You show us: Each peace-maker is blest as your own child.
You fill us at your table with strength for each new day;
Then Spirit-filled we're able to live your peaceful way.

3. We'll worship, pray, and study, to learn new skills for peace;
We'll work as one strong body so justice will increase.
We'll build new global friendships, seek peace in every land,
Protect the earth you gave us and give with outstretched hand.

Closing Prayer *(Said together)*

**Merciful God, whenever we gloat at other's misfortune,
whenever we place more faith in our buildings
and our beliefs than we do in you;
whenever we pledge more allegiance
to our political leaders
and to our nation than to you and your reign
– in all these times,
we confess we are there as Jesus is crucified.
By your Spirit, save us from being bystanders,
and make us active participants
in his work of creating a heaven on earth,
until that day your will is finally and fully done. Amen.**

The Grace *(Said together)*

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all.
Amen**

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Liturgy for this service was sourced from: *Gathering Lent / Easter 2021 (Year B)* – Canada; *Let Us Pray*, Janet Nelson 1999; *Kindle a Flame* – Philip Garside; *Let there be peace on earth* – Words & Music: Sy Miller & Jill Jackson – Adapted by Philip Garside (2018); Amy-Jill Levine, *Witness at the Cross: Leader's Guide*, 2021. Onions cover image: Philip Garside.

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with our congregation's services and news:

**[https://www.facebook.com/
wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am](https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am)**

Please join us in the foyer for refreshments following the service.
Thank you to the Tevita family for the refreshments.