

Wesley Wellington 75 Taranaki Street www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 3rd April 2022

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.

Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka Greetings to you all!

Order of Service I 0am Congregation Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street 3RD April 2022

Leader: **Sikeli Cawanikawai** Organ: **Colin Scarf**

Greetings and Welcome

Call to Worship

Greetings to you all, our Brothers and Sisters in Faith We come to celebrate God's presence, And God's love expressed through Jesus Christ. We come remembering Christ's life and Ministry, And the life we're called to live. We come as pilgrim people searching for ways to live out our Faith. We come seeking the strength to carry on our Journey. Let us rejoice in God's gift to us!

Hymn Guide me O thou great Jehovah H&P437

I Guide me, O thou great Jehovah, pilgrim through this barren land; I am weak, but thou are mighty; hold me with thy powerful hand. Bread of heaven, bread of heaven, feed me now and evermore, feed me now and evermore.

- 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.
- 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 you, I will ever give to you.

Psalter Hymnal, (Gray)

Opening Prayers of Praise and Concern

Gracious and Glorious God. the creator and the sustainer of life. You continually pour your blessings upon us. Age after age, the living wait upon you. Your faithfulness has no end, And your care is unending We praise you that the mystery of life is a mystery of infinite goodness. We praise you for the order and the consistency of nature For the beauty and the bounty of the earth For the day and night, summer and winter, seed time and harvest, For the varied gifts of loveliness which every season brings We give you thanks for all the comfort and joy of life, for our homes, for our friends And for all the love, sympathy and goodwill of all people. Loving God, In this Holy season of Lent As we journey to the cross

Help us to discern in our lives
What we must lay down and what we must take up.
What we must end and what we must begin
Give us grace so that we live a disciplined life
In faithfulness and with joy
Which comes with a closer walk with Jesus Christ.
In his name we pray
Amen.

Scripture Reading

John 12:1-8

Six days before the Passover, Jesus came to Bethany, where Lazarus lived, whom Jesus had raised from the dead. Here a dinner was given in Jesus' honor. Martha served, while Lazarus was among those reclining at the table with him. Then Mary took about a pint of pure nard, an expensive perfume; she poured it on Jesus' feet and wiped his feet with her hair. And the house was filled with the fragrance of the perfume.

But one of his disciples, Judas Iscariot, who was later to betray him, objected, "Why wasn't this perfume sold and the money given to the poor? It was worth a year's wages." He did not say this because he cared about the poor but because he was a thief; as keeper of the money bag, he used to help himself to what was put into it.

"Leave her alone," Jesus replied. "It was intended that she should save this perfume for the day of my burial. You will always have the poor among you, but you will not always have me."

Hymn He Came Singing Love AA 59

- I. He came singing love and he lived singing love; he died singing love.
 He arose in silence.
 For the love to go on we must make it our song; you and I be the singers.
- He came singing faith and he lived singing faith; he died singing faith. He arose in silence. For the faith to go on we must make it our song; you and I be the singers.
- He came singing hope and he lived singing hope; he died singing hope. He arose in silence. For the hope to go on we must make it our song; you and I be the singers.
- He came singing peace and he lived singing peace; he died singing peace. He arose in silence. For the peace to go on we must make it our song; you and I be the singers.

Words & Music: Colin Gibson.

Reflection: Live Love.

Prayer of Confession

Almighty God, Father of our Lord Jesus Christ Maker of all things and Judge of all people As we endeavour your Kingdom We confess the sins we have committed By thoughts, word and deeds against your Divine Majesty We repent of our misdoings The remembrance of them is a grief to us The burden of them is great. Have mercy upon us, Have mercy upon us, Most Merciful One! Gracious God, forgive us our sins and all that is past And grant that we may serve and please you in newness of life Let your Kingdom come And thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven To the honour and Glory of your Holy name Through Jesus Christ our saviour Amen.

Hymn Love Divine, all loves excelling H&P 267

- I. 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.
- 2. Come, almighty to deliver,
 Let us all thy life receive;
 Suddenly return, and never,
 Never more thy temples leave.
 Thee we would be always blessing,
 Serve thee as thy hosts above,
 Pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,
 Glory in thy perfect love.

3. 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 Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of all seasons, In your pattern of things There is a time for keeping and a time for losing A time for for building up and a time for pulling down We give you thanks Blessed Spirit.

For the bounty of the earth, for the goodness of the human heart, for power to change and the will to learn, let us give thanks;

We give you thanks blessed Spirit.

For all those who work for healing, for all in the caring ministries, for ecologists and researchers, for pastoral care workers and friends, for the hands of Christ in the world, for others we may not name... let us give thanks;

We give you thanks blessed Spirit.

For all those who learn and teach, for apprentices and supervisors, for students and resource people, for programme directors and camp leaders, for schools and educators, for wisdom, knowledge and guidance, let us give thanks;

We give you thanks blessed Spirit.

For those who struggle for liberation and justice, for the witness of base communities, for mission and development workers, for those who risk their lives for others, for those who work for human rights, for those who speak truth on behalf of the oppressed, for all who bear witness to the way of Christ, let us give thanks;

We give you thanks blessed Spirit.

Gracious God,

We pray that this Lent season may bring us back to our covenant in which we love God and our neighbours as Jesus taught.

We pray that Lent may be a time for Love, truth, justice and peace

In our Parish, the community and the to the whole world In Jesus name we pray.

Amen.

Holy Communion

Throughout his Ministry, Jesus ate at tables with friends, outcasts and sinners.

In his teachings he used the table as an image of inclusivity, hospitality and God's reign.

At the last supper with his followers he initiated the mystery of Sacrament which is a sign of God's grace. Empowered by the experience of the risen Christ, we continue to enact the hopes of believers and God's concern and care for the world.

The brokenness of our world is lifted up in the bread broken. The Bloodshed of our world is remembered in the cup shared.

In the gathered grain we are brought together and grounded in God's earth.

In the fruits of the vine we are united with the groaning of all creation.

We do this at this table to remember our identity as Covenant people of God.

We receive and are sustained as the body and blood of Christ. This is our Eucharist. This is our Thanksgiving.

Prayer

Loving God, we rejoice in the gift of your grace.

Remembering Christ's life and death

Proclaiming his resurrection and waiting in hope for his coming again.

Grant, that in praise and thanksgiving, we may so offer ourselves to you.

That our lives declare the mystery of Faith.

Christ has died

Christ has risen

Christ will come again

Send O God your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts That those that share this loaf and cup may be the body of Christ

Light, life, and love in the world.

In this hope and as your people, we praise you.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ.

In the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most Holy, now and forever,

Amen.

On the night before he died, as Jesus ate with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it and gave it to them saying:

Take, eat. This is my body given for you. Each time you do this, remember me.

That same night, Jesus also took a cup and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends saying,

Drink. This cup poured out for you is the promise of God.

Whenever you drink it, remember me.

We remember Jesus' death and celebrate his resurrection.

We wait with hope on his coming again,

To bring Peace and Justice to earth, As we proclaim the mystery of our Faith.

(Bread and wine is served)

Prayer after Communion

For the bread we have eaten, for the wine we have tasted, For the life we have received, we thank you Lord.

Grant that what we have done and have been given here.

Grant that what we have done and have been given here, May so put its mark on us.

That it may remain always in our hearts.

Grant that we may grow in Christian love and understanding, And that ours may be lives of Faithful action.

In Jesus name we pray,

Amen.

Offering Prayer

(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.)

In the name and in the spirit of Jesus, we bring our gifts to you, O God. Help us to give with them a ready mind, a willing Spirit and a joyful heart.

We present these offerings that they may be used to extend your liberating reign. With them we offer our varied ministries that each of us may be part of your answer to the cries o the world, In Jesus' name we pray,

Amen.

Notices

Hymn To God Be The Glory H&P 463

 To God be the glory, great things he has done So loved he the world that he gave us his Son, Who yielded his life in atonement for sin, And opened the life-gate that all may go in:

Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the earth hear his voice!
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord!
Let the people rejoice!
O come to the Father, through Jesus the Son:
And give him the glory - great things he has done!

- O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, To every believer the promise of God! And every offender who truly believes, That moment from Jesus a pardon receives:
- Great things he has taught us, great things he has done,
 And great our rejoicing through Jesus the Son:
 But purer, and higher, and greater will be
 Our wonder, our rapture, when Jesus we see:

 Frances Jane van Alstyne (1820-1915)alt.

Benediction

Go forth remembering who you are and to whom you belong Go gladly into the world Be led with the Love of God Go forth for the Love of God is yours to share The peace of Christ is yours to extend As a member of the Kingdom of God The Power of the Holy Spirit is yours to offer.

The Grace

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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