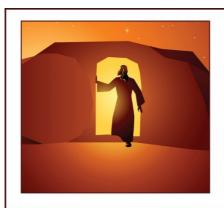


Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 6 February 2022 Epiphany 5

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



"Happy are we who have work to do"

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

6 February 2022 Epiphany 5

Leaders:

Rev Setaita Taumoepeau K Veikune, Philip Garside

Organ: Colin Scarf Guitar: Heather Garside

Welcome, Introduction & Safety briefing

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.

Hymn: In Christ there is no East or West. H&P 758(i) adapted

- In Christ there is no east or west,
 In him no south or north,
 But one great fellowship of love
 Throughout the whole wide earth.
- In him shall true hearts everywhere
 Their high communion find,
 His service is the golden cord
 Close binding humankind.
- Join hands, then, people of the faith, Whate'er your race may be.
 All children of the living God are surely kin to me.
- In Christ now meet both east and west, in him meet south and north.
 All Christlike souls are one in him throughout the whole wide earth.

Opening Prayer

Gentle yet powerful,
You are such a gracious Host,
Lord God of all creation,
You are here in this place now;
we stand here to worship you,
your Spirit is here with us,
Speak to us this hour
so that we might become makers of your peace
in our homes, communities and the whole world.
In your gentleness guide us.

Amen.

Song by 10am Singing Group: Down to the River to Pray.

(Traditional/Gospel) Adapted by: Alison Krauss

Prayer of Approach: Prayer of Confession and Approach

O God, we approach you with hesitation and ambivalence: we confess to hardness of heart, poverty of spirit and weariness of soul.

We have resisted your grace, depending instead on our own virtues.

We have rejected your laws, following instead the desires of our own hearts.

We live at some distance from the life-giving mercy that would renew us.

Hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken.

Draw near to us and grant us the peace of communion with you and all your people.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord...

(Silence)

Words of Assurance:

Hear now these words of assurance:

"Come unto me," Jesus says,

"All of you who labour and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

For my yoke is easy,
And my burden is light."

Let us hear the good news of God's gracious invitation. Let us receive the gift of abundant life. Amen.

Round led by Heather and Philip

Happy are we who have work to do

Can also be sung as a round in two parts

Philip Garside



Story Time

Bible reading: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11 The Message

Resurrection:

15 1-2 Friends, let me go over the Message with you one final time – this Message that I proclaimed and that you made your own; this Message on which you took your stand and by which your life has been saved. (I'm assuming, now, that your belief was the real thing and not a passing fancy, that you're in this for good and holding fast.)

3-9 The first thing I did was place before you what was placed so emphatically before me: that the Messiah died for our sins, exactly as Scripture tells it; that he was buried; that he was raised from death on the third day, again exactly as Scripture says; that he presented himself alive to Peter, then to his closest followers, and later to more than five hundred of his followers all at the same time, most of them still around (although a few have since died); that he then spent time with James and the rest of those he commissioned to represent him; and that he finally presented himself alive to me. It was fitting that I bring up the rear. I don't deserve to be included in that inner circle, as you well know, having spent all those early years trying my best to stamp God's church right out of existence.

10-11 But because God was so gracious, so very generous, here I am. And I'm not about to let his grace go to waste. Haven't I worked hard trying to do more than any of the others? Even then, my work didn't amount to all

that much. It was God giving me the work to do, God giving me the energy to do it. So whether you heard it from me or from those others, it's all the same: We spoke God's truth and you entrusted your lives.

Sermon

Hymn: He Came Singing Love. AA 59

- 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.
- 4. 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.

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, in your mercy," please respond with: "hear our prayer."

Lord's Prayer [Sung] WOV 676

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

(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.)

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

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

Benediction

Go from here to be the people of God: go in the knowledge and love of God to tell the good news of a new covenant. With God in our hearts, we will live Christ's reign of peace and justice.

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* United Church of Canada; Philomena Nziramasanga, *Let Us Pray*, Janet Nelson 1999; Philip Garside.

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