



Wesley Methodist Church

75 Taranaki Street

Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 11 May 2025

4th Sunday of Easter

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



“Hear and follow”

Worship Leader- Kolosaini Taulata

Living God’s Love – Acting for the Common Good

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!

Welcome & Introduction

Call to Worship

Come, let us gather, people of
God. God is offering us a
resting place, a place of
belonging, a place to be
restored and revived.

Come, let us find ourselves at home here in this love.

Come, let us worship together.

Prayer of Invocation

O Shepherd of all who put their trust in you, restore our
souls in this time of worship, for we are tired and needy.
Lead us by still waters, on paths of righteousness. Comfort
us in death's dark valley and take away our fears. Feed us
and anoint us with your goodness and mercy in this time
together, so that when we part, we shall not doubt your
continuing presence. Amen.

Lighting the Candle

We light this candle as a sign of God's light in our lives.

As we light this candle, we offer our hearts to God.

Hymn: H&P 45 – The great love of God

1. The great love of God
Is revealed in the Son,
Who came to this earth
To redeem everyone.

2. That love, like a stream
Flowing clear to the sea,
Makes clean every heart
That from sin would be free.

3. it binds the whole world,
Every barrier it breaks,
The hills it lays low,
And the mountains it shakes.

4. it's yours, it is ours,
O how lavishly given!
The pearl of great price,
And the treasure of heaven.

Call to Confession

Before the throne of God, we are fully known. We cannot hide our intentions or our actions from God. Before we can truly hear or accept the promises and commission of God, we need to remove the barriers. Let us confess our resistance to the message of salvation and our tendency to hoard for ourselves what we have received.

Prayer of Confession

O God of Abraham and Sarah, we have listened without hearing and heard your words without understanding. We have understood without heeding or following in your way. We have pretended to follow while our hearts were far from you. Heal the divisions within our lives, so we may relate with integrity to one another and to you. Amen.

Assurance of Forgiveness

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow us through all our lives. God grants salvation for all eternity and claims us day by day. Let us walk as children of light, who rejoice in the Shepherd's loving guidance, and show gratitude for springs of living water. Amen.

Ministry of the Word

Psalm 23

1 The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing. 2 He makes me lie down in green pastures, he leads me beside quiet waters, 3 he refreshes my soul. He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake. 4 Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil, for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me. 5 You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies. You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows. 6 Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my life, and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

John 10:22-30

22 Then came the Festival of Dedication at Jerusalem. It was winter, 23 and Jesus was in the temple courts walking in Solomon's Colonnade.

24 The Jews who were there gathered around him, saying, "How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly."

25 Jesus answered, "I did tell you, but you do not believe. The works I do in my Father's name testify about me, 26 but you do not believe because you are not my sheep. 27 My sheep listen to my voice; I know them, and they follow me. 28 I give them eternal life, and they shall never perish; no one will snatch them out of my hand. 29 My Father, who has given them to me, is greater than all; no one can snatch them out of my Father's hand. 30 I and the Father are one."

Introducing the theme - *Hear and follow*

John 10:27: 'My sheep hear my voice, and I know them, and they follow me'.

Hymn: H&P 70 – The Lord's my Shepherd

- | | |
|---|---|
| 1. The Lord's my Sheperd, I'll not
want;
He makes me down to lie
In pastures green; he leadeth
me
The quiet waters by. | For thou art with me, and thy
rod
And staff me comfort still. |
| 2. My soul he doth restore again,
And me to walk doth make
Within the paths of
righteousness,
E'en for his own name's sake. | 4. My table thou hast furnished
In presence of my foes;
My head thou dost with oil anoint,
And my cup overflows. |
| 3. Yea, though I walk in death's
dark vale,
Yet will I fear no ill;
Scottish Psalter 1650 | 5. Goodness and mercy all my life
Shall surely follow me, And in
God's house for evermore
My Dwelling-place shall be |

Hymn: H&P 257 – How sweet the name of Jesus sounds

1. How sweet the name of
Jesus sounds
in a believer's ear!
It soothes his sorrows,
heals his wounds,
And drives away his fear.
2. It makes the wounded
spirit whole,
and calms the troubled
breast;
'Tis manna to the hungry
soul,
And to the weary, rest.
3. Dear name – the rock on
which I build,
My shield and hiding –
place,
My never – failing
treasury, filled
With boundless stores of
grace!
4. Jesus! My Shepherd,
brother, friend,
My prophet, priest, and
king,
My Lord, my Life, my
Way, my End,
Accept the praise I bring.
5. Weak is the effort of my
heart,
And cold my warmest
thought;
But when I see thee as
thou art,
I'll praise thee as I ought.
6. Till then I would thy love
proclaim
With every fleeting
breath;
And may the music of thy
name
Refresh my soul in death.

John Newton 1725-807

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

The peace of God be with you

And also with you. (Share the peace with each other)

Notices Sharing Joys, sorrows and concerns

Prayers of Intercession

Good shepherd of your sheep, your flock is from every tribe and nation: hear our prayers for the people of the world. We pray for leaders of nations and all who govern; for all peoples suffering from famine, war and disease. Bring new life to all who live in soul-destroying circumstances. Loving God, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Good shepherd of your sheep, and Saviour of your flock, you search for the lost and rejoice to bring them home: hear our prayers for your church, its clergy and people. We pray for evangelists, pastors, and teachers; for all whose lives are a witness to your gospel. Open our ears to hear your voice and let us follow where you lead. Loving God, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of your sheep, you know your flock and call us each by name: hear our prayers for the community in which we live. We pray for all whom we love and those with whom we share our daily lives; for the homeless, the hungry and the unwanted. Send us to be shepherds to your lost and lonely ones. Loving God, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd of your sheep, you go with your flock on the darkest and most dangerous paths: hear our prayers for all in need. We pray for those in places of grief, despair and loneliness. For those who are sick or in pain, those who are confused and infirm. Help us to tend to the wounds of those who suffer. Loving God, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Good Shepherd, lamb of God, you guide your flock to the waters of eternal life where none shall perish. Hear our prayers for those who have found their rest in you. We remember those of this Parish who have gone before us. May we follow you in life, so that in death we may come with the saints of every nation and tribe to the place of everlasting gladness that you prepare for us. Loving God, in your mercy – **hear our prayer.**

Lord's Prayer (said together)

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tou Ingoa
Kia tae mai tou
rangatiratanga.
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 rangatiratanga,
te kaha,
me te kororia,
Ake, ake, ake.
Āmine.

Offering *(we also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment
and online banking)*

Blessing of offering (said together)

Loving God, whose promises to us find
their fulfilment in Jesus Christ, grant us
to walk in the way of peace, giving
thanks for every blessing you send.
Accept the work of our hands and all
the gifts we dedicate to your service.
Amen.

Hymn: H&P 528 – Jesus lover of my soul

1. Jesus, lover of my soul,
let me to thy bosom fly,
while the nearer waters roll,
while the tempest still is high;
hide me, O my Savior, hide,
till the storm of life is past;
safe into the haven guide,
O receive my soul at last!

2. Other refuge have I none;
hangs my helpless soul on thee;
leave, ah! leave me not alone,
still support and comfort me.
All my trust on thee is stayed,
all my help from thee I bring;
cover my defenceless head
with the shadow of thy wing.

3. Thou, O Christ, art all I want;
More than all in thee I find;
Raise the fallen, cheer the faint,
Heal the sick, and lead the blind.
Just and holy is thy name,
I am all unrighteousness;
False and full of truth and grace.

4. Plenteous grace with thee is
found,
grace to cover all my sin;
let the healing streams abound;
make and keep me pure within.
Thou of life the fountain art;
freely let me take of thee;
spring thou up within my heart,
rise to all eternity.

Charles Wesley 1707-88

Blessing

As you go from this place,
May God the Good Shepherd guide your paths with love
May Christ the Lamb of God, fill you with his peace
And may the Holy Spirit embrace you warmly, now and forevermore. Amen.

The Grace

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa, te atawhai o tō tatou Ariki o
Ihu Karaiti, me te aroha o te Atua, me te whiwhinga
tahitanga
ki te Wairua Tapu.
Amine.

Material for this service was sourced from
Gathering Let Us Pray – Janet Nelson
Refreshing Rain of the Living Word Yr C
Hymns used covered by CCLI Licence #320381
Hymns & Psalms

• • •

To keep up-to-date with services and news, visit the parish website:
<https://wesleychurch.org.nz/>

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:
<https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am>