



WESLEY WELLINGTON

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 19 October 2025

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



“Prayer enables us to hold fast to the goodness of God”

Worship Leader- Rev. Suiva’aia Te’o

***Welcome to our gathering as a community of 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!***

Welcome & Safety Briefing:

Lighting the Candle:

Leader:

As we light this candle, we remember that prayer holds us close to the heart of God.

The flame reminds us of Christ, the Light of the World, shining in our darkness, guiding our steps, and strengthening our faith.

People:

**We give thanks for the goodness of God that never fails.
Through prayer, we hold fast to His love,
trusting that nothing can separate us from His grace.**

Leader:

May this candle's light remind us always to turn to God in prayer, to cling to His promises, and to walk faithfully in His ways.

All:

Amen.

Call to Worship:

Come, people of God,
bring your weary and wary hearts.
Carry them into this place
where God joyfully receives you,
strengthens you,
and shows you that you are never alone.
Come, let us worship the God who knows and cares for us.

Prayer of Invocation:

From where does our help come?
It comes from you, O maker of heaven and earth!
**And so, we call on you to be with us here.
Hold us and keep us, now and forevermore. Amen.**

Hymn: *H&P 566 Now thank we all our God*

1. Now thank we all our God
With hearts and hands and voices
Who wondrous things has done
In whom his world rejoices
Who from our mothers' arms
Has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love
And still is ours today.
2. O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us;
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world and the next.
3. All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him who reigns
With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
Whom earth and heaven adore,
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore.

Martin Rinkart (1586-1649)
Tr. Catherine Winkworth (1827-78)

Prayer of Confession:

At times, we go into our days
going through the motions,
making all the right noises,

doing what is expected of us
only somewhere along the way we lost our hearts—
the wholehearted, open and alive version.
Forgive us, God, for our times of disconnection and numbness.

Words of Assurance:

Jesus restores and enlarges hearts,
pouring out our grace, forgiveness, and love by the Holy Spirit.
Open up, trust and receive what Christ has for you.

Story for the kids: *The boy who kept knocking*

Scripture Reading:

Luke 18:1-8 (NIV)

18 Then Jesus told his disciples a parable to show them that they should always pray and not give up. ² He said: “In a certain town there was a judge who neither feared God nor cared what people thought. ³ And there was a widow in that town who kept coming to him with the plea, ‘Grant me justice against my adversary.’

⁴ “For some time he refused. But finally, he said to himself, ‘Even though I don’t fear God or care what people think, ⁵ yet because this widow keeps bothering me, I will see that she gets justice, so that she won’t eventually come and attack me!’”

⁶ And the Lord said, “Listen to what the unjust judge says. ⁷ And will not God bring about justice for his chosen ones, who cry out to him day and night? Will he keep putting them off? ⁸ I tell you; he will see that they get justice, and quickly. However, when the Son of Man comes, will he find faith on the earth?”

Hymn: *H&P 278 Ye servants of God your Master proclaim*

1. Ye servants of God, your Master proclaim
And publish abroad his wonderful name

The name all victorious of Jesus extol
His kingdom is glorious, and rules overall.

2. God ruleth on high, almighty to save,
And still, he is nigh, his presence we have.
The great congregation his triumph shall sing,
Ascribing salvation to Jesus our King.
3. Salvation to God who sits on the throne!
Let all cry aloud, and honour the Son
The praises of Jesus the angels proclaim,
Fall down on their faces and worship the Lamb.
4. Then let us adore, and give him his right:
All glory and power, all wisdom and might,
All honour and blessing, with angels above,
And thanks never ceasing, and infinite love.

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

Reflection:

Hymn: *H&P 559 What a Friend we have in Jesus*

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,
All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry
Everything to God in prayer!

2. Have we trials and temptations,
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged:
Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful
Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness:
Take it to the Lord in prayer.

3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,
Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Saviour, still our refuge
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?
Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In his arms he'll take and shield thee,
Thou wilt find a solace there.

Joseph Medlicott Scriven (1819-86)

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

Let's greet each other saying: **'God's peace be with you.'**

Notices

Responsive Prayer of Intercession

Leader: O God, we pour out our hearts to you.
You know the joys and sorrows, the fears and hopes we carry.
We bring before you the people and situations on our hearts
today—
those close to us, and those throughout the world.

All: *Lord, in your mercy — hear our prayer.*

Leader: We remember those who are ill, those who are grieving, those who feel lonely, forgotten, or afraid.
Bring them your comfort and peace.

All: *Lord, in your mercy — hear our prayer.*

Leader: We pray for communities broken by conflict, for nations torn by war, disaster, or injustice.
We ask for leaders with wisdom and courage, and for your justice to roll down like a mighty river.

All: *Lord, in your mercy — hear our prayer.*

Leader: Strengthen the weak, guide the lost, and give hope to the despairing.
Plant seeds of love and healing in every place of pain.

All: *Lord, in your mercy — hear our prayer.*

Leader: Keep our hearts open and alive, O God.
Save us from indifference.
Make our hearts beat in time with your heart—
willing to feel the world's pain,
ready to respond with compassion,
and brave enough to act where we can.

All: *Lord, in your mercy — hear our prayer.*

Leader: Remind us that though the arc of the universe is long, it bends toward justice and peace.
Give us persistence in prayer, and faith to trust your goodness, until your kingdom fully comes.

All: *Lord, 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 rangatira-tanga.

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 rangatira-tanga,

te kaha,

me te kororia,

Ake, ake, ake. Āmine.

Offering Prayer: (said together)

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

Gracious God, you love justice and generosity.

We want our hearts and our giving to reflect your ways and your heart.

Bless and receive the gifts that we offer.

Amen.

Hymn: *H&P 776 Make me a channel of your peace*

1. **MAKE** me a channel of your peace
Where there is hatred, let me bring your love,
Where there is injury, your pardon Lord.
And where there's doubt, true faith in you.

Refrain: *O Master, grant that I may never seek
 So much to be consoled as to console.
 To be understood as to understand.
 To be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

2. Make me a channel of your peace.
Where there's despair in life, let me bring hope.
Where there is darkness, only light.
And where there's sadness, ever joy:

Refrain: *O Master, grant that I may never seek
 So much to be consoled as to console.
 To be understood as to understand.
 To be loved, as to love with all my soul.*

3. Make me a channel of your peace
It is in pardoning that we are pardoned,
In giving to all people that we receive,
And in dying that we're born to eternal life.

based on a traditional prayer

Benediction & Dismissal:

“Go now, beloved of God, strengthened in prayer and filled with hope.

May the God who is always good hold you fast in His love.

May the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, who prayed for us even on the cross, be your comfort and strength.

May the Holy Spirit breathe in you a life of persistence, justice, and peace.

And as you go, may your life itself become a prayer — a song of hope and a channel of God’s goodness to the world.

Go in peace, and may the blessing of God Almighty, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit, be with you and remain with you always. Amen.”

The Grace

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

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