

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

Combined Service and Holy Communion Sunday 1st June 2025

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

"What Must I Do to Be Saved?"



Woship Leader - Suiva'aia Te'o

Welcome to our gathering as a community of faith

We are a multi-raicial 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

Introit

Tongan Choir

Call to Worship

The Lord reigns; let the earth be glad.

Let every heart awaken to joy.

Clouds and thick darkness surround the Holy One.

We come seeking light in mystery.

Righteousness and justice are the foundation of God's throne.

We stand on sacred ground.

The mountains melt like wax before the Lord.

We worship with awe and wonder.

The heavens proclaim God's righteousness.

All creation sings God's praise.

Light dawns for the righteous,

And joy for the upright in heart.

Rejoice in the Lord, O you who are faithful!

We give thanks to God's holy name.

Opening Prayer

God of freedom, you meet us in the chaos.

You break open our prisons of fear.

Christ our light, you hear our midnight prayers.

You sing with us in the dark.

Spirit of truth, you unsettle the powerful.

You lift up the ones without voice.

Holy One, you call us to be bold.

You give us courage to speak and stay. Amen

We light this candle for the Spirit who frees, breaking chains with whispers of grace.

We light it for voices that sing in the dark, bearing witness in midnight's silence.

We light it for lives transformed by compassion, and for the light that finds us in our prisons. Amen.

Hymn: Love divine all love excelling H&P 267

1.Love divine all loves excelling
Joy of heaven to earth come down
Fix in us thy humble dwelling
All thy faithful mercies crown
Jesus, 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

Prayer of Approach

We come, O God, from noisy streets and restless hearts.

We come seeking your stillness.

We carry our questions, our weariness, our fears.

We long to be met with grace.

You are the One who hears our songs at midnight.

You are near, even in chains.

You see the woman no one names.

You lift up the ones the world forgets.

You shatter walls not with violence, but with truth.

You free the imprisoned and the imprisoner alike.

Call us again to your justice and joy.

Draw us into your radiant light.

Words of Assurance

Even in our darkest night, God is near.

The Spirit breaks chains and opens hearts.

Christ speaks peace where fear once ruled.

We are seen, we are freed, we are loved. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

Orlando Silifou Te Waari Mills, son of Jordan Mills and Victoria Apitanga Palu.

10am Singing Group

MINISTRY OF THE WORD

Acts 16:16-34 Samoan

John 17:20-26 Tongan

Reflection

Rev Suiva'aia Te'o

Affirmation of Faith

Let us declare our faith in God, in the words of the Affirmation. We are not alone; we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our Judge and our Hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone. Thanks be to God.

HYMN: O for a thousand tongues to sing H&P 744

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

1. English

O for a thousand tongues to sing My great Redeemer's praise, The glories of my God and King, The triumphs of God's grace!

2. Samoan

Lo'u Matai ma lo'u Atua Fesoasoani mai E talai atu i le lalolagi Lou suafa mamalu.

3. Tongan

Ko Sisu 'a e Huafa lahi, 'O 'ikai hano ua: ''kai ha taha ke tatau, Ha taha ke kakunga.

4. Fijian

Sa vosa ga, qai reki mai Na yalo vutugu; Na mataboko, era rai; Na bale era tu.

5. English

He breaks the power of cancelled sin, He sets the prisoner free, His blood can make the foulest clean, His blood availed for me.

Prayers of Intercession

For every nation caught in struggle, for those chained by war, greed, or fear, for prophets silenced and voices ignored—God, in your mercy, set your people free.

For leaders tempted by comfort and power, for systems that profit from pain, for the courage to choose justice over ease—God, in your mercy, set your people free.

For your Church when it hides from the truth, for disciples locked in comfort and fear,

for a gospel that sings even in prison—

God, in your mercy, set your people free.

For our towns and neighbourhoods in need, for those unseen in the rush of our lives, for open hearts and acts of compassion—

God, in your mercy, set your people free.

For the sick, the grieving, the hurting, for those crying out in silence or shame, for healing that touches both soul and body—

God, in your mercy, set your people free.

For those who have walked into your light, for memories held and hope still rising, for your joy to dawn like morning—

God, in your mercy, set your people free. Amen.

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 aianei 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, āke. Āmine. **Anthem** Samoan

THE MINISTRY OF THE SACRAMENT

We many as we are, are one body in Christ.

If we do not love our brothers and sisters whom we have seen, how can we love God whom we have not seen?

The Peace of God be with you

And God's Peace be with you

(Please share the sign of peace with each other)

Offering

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

Even in chains, the Spirit sings.

Even in prison, the gospel moves.

Your free will offering will now be received.

Blessing of Offering (said together)

May these gifts shake the ground with love.

May they bring light into every dark place.

May they free what is bound and lift what is low.

May they serve your justice, O God. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord

Let us give thanks to God

It is our joy to give God thanks and praise

With all your people in heaven and on earth we give you thanks for Jesus Christ, through whom all things were made.

Who in the fullness of time became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth.

Who in obedience suffered death on the cross, and was raised in triumph that we might have life. Therefore, we worship and praise your Glorious name.

Holy, holy, holy, God of power and might. Heaven and earth are full of your glory, hosanna in the highest. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread and after giving thanks broke it and gave it to his disciples saying, "Take, eat this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me'. In the same way he took the cup after supper and said, 'This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me'.

Glory to you, Lord Christ: Your death we proclaim. Your resurrection we celebrate. Your coming we await. Amen.

Prayer to the Holy Spirit

Come Holy Spirit, that these gifts of bread and wine may be to us the bread of life and the cup of salvation.

Bind us into one body, that we may grow into the fullness of Christ who is the head. **Amen.**

Breaking the Bread

The bread which we break is a sharing in the body of Christ.

The wine which we pour, is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

Behold the Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world.

The Invitation

Draw near in faith and take this holy sacrament in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts with thanksgiving.

(All are welcome to receive the Sacrament. You may stand or kneel)

HOLY COMMUNION

Prayer After Communion (said together)

Lord Jesus Christ,
We thank you with all our heart for your mercy and grace.
Grant us now and in the days to come a living hope in you; and as we serve you in the world, help us look and work for that day when at your name every knee shall bow and every tongue confess you Lord,

to the glory of God. Amen

Hymn: Take our bread we ask you WOV 565

Refrain: Take our bread, we ask you,

Take our hearts, we love you,

Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.

Take our bread, we ask you, Take our hearts, we love you,

Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.

We are yours.

1. Yours as we stand at the table you set,

Yours as we eat the bread our hearts can't forget.

We are the signs of your life with us yet;

We are yours; we are yours.

Refrain: Take our bread, we ask you,

Take our hearts, we love you,

Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.

Take our bread, we ask you, Take our hearts, we love you,

Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.

We are yours

2. Yours as we stand at the table you set.

Yours as we drink the wine our hearts can't forget

We are the signs of your life with us yet,

We are yours; we are yours.

Refrain: Take our bread, we ask you,

Take our hearts, we love you,

Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.

Take our bread, we ask you,
Take our hearts, we love you,
Take our lives, oh Father, we are yours.
We are yours.

Joseph Wise 1967 v.2 Colin Alexander Gibson 1933

Benediction & Sending Forth

Go now, with songs still rising in the night.
Walk free, even if your feet still carry wounds.
Speak truth, even when it unsettles power.
Stay when staying is grace; go when going is love.
Welcome the jailor, the stranger, the forgotten.
For Christ walks with you, and the Spirit sets you free.

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.

Hymn: Mā te Mārie

Mā te Mārie a te Atua Tātou katoa e tiaki Māna ano e whakaū O tatou ngākau ki te pai

Mā te Atua Tamaiti ra Mā te Wairua Tapu hoki Rātou, Atua kotahi nei Tātou katoa e whakapai Āmine.

Everyone's welcome to the hall for refreshments

Materials for this service was sourced from Worship at Hand
Copyright @Philip Garside
L3 Words for Worship
Gathering
MCNZ – HC liturgy
Hymns used are covered by CCLI License #230381