



Wesley Methodist Church

75 Taranaki Street

Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 20 July 2025

6th Sunday after Pentecost

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer



Generosity and Hospitality

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
Sunday 20 July 2025
6th Sunday after Pentecost
Leader: Shelly Rao Organist: Vivien Chiu

Acknowledgment

As we gather, we acknowledge Māori, te tangata whenua, the people of this land, and Te Tiriti o Waitangi, [the Treaty of Waitangi] that established our nation, recognising mana [sovereignty] and rangatiratanga [chieftainship] as the right foundation to govern our people with justice and mercy. We seek to honour this commitment in our lives and in our worship.

Welcome & Introduction

A Call to Worship (Response in bold words)

God calls us here to worship.

We carry many worries and are distracted by many things,
but here, in this time and place,
we are invited to set them aside, to be fully present.

Let's pause and take a deep breath.

We remember who we are:

We are the body of Christ.

We remember whose we are:

We are God's beloved children.

We remember our chief purpose:

To glorify and enjoy God forever.

Let us worship God!

Lighting the Candle (said together)

God of Wisdom, still our hearts and silence our distractions
so that we can be fully present to your Word.

Through the power of your Holy Spirit,
let us hear what you have to say to us today,
and give us the courage to listen and respond to your call.
In Jesus' name. **Amen.**

Opening Prayer (said together)

Whakataka te hau ki te uru

Whakataka te hau ki te tonga

Kia mākinakina ki uta

Kia mātaratara ki tai

E hī ake ana te atakura

He tio, he huka, he hau hū

Tihei mauri ora!

Hymn: Give thanks with a grateful heart

Henry Smith 1978

1. Give thanks with a grateful heart
Give thanks to the Holy One;
Give thanks, because He's given
Jesus Christ, His Son. (2x)
2. And now let the weak say, I am strong,
Let the poor say, I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us. (2x)

Give thanks!

Prayer of Approach (said together in bold)

Gracious Lord, in dying you took on the pain of the whole of creation.

Its labour pains became yours as you struggled on the cross to bring the new kingdom to birth.

Your arms on the cross embrace the whole world in reconciling love,
offering healing to our polluted planet and forgiveness to us,
the polluters

Your resurrection life greens our world with the promise of a new spring

**May your name be glorified in our lives,
and may we reflect your goodness and grace.**

Renew us we pray, so that we might renew our world. Amen.

Words of Assurance (said together)

This good news will not be taken away:

We are seen as God's beloved children,
holy and blameless, reconciled to God through Jesus Christ.
Let us live into this good news: we are forgiven!

Introducing the theme / Story Time

Hīmene: E te Ariki

E te Ariki whakarongo mai ra kia ma tou

E te Ariki titiro mai ra kia ma tou

Tenei matou o tamariki

E whakapono ana matou ki a koe

Aue!

Aue!

Aue!

Aue!

Te Matua te Tamaiti Wairua tapu e

Te Matua te Tamaiti Wairua tapu e

(Sing three times)

Oh Lord,
listen to us
Oh Lord,
look at us
This is us,
your children,
we believe, in you
The Father, the Son
and the Holy Spirit

Readings

“Like a Green Olive Tree” – A Response to Psalm

52

(poem by Malcolm Guite)

Of all your loving God has done for you,

Of all his many mercies on your soul,

Surely the greatest was his planting you

Like a green olive tree, secure and whole,

To grow within his holy house forever.

Be rooted once again in the rich soil

Of his deep love, and know that none can sever,
No power on earth can ever separate
You from the steadfast love of Christ your saviour.

So let the tyrants boast. Their desperate
Endeavours to maintain their Godless power
Will come to nothing soon, evaporate

Like morning mist before the sun. The hour
Is coming and has come. Their time is up,
But you will flourish in God's house forever.

Luke 10: 38 -42 (New Revised Standard Version Updated Edition)

Now as they went on their way, he entered a certain village where a woman named Martha welcomed him. She had a sister named Mary, who sat at Jesus' feet and listened to what he was saying.

But Martha was distracted by her many tasks, so she came to him and asked, "Lord, do you not care that my sister has left me to do all the work by myself? Tell her, then, to help me."

But the Lord answered her, "Martha, Martha, you are worried and distracted by many things, but few things are needed—indeed only one. Mary has chosen the better part, which will not be taken away from her."

Reflection: *Need of one thing!*

Hymn: Be Thou my vision (H&P 378)

Versifier: Eleanor H. Hull; Translator: Mary E. Byrne (1927)

1. Be Thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
Naught be all else to me, save that Thou art;
Thou my best thought, by day or by night;
Waking or sleeping, Thy presence my light.

2. Be Thou my wisdom, and Thou my true Word;
I ever with Thee and Thou with me, Lord;
Thou my great Father and I, Thy true son;
Thou in me dwelling, and I with Thee one.

3. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise;
Thou mine inheritance, now and always;
Thou and Thou only, first in my heart;
O King of glory, my treasure Thou art.

4. O King of glory, my victory won;
Rule and reign in me 'til Thy will be done;
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall;
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

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

Notices

*Sharing Joys, Things we are Grateful for Prayers for Sorrows
& Concerns*

Prayers of Intercession

Please respond – **in bold.**

God, our loving father, you created us in love,
and we are grateful for your continued loving care for each of
us,
and for all of creation.

Help us embrace the invitation to sit at your feet and grow as
disciples of Jesus Christ.

**We give thanks for the gifts of the present, and for your
presence with us.**

We thank you for the food that sustains our bodies
and for the fellowship we share with others that sustains our
souls.

We give thanks for the work of so many people
who have had a hand in the food that we eat.

**We thank you for farmers and harvesters, for factory workers
and grocery store clerks, and we pray for their flourishing.**

We also pray for those who are hungry, for places where resources have been ravaged by natural and humanitarian disasters.

We pray especially for the people of Gaza - for peace in the region,
desperately needed assistance, and healing of the land and the people,
so that houses can again be built, and fields planted.

We thank you for the beauty of your created world,
and the creative spark that flows in each of us.

**We thank you for the time we have for rest and restoration
and recognise that many people do not have the same.**

We pray for those who are working all hours,
expending energy and time to meet basic needs,
and who still don't have enough to make ends meet.

We pray for a world that enables all people the time and resources

not only to meet basic needs, but to exercise their gifts of creativity and skill.

**We thank you for your unending concern for justice and
liberation for all people.**

We enjoy so many privileges that it can be easy to forget
that so many continue to live under the weight of unjust
systems and policies.

None of us is free until we are all free.

We pray for leaders in our communities and throughout the world to be inspired by your compassion and wisdom.

Bring a change of heart and action where that is needed, and give us the courage to speak and act boldly to call our leaders and our community towards your beloved community and the healing of creation.

There are so many ways we are distracted from what is most important.

Centre us in your Holy Spirit and lead us to abide in relationship with you.

Thank you for hearing our prayers, and for inviting us to bring our joys, cares and burdens to you.

Loving God, we offer these prayers to you, including those that remain on our hearts, and those known only to you, in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying, “The Lord’s Prayer...”

Lord’s Prayer

**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

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

In Christ, we have received the better part,
which will not be taken away.
We offer our gifts with joy and gratitude.
Freely we have received; now freely let us give.

Blessing of Offering (said together)

**Loving God,
we give thanks for your grace
and provision in our lives.
Use these gifts to meet the physical
and spiritual needs of our community and the world.
May they witness to your love and care for all people,
as we offer our time and energy to do the same.
In Jesus' name we pray, Amen**

Hymn: Jesu, Jesu, Fill us with your Love (H&P 145)

Tune: CHEREPONI from Ghana. Words: T.S. Colvin (1925-2000)

Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu,

Fill us with your love,

Show us how to serve

The neighbours we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them.
2. Neighbours are rich folk and poor,
Neighbours are black folk and white
Neighbours are nearby and far away.
3. These are the ones we should serve,
These are the ones we should love.
All these are neighbours to us and you.
4. Kneel at the feet of our friends,
Silently washing their feet
This is the way we should live with you.

Blessing

Many tasks await us and distractions abound.
Having been fed by the Word of God
and refreshed and inspired by the Holy Spirit,
we go from this place, renewed by our call to witness to

and share God's love in a world that so desperately needs it.
As we do so, may the grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ,
the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with
us,
now and always. **Amen.**

The Grace (said together)

**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. Āmine.**

Material for this service was sourced from:

L3 - Liturgy, Learning & (purposeful) Life Worship Resources,
MediaCom Ed Inc, Aust.

Words for Worship, MediaCom.

Let Us Pray, Janet Nelson, HarperCollins 1999.

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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>