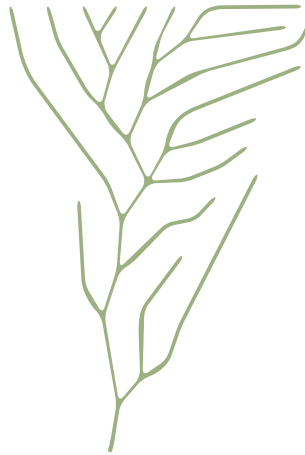




**Wesley Methodist Church
75 Taranaki Street
Wellington**

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

**Order of Service
Sunday 28th September 2025**



Kākāriki Green

Worship Leader: Rev Joeli Ducivaki

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia
Welcome to this House of Prayer
Kia ora koutou katoa — Talofa Lava
Malo e lelei — Bula Vinaka — Greetings to you all!

We are a multi-racial Christian community: Methodist in
affiliation – Ecumenical in intention Diverse in theology –
Inclusive in outreach.

Kiaora Tatou, Talofa lava, Malo e Lelei, Greetings and Bula Vinaka

Welcome to this worship.

Safety Brief & Notices

Introduction

Light of the Candle

Leader: Darkness brings silence and chaos
the weary silences to an uncharted water

All: We need to see, to judge, to decide

Leader: And there was light, reflective, decisive and directed
But help us to see clearly and truly

All: We need to see, to judge, to decide

Leader: Lead, Guide and talk to us
To truly see you and you came as light to show, lead and
guide

All: You are Christ the light and beacon

Call to Worship

Leader: As the koru unfurls on the ponga and green leaves return to
the kotukutuku we celebrate the greening of the Earth, the
greening of community,

All: the greening of our lives.

Leader: Springtime brings a profusion of flowers,
but most of all it brings a new greening to the Earth.
May this greening be made real in us and through us

All: in this time of celebration, lament, and reflection.

A Prayer for Contentment

Leader: God, I feel rich beyond measure in a rainforest, or wetland, on a mountain or wild headland. I feel blessed and contented, held in the embrace of your love.

Yet I am surrounded by voices seeking to sway me, telling me there is more to life than this.

Their good news is a lie, designed to erode my peace within.

Their constant babble is sometimes gentle and seductive, other times loud and strident:

All: ***“Buy this, Buy that.” “Buy now, don’t miss out.”
“You need more, what you have is not enough,” “it’s less than what you deserve,”
“it’s out of date” “you’re out of date.” “Upgrade now!”
“Your life is not yet complete.”***

Leader: O Gentle Guide, give me the wisdom and strength to resist their crusade the forest, drain the wetland, to pursue their good life.

All: **May I always trust in your life-giving pathway of simplicity and sharing. In Jesus’s name we pray.
Amen**

Hymn – How great Thou art (CMP) Carl Boberg

1. O Lord my God, when I in awesome wonder,
Consider all the worlds thy hands have made;
I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder,
Thy power throughout the universe displayed:

Refrain:

Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!
Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee:
How great thou art! How great thou art!

2. When through the woods and forest glades I wander
And hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees,
When I look down from lofty mountain grandeur,
And hear the brook and feel the gentle breeze:

3. And when I think how God, his Son not sparing,
Sent him to die, I scarce can take it in;
That on the cross, my burdens gladly bearing,
He bled and died to take away my sin:
4. When Christ shall come with shouts of acclamation,
To take me home, what joy will fill my heart!
Then I will bow in humble adoration,
And there proclaim, my God, how great thou art!

A Prayer for Daylight Saving

Leader: God, in this time of daylight saving, help us to use this extra hour wisely.
May it be a gift that enables us to deepen our relationship with the Earth.
As we move our clocks forward one hour, through your guiding light lead us on green pathways, by waters, still or flowing.
Turn us in gratitude towards the setting sun and the gentle folding of each day.
May this be a quiet time. A time for renewal and healing for ourselves and for your beloved creation.

All: Amen



A Prayer for Climate Justice

Leader: Where indigenous people are driven from their land for drilling and mining, and customary fishing grounds are threatened:

All: let justice roll down like a river

Leader: Where the elderly poor are exposed to heat waves without air-conditioned shelter,
and adequate health services:

All: let justice roll down like a river

Leader: Where the rural poor live on marginal land increasingly challenged by drought and fire:

All: let justice roll down like a river

Leader: Where low-lying island nations are caught in an existential battle with rising sea levels and stronger and more frequent storms:

All: let justice roll down like a river

Leader: Where young people despair about their future: let justice roll down like a river
Where communities in third world and developing nations become the victims of waste colonialism:

All: let justice roll down like a river

Leader: Where the climate crisis makes parts of the world unliveable and climate refugees desperately seek a new land to live in:

All: let justice roll down like a river. Amen

Hymn: Morning has broken, (H&P 635) *Eleanor Farjeon*

1. Morning has broken
like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken
like the first bird.
Praise for the singing!
Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing
fresh from the Word!
2. Sweet the rain's new fall
sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall
on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness
of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness
where God's feet pass.
3. Mine is the sunlight!
Mine is the morning
born of the one light
Eden saw play!
Praise with elation,

praise every morning,
God's recreation
of the new day!

A Prayer for Oceania

Leader: E te Atua, we lift to you our karakia for Oceania, our Blue Pacific continent, a place of great voyages and voyagers, travellers guided by star, wind and tide. Oceania, a place of enormous blessing.

All: Manaakitia

Leader: the tiny island nations with a big heart for whom Oceania is home.

All: Manaakitia te Moana-nui-a-Kiwa

Leader: the vast moana that nurtures and sustains us.

All: Manaakitia te whenua

Leader: that provides food and shelter.

All: Manaakitia te taiao

Leader: in which we dwell and have our being.

All: Manaakitia

Leader: whales and sea turtles.

All: Manaakitia

Leader: birds-of-paradise and iguana.

All: Manaakitia

Leader: the beautiful flowers – tagimoucia, teuila and heilala.

All: Manaakitia

Leader: coconut palm and taro.

All: Manaaki Tia

Leader: the rich biodiversity and cultures that are intertwined in Oceania.

Leader: Yet, O God, Oceania bears the unbearable weight of climate coloniality. Although contributing so little to the pollution that exacerbates the climate crisis, she

is already on the front line of its greatest impact.

All: In the corridors of global political and corporate power, she is regarded as of little worth and expendable, serving as collateral damage in the relentless pursuit of economic growth.

Leader: So, we pray for Oceania as she courageously responds to the crisis. Give her strength and wisdom to go on claiming life in the face of death.

Where Pacific leaders call for climate justice in international forums, may they be heard and may hearts and minds be moved into action.

All: Where cyclones and storms grow more intense and come more often, destroying housing, livelihoods, and community resources, may our nation be alongside those impacted with compassion and generosity.

Leader: Where land is being increasingly inundated by salt water that then destroys important crops and ruins freshwater reserves, may we be there in solidarity and love, and may their voice be our voice calling for climate action.

All: Where the ocean is suffering from acidification and warming, and coral reefs and marine life are dying, may we be there in solidarity and love, and may their voice be our voice calling for climate action.

Leader: Where health issues like Malaria are arising because of ocean water trapped on the land, may we be there in solidarity and love, and may their voice be our voice calling for climate action.

All: Where the ocean waves and fish are swollen with drift-plastic and waste from faraway shores and ships, may we be there in solidarity and love, and may their voice be our voice in calling for those who are displaced from their homes and sacred grounds.

Leader: Where rising sea levels are eroding coastlines and confidence, making communities increasingly marginal, and the future uncertain, may we be there in solidarity and love, and may their voice be our voice calling for climate action.
Where communities are needed to retreat from rising seas and relocate. Where people have become climate migrants and refugees, may there be room in our nation for them to make a new start, and may their voice be our voice calling for climate action.

**All: We pray in the name of the one who said
that in God's new future
the last will be put first.
Amen**

Readings

Prov 8:22-31

"The Lord brought me forth as the first of his works,^{[c][d]}
before his deeds of old;
²³ I was formed long ages ago,
at the very beginning, when the world came to be.
²⁴ When there were no watery depths, I was given birth,
when there were no springs overflowing with water;
²⁵ before the mountains were settled in place,
before the hills, I was given birth,
²⁶ before he made the world or its fields
or any of the dust of the earth.
²⁷ I was there when he set the heavens in place,
when he marked out the horizon on the face of the deep,
²⁸ when he established the clouds above
and fixed securely the fountains of the deep,
²⁹ when he gave the sea its boundary
so the waters would not overstep his command,
and when he marked out the foundations of the earth.
³⁰ Then I was constantly^[e] at his side.
I was filled with delight day after day,
rejoicing always in his presence,
³¹ rejoicing in his whole world
and delighting in mankind.

Col 1:15-20

¹⁵ The Son is the image of the invisible God, the firstborn over all creation. ¹⁶ For in him all things were created: things in heaven and on earth, visible and invisible, whether thrones or powers or rulers or authorities; all things have been created through him and for him. ¹⁷ He is before all things, and in him all things hold together. ¹⁸ And he is the head of the body, the church; he is the beginning and the firstborn from among the dead, so that in everything he might have the supremacy. ¹⁹ For God was pleased to have all his fullness dwell in him, ²⁰ and through him to reconcile to himself all things, whether things on earth or things in heaven, by making peace through his blood, shed on the cross.

Jn 6:41-51

⁴¹ At this the Jews there began to grumble about him because he said, “I am the bread that came down from heaven.” ⁴² They said, “Is this not Jesus, the son of Joseph, whose father and mother we know? How can he now say, ‘I came down from heaven’?”

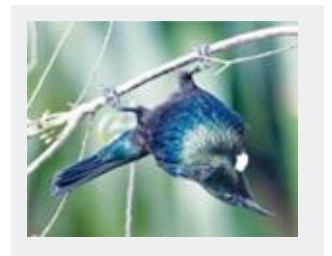
⁴³ “Stop grumbling among yourselves,” Jesus answered. ⁴⁴ “No one can come to me unless the Father who sent me draws them, and I will raise them up at the last day. ⁴⁵ It is written in the Prophets: ‘They will all be taught by God.’^[d] Everyone who has heard the Father and learned from him comes to me. ⁴⁶ No one has seen the Father except the one who is from God; only he has seen the Father. ⁴⁷ Very truly I tell you, the one who believes has eternal life. ⁴⁸ I am the bread of life. ⁴⁹ Your ancestors ate the manna in the wilderness, yet they died. ⁵⁰ But here is the bread that comes down from heaven, which anyone may eat and not die. ⁵¹ I am the living bread that came down from heaven. Whoever eats this bread will live forever. This bread is my flesh, which I will give for the life of the world.”

Hymn : For the Beauty of the Earth (H&P 333)

1. For the beauty of the earth,
for the glory of the skies,
for the love which from our birth
over and around us lies.

Refrain

Christ, our Lord, to you we raise



This, our hymn of grateful praise.

2. For the wonder of each hour
Of the day and of the night,
Hill and vale and tree and flower,
Sun and moon and stars of light, [Refrain]
3. For the joy of human love,
Brother, sister, parent, child,
Friends on earth, and friends above,
For all gentle thoughts and mild, [Refrain]
4. For yourself, best gift divine,
To the world so freely given,
Agent of God's grand design:
Peace on earth and joy in heaven, [Refrain]

Reflection – The Goodness of Creation is the Wisdom of God.

Our prayer is focused on the Mental Health Awareness Week

(inspired by Psalms 23 & 121)

*As we ask God for salvation for our souls, we seek sanity to ourselves
and others.*

Leader: Healing God, as we reflect on what boosts our mental health and well-being, we give thanks for those times you draw us again to green places, still or flowing waters, to the hills, to the beach, to places of natural wildness,

All: that we might be restored in mind and spirit.

Leader: In these holy places, O God, we are healed by beauty. Close to whenua, sky and sea, we can be made whole again. In the silence, we can hear your voice anew and find your inner steadying and peace. In a forest or on a headland, can we find a new sense of perspective and purpose.

**All: Draw us closer to your creation, that we may
be made well again.
Amen**

Notices and Offering

Prayer

You offer us the earth and its living creatures, we strive with comfort and ownership, but how can we repay you? Here are our offerings. Bless the hands that give, and we pray for those who need your wisdom and love. In the loving name of Christ, we pray. **Amen**

Hymn - **Christ, Whose Glory Fills the Sky (H&P 457)** `

1. Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true and only Light,
Sun of righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shade of night;
Day-spring from on high, be near;
Day-star, in my heart appear.
2. Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by Thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till Thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.
3. Visit then this soul of mine,
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, radiancy divine,
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more Thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

Te Manaakitanga/Blessing

May this season of Creation that we have journeyed together bring forth new life and hope for creation. May it inspire deeper connections of solidarity, and bring forth new shoots of justice, healing and peace in our living and our relating. May our sorrow be turned into joy. In the name of the one who came to make all things new, that all might have an abundant life.

Amen

Let's say the Grace together (In Te Reo)

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
Ake ake ake Āmine

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

I would like to acknowledge the use of materials sourced from
<https://www.biblegateway.com/>

And the 10am Congregation's Facebook Page:

<https://www.facebook.com/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am>

Hymns used are covered by CCLI Licence 230381