

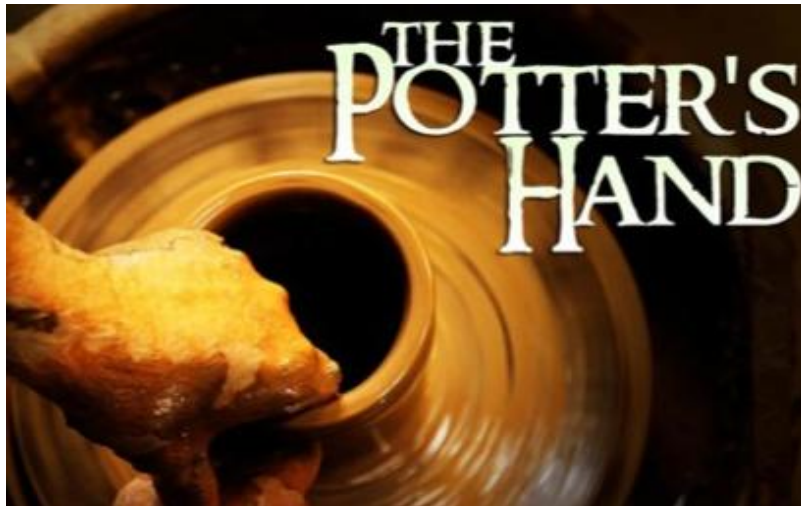


Wesley Wellington
75 Taranaki Street
www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Order of Holy Communion & Father's Day Service

Sunday 7st September 2025
(Pentecost 13)

Haere mai ki tēnei whare karakia - welcome to this house of prayer



Shaped by the Father's Hands

Worship Leader: Suiva'aia Teo

Kia ora koutou katoa — Tālofa lava

Mālō e lelei — Bula vinaka — Greetings to you all!

Welcome to today's service. A special welcome to visitors. We hope you will enjoy worshipping with us this morning and will join us again.

Welcome & Safety Briefing

Lighting the Candle

Candle Lighting Prayer

We light this candle as a sign of Christ's presence among us —
the light that guides our families,
the flame of love that never dies.
May His light shine in our homes,
in our relationships, and in our hearts.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Leader: Come, let us worship the Lord who formed us, who shapes our lives
like clay in the hands of the potter.

People: We come to praise God who is Father, Creator, Redeemer, and Friend.

Leader: Today we thank God for fathers, grandfathers, uncles, mentors, and all
who guide us with love.

People: We rejoice in the God who calls us His beloved children.

All: Come, let us worship the Lord!

Introit

Samoan

Opening Prayer

Gracious and Loving God,
We gather before You today with gratitude for Your love that never fails.
Bless us all with wisdom, patience, and compassion, that we may reflect Your
love in our daily lives. As we worship, we pray for your Holy Spirit, breathe life
into our worship. Shape us today by Your word and Spirit, that we may live as
Your children.

In the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord.

Amen.

Hymn: – *Great is thy faithfulness (H&P 66) by Thomas O. Chisholm*

1. Great is Thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with Thee

Thou changest not, Thy compassions they fail not
As Thou hast been, Thou forever wilt be

Refrain: *Great is Thy faithfulness*
Great is Thy faithfulness
Morning by morning, new mercies I see
All I have needed Thy hands hath provided
Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord unto me

2. Summer and winter and springtime and harvest
Sun, moon, and stars in their courses above
Join with all nature in manifold witness
To Thy great faithfulness, mercy, and love
3. Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth
Thine own great presence to cheer and to guide
Strength for today, and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside

Prayer of Confession & Assurance of Pardon

Merciful God,
You are the perfect Father, but we confess we have often gone our own way.
We have failed to love You with all our hearts.
We have not always shown patience, kindness, or forgiveness in our families.
Forgive us, Lord. Shape us again, like clay in the hands of the potter.
Make us vessels of Your grace, instruments of Your peace, and children who
reflect Your love.
Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon:

Hear the good news: God, like a loving Father, runs to embrace us and forgive us.
In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven.
Thanks be to God!

Children's Story – *The Hands That Shape Us*

10am Singing Group

Bible Readings

The word that came to Jeremiah from the LORD: ²“Come, go down to the potter’s house, and there I will let you hear my words.” ³So I went down to the potter’s house, and there he was working at his wheel. ⁴The vessel he was making of clay was spoiled in the potter’s hand, and he reworked it into another vessel, as seemed good to him.

⁵Then the word of the LORD came to me: ⁶Can I not do with you, O house of Israel, just as this potter has done? says the LORD. Just like the clay in the potter’s hand, so are you in my hand, O house of Israel. ⁷At one moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will pluck up and break down and destroy it, ⁸but if that nation, concerning which I have spoken, turns from its evil, I will change my mind about the disaster that I intended to bring on it. ⁹And at another moment I may declare concerning a nation or a kingdom that I will build and plant it, ¹⁰but if it does evil in my sight, not listening to my voice, then I will change my mind about the good that I had intended to do to it

²⁵Now large crowds were traveling with him, and he turned and said to them, ²⁶“Whoever comes to me and does not hate father and mother, wife and children, brothers and sisters, yes, and even life itself, cannot be my disciple. ²⁷Whoever does not carry the cross and follow me cannot be my disciple. ²⁸For which of you, intending to build a tower, does not first sit down and estimate the cost, to see whether he has enough to complete it? ²⁹Otherwise, when he has laid a foundation and is not able to finish, all who see it will begin to ridicule him, ³⁰saying, ‘This fellow began to build and was not able to finish.’ ³¹Or what king, going out to wage war against another king, will not sit down first and consider whether he is able with ten thousand to oppose the one who comes against him with twenty thousand? ³²If he cannot, then while the other is still far away, he sends a delegation and asks for the terms of peace. ³³So therefore, none of you can become my disciple if you do not give up all your possessions.

Hymn: *How deep the Father’s love for us* **by Stuart Townend (CMP)**

1. How deep the Father's love for us,
How vast beyond all measure
That He should give His only Son
To make a wretch His treasure

2. How great the pain of searing loss,
The Father turns His face away
As wounds which mar the chosen One,
Bring many sons to glory
3. Behold the Man upon a cross,
My sin upon His shoulders
Ashamed I hear my mocking voice,
Call out among the scoffers
4. It was my sin that held Him there
Until it was accomplished
His dying breath has brought me life
I know that it is finished
5. I will not boast in anything
No gifts, no power, no wisdom
But I will boast in Jesus Christ
His death and resurrection
6. Why should I gain from His reward?
I cannot give an answer
But this I know with all my heart
His wounds have paid my ransom

Sermon: ‘*Shaped by the Father’s Hands*’

Rev Suiva’aia Teo

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: *“Abide With Me” – Henry F. Lyte 1847 (H&P 665)*

Verse 1

Abide with me, Fast falls the eventide;
The darkness deepens; Lord with me abide.
When other helpers Fail and comforts flee,
Help of the helpless, O abide with me.

Verse 2

Swift to its close Ebbs out life’s little day;
Earth’s joys grow dim; Its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see;
O Thou who changes not, Abide with me.

Verse 3

Come now in power, As the King of kings,
All kind and good, with healing in Thy wings,
Save from my woes, and hear O Lord my plea-
Come, friend of sinners, and abide with me.

Verse 4

I need Thy presence Every passing hour.
What but Thy grace Can foil the tempter’s power?
Who, like Thyself, My Guide and Stay can be?
Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide with me.

Prayer of Intercession

Loving God,
On this Father’s Day we bring before You our prayers for the world, the church,
our community, and our families.

We thank You for fathers and father-figures who show love, guide with wisdom,
and provide for their families. Bless them with patience, courage, and faith.

We pray for those who find this day difficult — those who have lost their fathers,
those estranged from family, those who long to be fathers, and those whose
experience of fatherhood has been painful. Wrap them in Your healing love.

We remember families struggling with poverty, hardship, or brokenness.
Strengthen them, Lord. Provide for them. Make Your church a safe home for all children.

We pray for leaders of nations — that they may lead with justice, integrity, and compassion.

We pray for the church — that we may be a family united in Christ, where all feel welcomed and valued.

Finally, Lord, we lift up our own families and loved ones. Protect them, guide them, and draw them closer to You.

We ask all these things in the name of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray...

Lord's Prayer

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.

Anthem:

Fijian

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)

Offering Prayer

Generous God,

You are the Giver of every good gift.

On this Father's Day, we give back to You a portion of what we have received —
our money, our food, our time, our talents, and our love.

Bless these gifts, that they may build up families, strengthen the church, and
bring hope to those in need.

Use us, Lord, as instruments of Your grace.

In Jesus' name. Amen.

THANKSGIVING

The Lord is here

God's Spirit is with us.

List up your hearts

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

It is right to give our 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.

(The Tongan Choir who will sing during today's communion, are invited to come forward first, followed by everyone. Please approach by the centre aisle and return down the side.)

(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**

Notices:

Hymn: *Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah* by William Williams (H&P 437)

1. Guide me, O my great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me now and evermore,
feed me now and evermore.

2. Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.

3. When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to thee,
I will ever sing to thee.

Blessing & Dismissal

Go now, beloved of God, shaped by the Father's hands,
redeemed by the Son's sacrifice,
and guided by the Spirit's power.

As spring brings new life to creation,
May God's Spirit bring new life to your faith and hope.

May the blessing of God Almighty
Father, Son, and Holy Spirit
be upon you and remain with you,
this day and always.

All: Amen.

Leader: Go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

People: We go in the name of Christ.

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.

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.

MCNZ Holy Communion liturgy

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