



Wesley Methodist Church
75 Taranaki Street
Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 10 May 2026

6th Sunday of Easter

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

Mother's Day Service



Love That Nurtures and Lives Through Us

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 10 May 2026
6th Sunday of Easter**

Leader: Rev. Suiva'aia Te'o Organist: Vivien Chiu

Safety Briefing

Good morning, everyone.

Today is Mother's Day, and we give thanks not only for mothers, but for all who have *mothered us*— grandmothers, aunties, sisters, mentors, and women of faith who have loved and shaped our lives.

We also hold in prayer those for whom today is difficult.

As we gather, we give thanks to God, whose love nurtures us all.

Let us now turn our hearts to God, the source of all love, and worship Him together.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Leader: We gather today in the presence of God,

All: The One who gives us life, love, and family.

Leader: We remember with gratitude those who have nurtured us,

All: Mothers, grandmothers, and all who have cared for us.

Leader: God's love surrounds us like a mother's embrace,

All: Steady, faithful, and full of grace.

Leader: Come, let us worship God.

All: With thankful hearts, we worship the Lord!

Candle Lighting Liturgy

Leader: Today we light this candle for love.

(Light candle)

**All: Loving God,
 Thank You for the gift of mothers
 and all who reflect Your care.
 May Your light shine in our homes,**

**in our hearts, and in our lives.
Amen.**

Opening Prayer

Loving and faithful God,
we thank You for bringing us together today.
On this special day, we give thanks for mothers—
for their love, sacrifice, strength, and faith.

We also remember those for whom this day is difficult—
those who grieve, those who long, those who carry pain.
Wrap them in Your comfort and peace.

Open our hearts to Your Word today,
that we may grow in love, obedience, and faith.
In Jesus' name we pray.
Amen.

Hymn: Now thank we all our God - H&P 566 by Martin Rinkart 1586-1649

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.

Prayer of Confession (Responsive)

Leader: God of love, You call us to love one another,

All: Yet we confess we do not always live in love.

Leader: We fail to honour those who care for us,

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: We speak harsh words instead of kindness,

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: We choose our own way instead of Your way,

All: Forgive us, Lord.

Leader: Renew our hearts in Your love,

All: And teach us to walk in Your ways. Amen.

Introduction of Theme/story time:

Scripture Reading

- Gospel: John 14:15–21 (NRSV – updated edition)

¹⁵“If you love me, you will keep^[a] my commandments. ¹⁶And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, ^[b]to be with you forever. ¹⁷This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be^[c] in^[d] you.

¹⁸“I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. ¹⁹In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. ²⁰On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. ²¹They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them.”

Hymn: O love that wilt not let me go – H&P 685 by George Matheson 1842-1906

1. O Love that wilt not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in thee:
I give thee back the life I owe,
That in thine ocean depths its flow
May richer, fuller be.
2. O Light that followest all my way
I yield my flickering torch to thee
My heart restores its borrowed ray

That in thy sunshine's blaze its day
May brighter, fairer be.

3. O Joy that sleekest me through pain,
I cannot close my heart to thee;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
And feel the promise is not vain,
That morn shall tearless be.
4. O Cross that liftest up my head,
I dare not ask to fly from thee;
I lay in dust life's glory dead,
And from the ground there blossoms red
Life that shall endless be.

Sermon: *Love That Nurtures and Lives Through Us*

Hymn: Love divine all loves excelling - H&P 267 Charles Wesley 1707-88

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

Intercessory Prayers (Responsive)

Leader: Loving God, we pray for mothers everywhere,

All: Strengthen them with Your love.

Leader: For those who nurture, care, and sacrifice daily,

All: Bless them with joy and peace.

Leader: For those who find today difficult,

All: Surround them with Your comfort.

Leader: For families in our community,

All: Fill them with love, patience, and unity.

Leader: For those who feel alone,

All: Remind them they are never alone in You.

Leader: We offer these prayers in Jesus' name,

All: Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (te reo)

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.

Responsive Offering Prayer: (We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Leader: Loving God, we thank You for all You have given us.

All: For life, love, and those who have nurtured us.

Leader: We bring these gifts before You.

All: And offer our hearts as well.

Leader: Bless these offerings, that they may serve others.

All: And reflect Your love in the world.

Leader: May our lives be an offering to You.

All: Love that nurtures and lives through us. Amen.

Community Time

Notices

Closing Hymn: Great is thy faithfulness - H&P 66 by Thomas O. Chisholm 1866-1960

1. Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father
There is no shadow of turning with thee
Thou changest not, thy compassions, they fail me
As thou hast been thou for ever wilt be:

Refrain: *Great is thy faithfulness! Great is thy faithfulness
Morning by morning new mercies I see
All I have needed thy hand has 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
Thy own dear presence to cheer and to guide.
Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow
Blessings all mine, with ten thousand beside.

Blessing / Benediction

May the love of God
that nurtures like a mother,
the grace of Christ
that walks beside you,
and the presence of the Holy Spirit
remain with you always.

Go in peace, to love and serve the Lord.

**We go in the name of Christ
Amen.**

Please join us for refreshments in the New Hall

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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>