



Wesley Methodist Church

75 Taranaki Street

Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 18 October 2026

Haere mai ki tēnei Whare Karakia

Welcome to this House of Prayer

COMBINED PARISH GREEN SUNDAY SERVICE



“God’s Creation: We Belong to God”

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!**

Welcome to this Gathering as a community of Faith

**ORDER OF COMBINED & HOLY COMMUNION SERVICE
10AM**

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

Welcome to worship on this Green Sunday.

Safety Briefing

Tinei Alefosio

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Erica Hoskin

Leader: We light this candle as a sign of the presence of Christ,
the Light of the world.

People: **Christ is our light and our life.**

Leader: In Christ, all things were created,
and through Christ all creation is held together.

People: **May the light of Christ shine upon us
and through us to all creation.**

Leader: As we worship, may our eyes be opened
to see God's glory in the heavens,
God's beauty upon the earth,
and God's image in every person.

All: **Come, Light of Christ.
Renew your Church, restore your creation,
and lead us in your way. Amen.**

Call to Worship

Leader: The earth is the Lord's and everything in it.

People: The world and all who live in it belong to God.

Leader: The heavens declare the glory of God.

People: The skies proclaim the work of God's hands.

Leader: The forests, oceans, mountains and rivers praise their Creator.

People: Every living creature reveals the goodness of God.

Leader: We are called to worship God and care for all that God has made.

People: We come with grateful hearts, ready to praise and serve.

Leader: Come, people of God: let us worship our Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer.

All: We belong to God. Let us worship together!

Introit

Samoan Congregation

Opening Prayer

Leader:

Let us pray.

Creator God,
you formed the heavens and the earth
and called your creation good.

You shaped the mountains,
filled the oceans,
caused the trees to grow
and gave breath to every living creature.

We thank you for the beauty surrounding us,
for the land beneath our feet,
the air we breathe,
the water that gives us life,
and the people with whom we share this world.

On this Green Sunday,
awaken within us a deeper love for your creation.
Forgive us when we take more than we need,
when we waste your gifts,
or when our choices harm the earth and its people.

As we receive Erica into membership today,
remind us that through Christ
we are joined together as one family.
As we gather at your Table,
feed us with your grace
and renew us for your mission.

May everything we say and do
bring honour to you,
Creator, Redeemer and Life-giving Spirit. Amen.

Hymn H&P 330 - All Things Bright and Beautiful

(Cecil Frances Alexander 1818-95)

Refrain:

*All things bright and beautiful
All creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful
The Lord God made them all.*

1. Each little flower that opens
Each little bird that sings
He made their glowing colours
He made their tiny wings.
2. The purple-headed mountain
The river running by

The sunset and the morning
That brightens up the sky

3. The cold wind in the winter
The pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden
He made them everyone.

4. He gave us eyes to see them
And lips that we might tell
How great is God Almighty
Who had made all things well.

Prayer of Confession

Leader: God has entrusted creation to our care,
yet we have not always been faithful stewards.
In humility, let us confess our sins.

All: Merciful God,
you created the world in beauty and goodness,
but we confess that we have not cared for it as we should.
We have polluted the land, air and water.
We have wasted precious resources.
We have ignored the suffering of people
most affected by climate change, poverty and injustice.
We have forgotten that the earth belongs to you.
We have sometimes forgotten
that we also belong to one another.
Forgive us, loving God.
Change our hearts and renew our lives.
Teach us to walk gently upon the earth,
to share your gifts fairly,
and to become faithful caretakers of your creation.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Hear the good news:
God's mercy is greater than our failures.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, restored
and invited to begin again.

People: Thanks be to God! Amen.

The Lord's Prayer

Minister:

Let us pray in the language of our hearts
the prayer Jesus taught us:

All:

**Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,
as we forgive those who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
and deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.**

Children's Time: *Everything Belongs to God*

Samoan Sunday School Item

10am Singing Group

Ministry of the Word

First Reading – Exodus 33:12–23

10AM - Erica

¹² Moses said to the LORD, “You have been telling me, ‘Lead these people,’ but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. You have said, ‘I know you by name and you have found favour with me.’ ¹³ If you are pleased with me, teach me your ways so I may know you and continue to find favour with you. Remember that this nation is your people.”

¹⁴The LORD replied, “My Presence will go with you, and I will give you rest.”

¹⁵Then Moses said to him, “If your Presence does not go with us, do not send us up from here. ¹⁶How will anyone know that you are pleased with me and with your people unless you go with us? What else will distinguish me and your people from all the other people on the face of the earth?”

¹⁷And the LORD said to Moses, “I will do the very thing you have asked, because I am pleased with you and I know you by name.”

¹⁸Then Moses said, “Now show me your glory.”

¹⁹And the LORD said, “I will cause all my goodness to pass in front of you, and I will proclaim my name, the LORD, in your presence. I will have mercy on whom I will have mercy, and I will have compassion on whom I will have compassion. ²⁰But,” he said, “you cannot see my face, for no one may see me and live.”

²¹Then the LORD said, “There is a place near me where you may stand on a rock. ²²When my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft in the rock and cover you with my hand until I have passed by. ²³Then I will remove my hand and you will see my back; but my face must not be seen.”

Gospel Reading – Matthew 22:15–22

Fijian

¹⁵Then the Pharisees went out and laid plans to trap him in his words. ¹⁶They sent their disciples to him along with the Herodians. “Teacher,” they said, “we know that you are a man of integrity and that you teach the way of God in accordance with the truth. You aren’t swayed by others, because you pay no attention to who they are. ¹⁷Tell us then, what is your opinion? Is it right to pay the imperial tax^[a] to Caesar or not?”

¹⁸But Jesus, knowing their evil intent, said, “You hypocrites, why are you trying to trap me? ¹⁹Show me the coin used for paying the tax.” They brought him a denarius, ²⁰and he asked them, “Whose image is this? And whose inscription?”

²¹“Caesar’s,” they replied.

Then he said to them, “So give back to Caesar what is Caesar’s, and to God what is God’s.”

²²When they heard this, they were amazed. So they left him and went away.

Anthem

Fijian Congregation

RECEPTION OF ERICA HOSKIN INTO MEMBERSHIP

Minister:

Through baptism, God calls us into the body of Christ.
Within the Church, we are nurtured in faith,
strengthened for service
and sent into the world as disciples of Jesus Christ.
Today, Erica comes to affirm her faith
and to be received into the membership
of the Methodist Church.

(invite Erica forward)

Minister: Erica, do you confess Jesus Christ as your Saviour and Lord,
and promise, with God's help, to follow him?

Erica: I do, with God's help.

Minister: Do you believe in God, Father, Son and Holy Spirit,
and place your trust in God's grace and love?

Erica: I do.

Minister: Will you continue in prayer, worship,
the reading of Scripture and participation in Holy Communion?

Erica: With God's help, I will.

Minister: Will you share in the life and mission of Christ's Church,
using the gifts God has given you, and serving others in love?

Erica: With God's help, I will.

Minister: Will you seek justice, offer compassion, care for God's creation
and walk faithfully in the way of Christ?

Erica: With God's help, I will.

Congregational Promise

Minister: Members and friends of this parish,
will you welcome Erica, surround her with your love and prayers,

encourage her in faith, and walk beside her as together
we share in the mission of Jesus Christ?

Congregation: With God's help, we will.

**We welcome you into our fellowship. We promise to pray for you,
to encourage you, to learn with you, and to serve Christ alongside you.**

Prayer and Reception

(Erica to kneel and ministry team to lay hands upon her – congregation stand)

Minister:

Let us pray.

Faithful God, we thank you for Erica
and for the journey of faith
that has brought her to this day.

Fill her with your Holy Spirit.
Strengthen her faith,
deepen her love for you
and guide her in the way of Christ.

May she discover joy in worship, strength in fellowship
and purpose in serving others.
Bless the gifts you have placed within her,
and help us to receive those gifts with gratitude.

Keep Erica and all of us faithful
until we are gathered with the whole creation
in the fullness of your kingdom;
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Minister:

Erica, we receive you
into the membership of the Methodist Church
and into the fellowship and mission of this parish,
in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

People:

We welcome you in the name of Christ!

We are members together of the body of Christ.

Thanks be to God!

(A certificate, Bible, and candle may be presented).

Sermon: “We Belong to God”

Hymn: H&P 705 – Take my life and let it be –

(Frances Ridley Havergal 1836-79)

1. Take my life, and let it be
Consecrated, Lord, to thee;
Take my moments and my days,
Let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. O outou o tigaina
Tepa tonu ia Iesu;
Lona alofa tele lava
E maua ai le filemu.
3. Sisu, ke ke ma'u ma'au
'Eku ngaahi mea kotoa;
Taleniti, ngaahi ta'u
Fanau, fale, mo e koloa.
4. Take my silver and my gold
Not a mite would I withhold.
Take my intellect, and use
Every power as thou shalt choose.
5. Na ligaqu na Kalou
Mo Ni taura tu oqo
Me'u sa ogataka ga
Ka ni bula vou ko ya.
6. Take my love; my Lord, I pour
At thy feet its treasure-store;

Take myself, and I will be
Ever, only, all for thee.

Prayers of Intercession

Shelly Rao

Leader:

Creator God, we pray for your world.
For the earth, damaged by pollution, waste and greed;
for forests being destroyed, oceans being polluted
and creatures losing their habitats:

People:

Renew your creation, O God, and teach us to care.

Leader:

For communities experiencing storms, droughts, floods, fires
and rising sea levels; especially for the peoples of the Pacific
whose homes and livelihoods are threatened:

People:

Renew your creation, O God, and teach us to care.

Leader:

For leaders of nations, churches and communities,
that their decisions may protect the earth, defend the vulnerable
and serve the common good:

People:

Renew your creation, O God, and teach us to care.

Leader:

For those who are hungry, homeless, lonely or afraid;
for the sick, the grieving and all who need your healing presence:

People:

Surround them with your love, O God, and teach us to care.

Leader:

For our combined parish,
with its different cultures, languages and congregations:

help us to recognise that we are one in Christ
and called together to serve your mission:

People:

Make us one, O God, and let the light of Christ shine through us.

Leader:

We offer all our prayers
in the name of Jesus Christ,
who makes all things new.

All: Amen.

The Peace

Minister:

Christ is our peace.
In Christ, we are reconciled to God,
to one another and to the whole creation.
The peace of Christ be with you.

People:

And God's peace be with you.

(Please share a sign of peace)

Offering *(we also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)*

Offering Prayer

All: (said together)

**Generous God, the earth and everything in it belong to you.
Receive these gifts and receive our lives.
Use them to strengthen your Church, serve those in need, protect your
creation and proclaim the good news of Jesus Christ.
May our giving reflect our gratitude and our commitment to your
kingdom. Amen.**

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Minister:

This is Christ's Table.

It is not our table, nor the table of one congregation.

It is the Table of grace, hope and reconciliation.

Come, all who hunger for God's love.

Come, all who seek healing for themselves,

for their neighbours and for creation.

Come, for Christ welcomes us all.

The Great Thanksgiving

Minister: The Lord be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

Minister: Lift up your hearts.

People: **We lift them to the Lord.**

Minister: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Minister: It is right, and a joyful thing, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Creator God.

You spoke, and the universe came into being.

You separated light from darkness,

gathered the waters,

formed the land

and filled the earth with life.

You created humanity in your image

and entrusted the earth to our care.

When we turned away from you

and misused the gifts of creation,

you did not abandon us.

You spoke through prophets,

called us back to justice and mercy,

and promised to renew all things.

Therefore, with the whole creation—
with the wind and the ocean,
the mountains and rivers,
the birds of the air
and every living creature—
we praise your holy name:

All:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
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!**

Institution and Prayer of Consecration

Minister:

We praise you for Jesus Christ, your Word made flesh,
through whom all things were created.

He lived among us, shared our joys and sorrows, welcomed the forgotten,
challenged injustice, and revealed your boundless love.

On the night in which he was betrayed,
Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it
and gave it to his disciples, saying:

“Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.
Do this in remembrance of me.”

After supper, he took the cup, gave thanks and shared it with them, saying:

“This cup is the new covenant in my blood,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.

Do this, whenever you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

All:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Minister:

Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and wine.

Make them for us the communion
of the body and blood of Christ.

All: Amen.

Breaking of the Bread

Minister:

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

People:

**We who are many are one body,
for we all share in the one bread.**

Minister:

The cup we share
is a sharing in the new covenant of Christ.

People:

**We come with gratitude
to receive the gifts of God.**

Sharing Holy Communion

(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.)

Prayer after Communion

All:

**Gracious God,
we thank you for meeting us at this Table.**

**You have fed us with the bread of life
and renewed us through the love of Christ.**

Strengthen us all to live as faithful disciples.

**Send us into the world
to care for your creation,
to protect the vulnerable,
to seek justice and peace
and to share your love with all people.
May our lives proclaim
that the earth belongs to you
and that in Christ
we belong to one another. Amen.**

Final Hymn: Arise – Be the Light of Christ to all

(Conference Song 2026) by Suiva'aia Te'o

As we prepare to leave this place, let us sing the Conference song that I composed in honour of the first Pasifika Presidential Team. It goes to the tune of '*Love Divine, All Loves Excelling*', adapted by our organist, Vivien Chiu.

May its words become our prayer and our commitment: to arise in faith, to care for God's creation, and to carry the light of Christ into the world.

1. Arise Aotearoa awaken
As night is fading into dawn
The Light eternal now has broken
The risen Lamb of God has come
From every tribe and tongue united
By grace and Spirit, we are called
To bear the fire of God's own kingdom
And be the love of Christ to all.

2. Tula'i young prophets dream God's future
Rise.... up, Rangatahi with grace
The Spirit breathes through all generations
Calling each iwi to their place
Let sons and daughters speak with boldness
May elders bless with wisdom's flame
Together shaped for sacred mission
Our nation proclaiming Jesus' name.
3. Tu'u hake as covenant people
Where justice, truth and aroha meet
Through Te Tiriti, still God calls us
To walk together at Christ's feet.
Let Māori voices lead with courage
May all who journey here belong
For every culture is a treasure
Within God's vast redeeming song.
4. Mo Tucake with all Christ embraces
Whose gifts the world has overlooked
The weak made strong, the hurt uplifted
The last and least are first in God
For every person bears God's image
And every life is sacred ground
The Body joined in love and honour
Where all are seen, and all are found.
5. Maranga Ake all filled with Spirit
As flames of Pentecost descend
The Word made flesh now sends us forward
To heal, proclaim, restore, defend.
Through Māori and Pasifika voices,
And every language, land, and race,
The gospel speaks with living power
Declaring hope and saving grace.

6. Arise, though shadows still surround us,
Though fear and suffering remain;
For Christ goes ever on before us,
And death itself has lost its reign
The Cross now shines with resurrection.
The empty tomb proclaims God's reign;
So, lift your hearts and sing with courage;
The Light of Christ shall ever reign.

7. Maranga Ake, till all God's creation
Is filled with heaven's holy flame;
Till each iwi stands rejoicing
And every voice exalts Christ's name
Then God shall be our Light forever
And every language, land, and race,
Aotearoa arise, and hear Christ's brightness,
Until God's everlasting day

Commissioning

Leader: Go into God's creation with thankful hearts.

People: **We will honour the Creator.**

Leader: Go as members of Christ's one body.

People: **We will welcome, love and serve one another.**

Leader: Go gently upon the earth.

People: **We will protect creation and seek justice.**

Leader: Go and give to God what belongs to God.

People: **We offer ourselves to God in worship, witness and service.**

Benediction

Minister:

May the blessing of God the Creator,
who formed the earth in love;

the blessing of Jesus Christ,
through whom all things are reconciled;

and the blessing of the Holy Spirit,
the breath and giver of life,

rest upon you all,
and upon all God's creation,

today and always.

All: Amen.

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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 Pages:

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