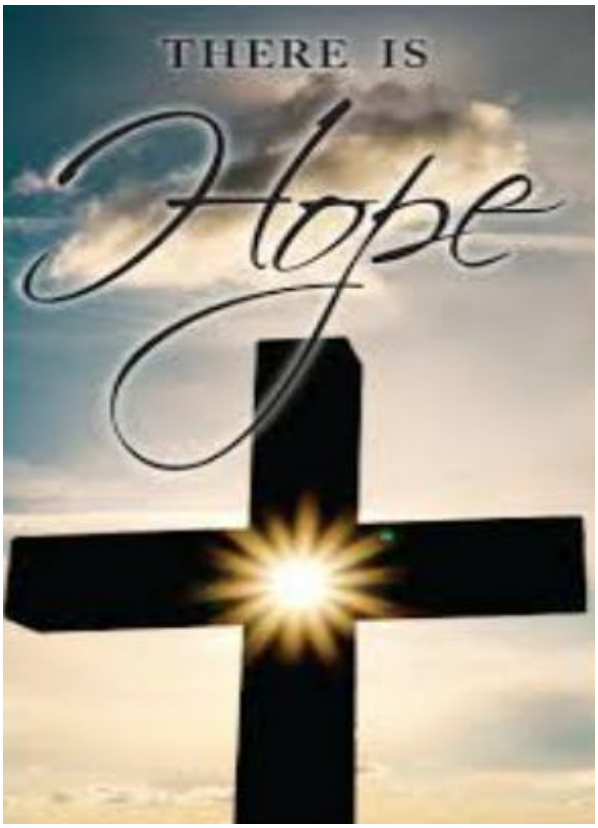
Wesley Methodist Church
75 Taranaki Street
Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

Sunday 1 November 2026
All Saint's Day / Pentecost 23

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



The Word of Truth:

Blessed Are Those Who Hope in 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

Leader: Kisione Finau
Organist: Colin Scarf

WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING

INTROIT Tongan Congregation

RESPONSIVE LITANY FOR CANDLE LIGHTING

We light this candle in the name of Jesus Christ, the light of the world.
Shine among us, Lord Jesus, and lead us in your truth.

We remember those whose faith, love and service have helped us to know God.
We give thanks for their lives and for the light they shared.

We remember those who have died, and all who carry the sorrow of separation.
God of compassion, hold them in your love and comfort those who mourn.

We remember that God gathers people from every nation, culture and language.
We belong to one family, united in Christ.

As this candle shines, may our lives shine with mercy, humility and peace.
Let your light shine through us, for the good of the world. Amen.

HYMN: H&P 814 "For All the Saints"

William Walsham How 1823-97

1. For all the saints who from their labours rest,
   Who thee by faith before the world confessed,
   Thy name, O Jesus be forever blest:
   Alleluia, Alleluia.

2. Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might;
   Thou, Lord their captain in the well-fought fight;
   Thou in the darkness still their one true light:
   Alleluia, alleluia.

3. O blest communion, fellowship divine!
   We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
   Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine
   Alleluia, Alleluia.

4. From earth's wide bounds, from ocean's farthest coast,
   Through gates of pearl streams, in the countless host,
   Singing to Father, Son and Holy Ghost:
   Alleluia, Alleluia.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, all who hunger for hope.
We come to the God who keeps his promises.
Come, all who carry sorrow.
We come to the Christ who comforts those who mourn.
Come, all who long for justice and peace.
We come to the Spirit who strengthens us to love and serve.
With God's people of every nation and language, let us worship.
Salvation belongs to our God and to the Lamb.
Thanks be to God!

OPENING PRAYER
God of every nation and every generation, we gather in your presence with thankful hearts.

You have brought us through another week and welcomed us into this new month.
Whatever we carry today— joy or sorrow, confidence or uncertainty— help us to bring it honestly before you.

We thank you for the faithful people whose prayers, kindness and courage have shaped our lives.
May their example encourage us to follow Jesus with greater love.

Open our ears to your Word of truth.
Open our hearts to your comforting presence.
Open our hands to the needs of our neighbours.

As we worship and share Holy Communion, renew our hope and strengthen our unity.
May all we do honour you and help us to live your love for the common good.

Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

PRAYER OF APPROACH AND CONFESSION
Holy and loving God, your truth reveals both your goodness
and our need for your grace.

Jesus calls us to humility, yet we often insist on having our own way.
He calls us to mercy, yet we sometimes hold tightly to resentment.

He calls us to make peace, yet our words can deepen division.
He calls us to hunger for righteousness, yet we can become comfortable while others suffer.

Forgive us for the love we have withheld, the people we have overlooked, and the good we have left undone.

God of grace, meet us in our weakness.
Cleanse our hearts, renew our minds, and give us courage to begin again.

Teach us to receive your love and to share it freely.
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

ANTHEM **Samoan Congregation**

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS
Hear the good news:
Jesus Christ meets us with mercy.
Through his death and resurrection,
God offers forgiveness and new life.

To all who turn to Christ,
receive this assurance:
your sins are forgiven.
You are invited to walk again
in the freedom of God's grace.

Thanks be to God.
By the Holy Spirit, help us to live as forgiven people. Amen.

HYMN H&P 378 "Be Thou My Vision"

by Mary Byrne 1880-1931

1. Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart,
   Be all else but naught to me, save that thou art;
   Be thou my best thought in the day and the night
   Both waking and sleeping, thy presence my light.

2. Be thou my wisdom, be thou my true word
   Be thou ever with me, and I with thee, Lord
   Be thou my great Father, and I thy true child,
   Be thou in me dwelling, and I with thee one.

3. Be thou my breastplate, my sword for the fight;
   Be thou my whole armour, be thou my true might;

Be thou my soul's shelter, be thou my strong tower:
O raise thou me heavenward, great Power of my power.

4. Riches I heed not, nor man's empty praise:
   Be thou mine inheritance now and always;
   Be thou and thou only the first in my heart:
   O Sovereign of heaven, my treasure thou art.

5. High King of heaven, thou heaven's bright Sun,
   O grant me its joys after vict'ry is won;
   Great Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
   Still be thou my vision, O Ruler of all.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Revelation 7:9-17 **Fijian**

After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. [10] They cried out in a loud voice, saying, "Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!"

[11] And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshiped God,
[12]singing, "Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God forever and ever! Amen."
[13] Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, "Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?" [14] I said to him, "Sir, you are the one that knows." Then he said to me, "These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb.

[15] For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them.
[16] They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; [17] for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes."

Matthew 5:1–12 **Samoan**

[1] Now when Jesus saw the crowds, he went up on a mountainside and sat down. His disciples came to him, [2] and he began to teach them. He said: [3] "Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [4] Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted. [5] Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth. [6] Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled. [7] Blessed are the

merciful, for they will be shown mercy. [8] Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God. [9] Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God. [10] Blessed are those who are persecuted because of righteousness, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven. [11] "Blessed are you when people insult you, persecute you and falsely say all kinds of evil against you because of me. [12] Rejoice and be glad, because great is your reward in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

10AM Singing Group

SERMON: Theme: The Word of Truth: Blessed Are Those Who Hope in God

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION **Shelly Rao**

God of every people and every place,
we bring before you the needs of your world.

For your Church throughout the earth:
strengthen our faith, deepen our compassion,
and help us to share the light of Christ.
Bless our parish, its congregations,
our ministers, lay leaders, children and young people.
Guide our President and Vice-President
and all who carry responsibility in the Church.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For the nations:
bring peace where there is war,
protection where there is violence,
and justice where people are denied dignity.
Give wisdom and integrity to leaders.
Strengthen those who work for reconciliation.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For those experiencing poverty, hunger or homelessness:
provide practical help and lasting change.
Bless those who serve through our Methodist missions
and other community organisations.
Show us how to share what we have.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For your creation:
help us to care for the earth,
protect its waters,
and use its gifts responsibly.
Remember communities facing floods, drought,
and the effects of a changing climate.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For those who are sick, anxious or weary:
bring healing, rest and reassurance.
Bless their families, carers and health workers.
We remember especially those known to us.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For those who mourn:
hold them gently in your love.
We give thanks for those who have died
and for the faith, kindness and courage they shared.

God of hope,
Hear our prayer.

For ourselves:
help us to be merciful,
to seek what is right,
and to make peace.
Give us courage to take the next faithful step.

We offer these prayers through Jesus Christ,
our Saviour and Shepherd.
Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER | He Inoi o te Ariki

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 aianei 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 whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou, i te kino:
Nou hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha, me te kororia,
Ake, ake, ake. Āmine.

OFFERING AND OFFERING PRAYER

FAIFEKAU SPECIAL CHOIR (during offering, the special choir will do their item)

Generous God,
everything we have is held within your grace.
Receive these gifts, and receive the offering of our lives.
Use our money, time and abilities to bring comfort, strengthen community,
and serve those in need.
May our giving express our gratitude and our trust in you.
Through Jesus Christ.
Amen.

HYMN WOV 433 "Let Us Break Bread Together"

based on a Negro Spiritual

1. Let us break bread together with the Lord
   Let us break bread together with the Lord
   As we travel through this land
   All God's children hand in hand
   Lord fill all our living with your life.

2. Let us drink wine together with the Lord
   Let us drink wine together with the Lord
   As we travel through this land
   All God's children hand in hand
   Lord fill all our living with your life.

3. Let us sing songs together in the Lord
   Let us praise God together in the Lord
   As we travel through this land
   All God's children hand in hand
   Lord fill all our living with your life.

4. Let us all work together for the Lord
   Let us all work together for the Lord
   As we travel through this land
   All God's children hand in hand
   Lord fill all our living with your life.

HOLY COMMUNION
INVITATION TO THE TABLE

This is the table of Jesus Christ, who welcomes all who seek him.

Come with your faith and your questions.
Come with your gratitude and your need.
Come trusting in the mercy of Christ, who gave himself for the life of the world.

THE PEACE

The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

(Share a sign of Christ's peace).

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.
And also with you.

Lift 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.

Faithful God, it is right to thank and praise you.

You created the world in love and made us to live in relationship with you
and with one another.
Through every generation, you have called your people
to walk in justice, mercy and faithfulness.

We give thanks for those whose lives have witnessed to your goodness:
for the saints remembered by the whole Church,
and for the faithful people known to us personally.

Above all, we praise you for Jesus Christ.
He welcomed the overlooked, comforted the sorrowful, fed the hungry
and proclaimed your kingdom.

Through his death and resurrection,
you opened the way to forgiveness and new life.

And so, with your people of every nation and language,
and with the whole company of heaven, we praise Your Holy name:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

On the night before he died,
Jesus took bread.
He 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.
He gave thanks and gave it to them, saying:

“Drink from this, all of you.
This is my blood of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for many
for the forgiveness of sins.
Do this, whenever you drink it,
in remembrance of me.”

And so, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.
Christ is risen.
Christ will come again.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT
Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us
and upon these gifts of bread and cup.

As we receive them,
may we share in the life of Christ.
Make us one body,
united in love
and strengthened for service.
Amen.

BREAKING THE BREAD

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

Though we are many, we are one body,
because we share in one bread.

The cup of blessing
is a sharing in the blood of Christ.

We receive with thanksgiving
the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ.

DISTRIBUTION
The gifts of God for the people of God.
Come, for Christ has prepared the table.

The Fijian 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

Gracious God,
thank you for meeting us at Christ's table.

You have nourished us with signs of your love
and renewed our hope.

Help us to carry the grace we have received
into our homes, our workplaces and our community.

May we comfort those who mourn,
show mercy to those who struggle,
and make peace wherever we go.

Keep us faithful,
until we join the great gathering of your people
in the fullness of your kingdom.
Through Jesus Christ. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN H&P 437 "Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah"

William Williams 1717-91

1. English

Guide me, Oh thou Great Jehovah,
Pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but Thou art mighty;
Hold me with Thy powerful hand:
Bread of heaven, Bread of heaven,
Feed me now and evermore;
Feed me now and evermore.

2. Tongan

Ifi ai 'a e talupite,
Fai 'a e vakavakao;
Puna hotau laumalie;
O mo e kau angelo:
Hu ai leva
Ki he potu malolo.

3. **Samoan**
A mavae lenei olaga,
Pe a goto lona la,
Ia molia matou uma
I lou maota, le Tama;
Ona olioli lea
I le tofi i luga.

4. **Fijian**
Lomalagi mai veivuke
Agilosi kecega,
Siga, vula, kalokalo
Cuva sobu ki vua
Ko Jiova,
Me rokovi tikoga.

BLESSING AND BENEDICTION

Go into this new month with the truth of God's love in your hearts.

Be humble in your strength, merciful in your judgments, courageous in doing what is right, and faithful in making peace.

And the blessing of God— the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit— be with you and all whom you love, now and always. **Amen.**

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

CCLI License #230381

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.facebookcom/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am