

Wesley Methodist Church
75 Taranaki Street
Wellington

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

ORDER OF SERVICE
SUNDAY 8 NOVEMER 2026 - PENTECOST 24



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.

ORDER OF SERVICE

10AM CONGREGATION

SUNDAY 8 NOVEMER 2026 - PENTECOST 24

LEADER: Rev. Joeli Ducivaki
ORGANIST: Colin Scarf

WELCOME & SAFETY BRIEFING

INTRODUCTION

Sunday 8 November 2026 offers a particularly strong opportunity to bring together biblical remembrance, Christian hope, Methodist faith, and Remembrance Sunday. The Methodist Church worship calendar for 8 November 2026 identifies it as the 32nd Sunday in Ordinary Time. We remember God's faithfulness.

LIGHTING A CANDLE

We light this candle for Christ, our light through the long night,
for all who wait for justice, healing, or peace,
for those whose hope is fragile and whose strength is fading,
for the faithful love that refuses to abandon the world,
for courage to keep tending the flame,
and for lives that shine with compassion while we wait. **Amen.**

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come, people of God, carrying the faith that has brought us this far
We come to remember the God who has travelled with us

Come when the road has been long and hope has grown tired
We come to replenish the lamps of faith

Come when answers are delayed and justice seems far away
We come trusting that love is still at work

God calls us again to choose what will shape our lives
We choose the way of compassion, courage, and grace

Christ meets us in the waiting, even through the longest night
We come with watchful hearts and open hands

Spirit of life, renew our courage for the journey ahead
Keep our lamps burning with justice, peace, and hope. Amen.

HYMN ‘Sing we the king who is coming to reign’ (H&P 244)

Charles Silvester Horne Reproduced from H&P 244

1 SING we the King who is coming to reign;
Glory to Jesus, the Lamb that was slain!
Life and salvation his empire shall bring.
Joy to the nations when Jesus is King:

Refrain:
Come let us sing: Praise to our King,
Jesus our King, Jesus our King:
This is our song, who to Jesus belong:
Glory to Jesus, to Jesus our King.

2 All shall be well in his kingdom of peace;
Freedom shall flourish and wisdom increase;
Justice and truth from his sceptre shall spring.
Wrong shall be ended when Jesus is King:

3 Souls shall be saved from the burden of sin;
Doubt shall not darken his witness within;
Hell has no terrors, and death has no sting:
Love is victorious when Jesus is King:

4 Kingdom of Christ, for thy coming we pray:
Hasten, O Father, the dawn of the day
When this new song thy creation shall sing:
Satan is vanquished, and Jesus is King:

OPENING PRAYER **Julia Ducivaki**

Loving and Faithful God, (Ps 78 : 1 – 7)
We come before You today with grateful hearts, giving thanks for Your goodness that has been passed down from generation to generation. As the Psalmist reminds us, You have called us to remember Your mighty works, to tell of Your faithfulness, and to teach.

Your ways to those who come after us.

Lord, open our ears to hear Your teachings and open our hearts to receive Your truth. Help us not to forget the wonderful things You have done for Your people throughout history and in our own lives. Give us the wisdom and courage to share Your love.

Your promises, and your mighty acts with our children and future generations.

May our worship today strengthen our trust in You. Keep us faithful so that we may place our hope in You alone, remember Your works, and walk in obedience to Your will.

Bless all who have gathered here. May Your Holy Spirit guide our prayers, songs, Scripture readings, and fellowship, so that everything we do may bring glory and honour to Your Holy Name.

We ask this through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE
God's love doesn’t run out when our strength does.
Grace meets us even when our lamps burn low.
We are already known, forgiven, and beloved.
Through every long night, we still belong to God. **Amen.**

INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME – REMEMBRANCE DAY

We remember the past not because we want to live in the past, but because remembering God's faithfulness gives us courage to live faithfully today. We honour those who have gone before us not merely by speaking their names, but by carrying forward their faith, love, sacrifice and commitment to peace.

Leader: We remember those who have gone before us.
People: ***We thank God for their faithful witness.***

Leader: We remember those whose lives were given in service and sacrifice.
People: ***Lord, make us instruments of your peace.***

Leader: We remember the faith entrusted to us.
People: ***We will tell it to the generations to come.***

Leader: Choose this day whom you will serve.
People: As for us and our households, we will serve the Lord. Amen.

HYMN ***Praise to the Lord! the Almighty, the King of creation! (H&P 16)*** *Joachim Neader (1650-80)*

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the King of creation!
O my soul, praise him, for he is your health and salvation!
Come, all who hear; now to his temple draw near,
join me in glad adoration.

Praise to the Lord, above all things so wondrously reigning;
sheltering you under his wings, and so gently sustaining!
Have you not seen all that is needful has been
sent by his gracious ordaining?

Praise to the Lord, who will prosper your work and defend you;
surely his goodness and mercy shall daily attend you.
Ponder anew what the Almighty can do,
if with his love he befriends you.

Praise to the Lord! O let all that is in me adore him!
All that has life and breath, come now with praises before him.
Let the Amen sound from his people again;
gladly forever adore him.

SCRIPTURE READINGS **Melina Takau-Samson**

Joshua 24:1-3 [NIV]

The Covenant Renewed at Shechem

24 Then Joshua assembled all the tribes of Israel at Shechem. He summoned the elders, leaders, judges and officials of Israel, and they presented themselves before God.
2 Joshua said to all the people, "This is what the Lord, the God of Israel, says: 'Long ago your ancestors, including Terah the father of Abraham and Nahor, lived beyond the Euphrates River and worshiped other gods. **3** But I took your father Abraham from the land beyond the Euphrates and led him throughout Canaan and gave him many descendants. I gave him Isaac.

Verses : 14-25

14 "Now fear the Lord and serve him with all faithfulness. Throw away the gods your ancestors worshiped beyond the Euphrates River and in Egypt, and serve the Lord. **15** But if serving the Lord seems undesirable to you, then choose for yourselves this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served beyond the Euphrates, or the gods of the Amorites, in whose land you are living. But as for me and my household, we will serve the Lord."
16 Then the people answered, "Far be it from us to forsake the Lord to serve other gods! **17** It was the Lord our God himself who brought our parents and us up out of Egypt, from that land of slavery, and performed those great signs before our eyes. He protected us on our entire journey and among all the nations through which we traveled.
18 And the Lord drove out before us all the nations, including the

Amorites, who lived in the land. We too will serve the Lord, because he is our God."
19 Joshua said to the people, "You are not able to serve the Lord. He is a holy God; he is a jealous God. He will not forgive your rebellion and your sins. 20 If you forsake the Lord and serve foreign gods, he will turn and bring disaster on you and make an end of you, after he has been good to you."
21 But the people said to Joshua, "No! We will serve the Lord."
22 Then Joshua said, "You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen to serve the Lord."
"Yes, we are witnesses," they replied.
23 "Now then," said Joshua, "throw away the foreign gods that are among you and yield your hearts to the Lord, the God of Israel."
24 And the people said to Joshua, "We will serve the Lord our God and obey him."
25 On that day Joshua made a covenant for the people, and there at Shechem he reaffirmed for them decrees and laws.

Matthew 25:1–13 The Parable of the Ten Virgins

25 "At that time the kingdom of heaven will be like ten virgins who took their lamps and went out to meet the bridegroom. 2 Five of them were foolish and five were wise. 3 The foolish ones took their lamps but did not take any oil with them. 4 The wise ones, however, took oil in jars along with their lamps. 5 The bridegroom was a long time in coming, and they all became drowsy and fell asleep.
6 "At midnight the cry rang out: 'Here's the bridegroom! Come out to meet him!'
7 "Then all the virgins woke up and trimmed their lamps. 8 The foolish ones said to the wise, 'Give us some of your oil; our lamps are going out.'
9 "'No,' they replied, 'there may not be enough for both us and you. Instead, go to those who sell oil and buy some for yourselves.'
10 "But while they were on their way to buy the oil, the bridegroom arrived. The virgins who were ready went in with him to the wedding banquet. And the door was shut.

[11] “Later the others also came. ‘Lord, Lord,’ they said, ‘open the door for us!’
[12] “But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I don’t know you.’
[13] “Therefore keep watch, because you do not know the day or the hour.

REFLECTION: Choose Today, Be Ready Tomorrow

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.

COMMUNITY TIME

SHARING THE PEACE
Let's greet each other saying: **"God's peace be with you."**

NOTICES
Sharing Joys, Things we are Grateful for, Sorrows & Concerns

PRAYERS OF INTERCESSION
We pray now for ourselves and others...

For the peoples of the world waiting through long nights of war
and injustice,
for communities longing for freedom, food, safety, and peace,
keep alive the courage that refuses to surrender to despair.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning.

For Aotearoa and all who exercise leadership and public responsibility,
give wisdom to choose the common good over power, profit,
or applause,
and courage to serve those whose voices are too easily ignored.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning.

For your church, across every tradition and community,
when enthusiasm fades and the work of love is difficult,
renew our allegiance to the way of Jesus: compassionate, generous,
and just.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning.

For our neighbourhoods, workplaces, schools, homes, and whānau,
where people wait for belonging, understanding, reconciliation,
or change,
make us companions who carry light for one another.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning.

For all who are weary in body, mind, or spirit,
for those waiting for healing, grieving a loss, or facing an uncertain future,
surround them with tenderness and replenish their strength.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning.

For those who have gone before us and whose faith still lights our path,
we give thanks for lives that endured, questioned, loved, and hoped,
and trust that beyond every darkness your life holds us still.
Faithful God, keep the lamps of hope burning. Amen.

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 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 whaka-waia;
Engari whaka-orangia mātou, i te kino:
Nou hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha,
me te kororia,
Ake, ake, ake. Āmine.

OFFERING

(We also acknowledge offerings made by automatic payment and online banking)

Faithfulness is formed through the choices we make again and again.
With gratitude, we offer what we have for the work of love and justice.
Your free will offering will now be received.

BLESSING OF OFFERING *(said together)*

Bless these gifts and the lives from which they come.
Use them to sustain hope where the night is long.
Turn our gratitude into justice, compassion, and generous action.
And keep us faithful in the work of love. Amen.

HYMN Come, sinners, to the gospel feast H&P 460

Charles Wesley (1707-88)

1 Come, sinners, to the gospel feast;
let ev'ry soul be Jesus' guest.
Ye need not one be left behind,
for God hath bid all humankind.

2 Sent by my Lord, on you I call;
the invitation is to all.
Come, all the world! Come, sinner, thou!
All things in Christ are ready now.

3 Come, all ye souls by sin oppressed,
ye restless wand'rers after rest;
ye poor, and maimed, disabled, and blind,
in Christ a hearty welcome find.

4 Come and partake the gospel feast,
be saved from sin, in Jesus rest;
O taste the goodness of our God,
and eat His flesh and drink His blood.

5 This is the time, no more delay!
This is the Lord's accepted day.
Come thou, this moment, at His call,
and live for Him who died for all.

Benediction / Sending Forth

Go into the long night carrying the light you have been given.
Choose again the way of compassion, justice, and faithful love.
May Christ walk beside you when the waiting becomes difficult.
May the Spirit replenish your courage when your strength grows thin.
May the faithful God hold you through every season,
and may hope burn brightly in you until the dawn comes.

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.

Please join us for Refreshments in the New Hall

CCLI Licence #230381

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://ww.facebookcom/wesleywellington.methodistchurch.10am