



Wesley Wellington

75 Taranaki Street

www.wesleychurch.org.nz

**Sunday 9 May
Easter 6**

Kia ora Koutou Katoa—Talofa Lava
Malo e lelei—Bula Vinaka

Greetings to you all!

***Haere
mai ki
tenei
Whare
Karakia***



***Welcome
to this
House
of
Prayer***

We are a multi-racial Christian community:
Methodist in affiliation - Ecumenical in intention
Diverse in theology - Inclusive in outreach.

Order of Service

Wesley Methodist Church 75 Taranaki Street

10am Congregation

9 May 2021 Easter 6

Leader: Philip Garside.

Organist: Colin Scarf. Guitar: Heather Garside

Welcome, Introduction & Safety Briefing

Call to Worship

Spirit of new creation

Renew us with your holy love.

Be in our deeds

**That our hands may surprise us
with their skills and gentleness.**

Be in our minds

**That our thoughts may startle us
with new wisdom and humility.**

Be in our feelings

**That our hearts may uplift us
with compassion and courage.**

Be in our praying

**That your love may flood us
with wonder, peace and joy.**

Spirit of new creation

**let your glory flame out
from our ordinary lives, Amen.**

Lighting the candle: Litany – Sung

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
let your *light* shine through

let your *light* shine through [pause]

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
let your *justice* shine through

let your *justice* shine through [pause]

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
let your *hope* shine through

let your *hope* shine through [pause]

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
let your *peace* shine through

let your *peace* shine through [pause]

Kindle a flame within our hearts, O God
let your *love* shine through

let your *love* shine through. Amen.

Hymn: Loving God of Aotearoa.

Words: Philip Garside (2010) Music: Gustav Holst.

1. Loving God of Aotearoa,
hear now our call to you,
We have gathered in your presence,
to celebrate anew!

Yes, we come from many places,
speaking, thinking differently,
But in you we are united
one whole, strong family.

Refrain:

Let us heed your call to service
and follow lovingly,
May we be compassionate people,
alive in you and free.

2. Scripture tells of faithful people,
who spread your light and love
Now inspire, lead, direct us,
so we can be like them.
May the Way that Christ has taught us,
and the power of your Word,
Set a fire burning in us,
for justice and for love.

3. Rimu tall with tui singing,
proclaim your majesty,
You who care for all creation,
will always care for me.
Matariki's spirit guide us,
rise within us all the year.
Help us live and speak forgiveness,
your people want to hear.

Prayer of Approach: Prayer of Confession and Approach

O God, we approach you with hesitation and ambivalence:
we confess to hardness of heart,
poverty of spirit and weariness of soul.

**We have resisted your grace,
depending instead on our own virtues.**

We have rejected your laws,
following instead the desires of our own hearts.

**We live at some distance from the life-giving mercy
that would renew us.**

Hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken.

**Draw near to us
and grant us the peace of communion
with you and all your people.**

Through Jesus Christ our Lord...
(Silence)

Words of Assurance:

Hear now these words of assurance:

“Come unto me,” Jesus says,

“All of you who labour and are carrying heavy burdens,
and I will give you rest.

For my yoke is easy,
And my burden is light.”

**Let us hear the good news of God’s gracious invitation.
Let us receive the gift of abundant life. Amen.**

Time with children / Introducing the Theme

Song: Be still and know (*Scripture in Song* 1972)

1. Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God
Be still and know that I am God.
2. I am the Lord that healeth thee
I am the Lord that healeth thee
I am the Lord that healeth thee.
3. In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust
In thee, O Lord, do I put my trust.

Readings

I John 5:1-6

Faith Conquers the World

Everyone who believes that Jesus is the Christ has been born of God, and everyone who loves the parent loves the child. By this we know that we love the children of God, when we love God and obey his commandments. For the love of God is this, that we obey his commandments. And his commandments are not burdensome, for whatever is born of God conquers the world. And this is the victory that conquers the world, our faith. Who is it that conquers the world but the one who believes that Jesus is the Son of God?

Testimony concerning the Son of God

This is the one who came by water and blood, Jesus Christ, not with the water only but with the water and the blood. And the Spirit is the one that testifies, for the Spirit is the truth.

John 15:9-17

As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

'This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another.

Song to listen to: If ye love me, keep my commandments.

Music: Thomas Tallis

Sermon: Connecting through prayer

Hymn: Will you offer me compassion? AA 160

Words: John Weir. Music: Douglas Mews.

1. Will you offer me compassion?
Will you walk the road with me?
Brother, sister, will you feed me
ripe fruit from the Mercy Tree?

3. I do not deserve your loving,
brother, sister, yet I plead -
I am human, I have need of
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

2. Will you utter words of comfort?
Will you bless me with your peace?
Mercy is the gift I long for:
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

4. If you offer me your friendship,
if you make your peace with me,
mercy will most surely touch you:
mercy from the Mercy Tree.

Community Time

Sharing the Peace

Let's greet each other saying: **"Peace be with you."**

Notices

Sharing Joys and Sorrows

Prayers of Intercession

To the bidding: "...Ever-loving God, in your mercy" would you please
respond with: **"hear our prayer."**

Lord's Prayer [Sung]

**Our Father in heaven
holy be your Name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins
as we forgive those who sin against us.**

**Do not put us to the test,
but deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom, the power,
and the glory are yours now and for ever. Amen.**

Offering

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

Blessing of Offering (said together)

**We bring our gifts in gratitude for the generosity of God.
We bring our gifts in expectation
that they will be used for the work of God.
We bring our gifts in love for the people of God.
We bring our gifts asking for God's blessing upon them.
Amen.**

Hymn: O God, Each Day You Bless Us.

Words: Carolyn Winfrey Gillette (2004). Tune *Ellacombe*

1. O God, each day you bless us with gifts of your shalom:
You give us peace and justice, you welcome lost ones home.
You care for your creation and set your people free;
You offer us salvation and build community.
2. You make us sons and daughters baptised and reconciled!
You show us: Each peace-maker is blest as your own child.
You fill us at your table with strength for each new day;
Then Spirit-filled we're able to live your peaceful way.
3. We'll worship, pray, and study, to learn new skills for peace;
We'll work as one strong body so justice will increase.
We'll build new global friendships, seek peace in every land,
Protect the earth you gave us and give with outstretched hand.

Benediction

You are God's servants, gifted with dreams and visions.
Upon you rests the grace of God like flames of fire.
Love and serve the Lord in the strength of the Spirit.
May the deep peace of Christ be with you,
the strong arms of God sustain you,
and the power of the Holy Spirit
strengthen you in every way. **Amen.**

The Grace (Said together)

**The Grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit, be with us all. Amen**

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Liturgy and readings for this service were sourced from:

Let Us Pray, Janet Nelson 1999; *Gathering* – United Church of Canada; Diane Karay Tripp, quoted in *Art of Curating Worship*, Mark Pierson 2010; Philip Garside; *Prayers and Liturgies of Confession and Assurance*, Kenneth H Carter, Abingdon 2009