



KNOX CHURCH, ŌTEPOTI DUNEDIN

10am – Rua tekau ma ono Hanuere
(26 January) 2025

Third Sunday after Epiphany
Rātapu toru i muri i te Epifani

Organ music (Waiata Ōkana) “*Wie schon leuchtet der Morgenstern*” (*How brightly beams the morning star*) Andreas Armsdorff (1670-99), “*Folk song*” Percy Whitlock (1903-46)

Greeting (Rāhiritanga)

Kia noho a Ihowā ki a koutou. The Lord be with you.

Mā Ihowā koe e manaaki. The Lord bless you.

Call to Worship (Karanga ki te karakia)

Hymn (Hene)

1 Let us build a house where love can dwell
and all can safely live,
a place where saints and children tell
how hearts learn to forgive;
built of hopes and dreams and visions,
rock of faith and vault of grace;
here the love of Christ shall end divisions:
*All are welcome, all are welcome,
all are welcome in this place.*

2 Let us build a house where prophets speak,
and words are strong and true,
where all God’s children dare to seek
to dream God’s reign anew.
Here the cross shall stand as witness
and as symbol of God’s grace;
here as one we claim the faith of Jesus:
[*Refrain*]

3 Let us build a house where love is found
in water, wine and wheat:
a banquet hall on holy ground,
where peace and justice meet.

(tune: *Two Oaks*) CH4 198 - Marty Haugen

Here the love of God, through Jesus,
is revealed in time and space,
as we share in Christ the feast that frees
us: [*Refrain*]

4 Let us build a house where hands will reach
beyond the wood and stone
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach,
and live the Word they’ve known.
Here the outcast and the stranger
bear the image of God’s face;
let us bring an end to fear and danger:
[*Refrain*]

5 Let us build a house where all are named,
their songs and visions heard
and loved and treasured, taught and claimed
as words within the Word.

Built of tears and cries and laughter,
prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter:
[*Refrain*]

Coventry Cathedral Litany of Reconciliation

All have sinned and fallen short of the glory of God.

The hatred which divides nation from nation, race from race, class from class,
Father, forgive.

The covetous desires of people and nations to possess what is not their own,
Father, forgive.

The greed which exploits the work of human hands and lays waste the earth,
Father, forgive.

Our envy of the welfare and happiness of others,
Father, forgive.

Our indifference to the plight of the imprisoned, the homeless, the refugee,
Father, forgive.

The lust which dishonours the bodies of men, women and children,
Father, forgive.

The pride which leads us to trust in ourselves and not in God,
Father, forgive.

Be kind to one another, tender-hearted, forgiving one another,
as God in Christ forgave you. Amen.

Passing the Peace (Te tuku i te Rangimārie)

Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God (Matt 5:9).

Kia tāu te rangimārie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou.

May the peace of Christ be with you always.

Ki a koe anō hoki. And also with you

Please stand and make a gesture of peace towards people around you

First Focus (Kaupapa Tuatahi): Joining the Community of the Cross of Nails

Hymn (Himene)

AA 130 - Shirley Murray

1 Teach us, O loving heart of Christ,
what only love can say:
"Father, forgive" and still forgive
the blindness of our way.

2 Torn is the world you came to save -
it bleeds from hands and side,
slow is your Church to bear the scars
where suffering love has died.

3 We have not healed our neighbour's hurt
nor learned our neighbour's tongue:
across the span of creed and race
your song is not yet sung.

4 We have not found your way of peace
when lack of peace is death:
we have not fed with word or bread
the hunger of the earth.

5 Christ in whose hands were thrust the
nails
and yet for us could pray –
forgive the things we have not done,
the words we do not say.

1st Bible Reading (Pānui Paipera Tapu Tuatahi):

Nehemiah 8:1-3, 5-6, 8-10

Whakarongo ki te Wairua Tapu, Listen to the Holy Spirit.

Māuruuru e te Atua, Thanks be to God.

2nd Bible Reading (Pānui Paipera Tapu Tuarua): Luke 4:14-21

Whakarongo ki te Kupu a te Atua, Listen for the Word of God.

Māuruuru e te Atua, Thanks be to God.

Second Focus (Kaupapa Tuarua):

What will it be: a well-digger or a scratchy hen?

Hymn (Hīmene)

AA 55 - Marnie Barrell

At the conclusion of this Hymn, a basket of donated items for the Presbyterian Support foodbank will be brought forward and dedicated. If you wish to contribute financially to the work of Knox Church and you are not on our electronic giving system, please place your cash offering in one of the donation boxes at the back of the church as you leave. Thank you for your support.

1 Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,
hidden now in mystery,
nature bursts with joyful promise,
ripe with what is yet to be.
In a wealth of rich invention,
still the work of art unfolds:
barely have we seen, and faintly,
what God's great salvation holds.

2 Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,
making Jesus seen and heard.
Every age of God's creation
grasps new meaning from the Word.
Show us, Holy Spirit, show us
your new work begun today:
eyes and ears and hearts are open,
teach us what to do and say.

3 Great and deep the Spirit's purpose:
all God's children brought to birth,
freed from hunger, fear and evil
every corner of the earth,
and a million million voices
speak with joy the Saviour's name;
every face reflects Christ's image,
never any two the same.

4 Great and deep the Spirit's purpose,
nothing shall be left to chance.
All that lives will be united
in the everlasting dance.
All fulfilled and all perfected,
each uniquely loved and known,
Christ in glory unimagined
once for all receives God's own.

Dedication of the Offering (Te Whakatapunga o ngā Koha)

Prayers of the people (Ngā karakia a te iwi)

The Lord's Prayer (Te Inoi a te Ariki)

E tō mātou Matua i te rangi
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tāu e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua,
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Hōmai ki a mātou āianei
he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua ō mātou hara,
Me mātou hoki e muru nei
i ō te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Āua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
Engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino:
Nōu hoki te rangatiratanga, te kaha,
me te korōria, Āke āke āke. Āmine.

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.

Notices (Pānui)

Hymn (Hīmene)

HIOS 15 - Shirley Murray

1 Christ has changed the world's direction
Christ can change the human heart:
agents of the new creation
mend the people torn apart;
so are we
charged to be
go-betweens for unity.

2 Peace will be our way of thinking:
common wealth and common state.
Gone the wounds, the words and
weapons
that conspire to hurt and hate,
and no power
shall devour
earth or air where peace might flower.

3 Debts and doubts will be forgiven,
cancelled in the name of God,
olive trees again be planted
there where soldiers boots have trod,
hunger fed,
terror fled,
justice shining in its stead.

4 What have we as commendation,
sent to speak, as speak we must?
Love will be our global language,
hands an enemy can trust,
faith to faith,
race with race
all shall find a meeting place.

5 Envoys of a high commission,
gifts of hope we find to share,
Christ the Spirit reconciling,
Christ our internet of care.
Though we stall,
fail or fall
shall we now refuse God's call?

Sung Blessing

AA 102

Now unto who is able to keep,
able to keep you from falling,
and present you faultless
before the presence of his glory
with exceeding joy;
to the only wise God our Saviour,
be glory and majesty,
dominion and power
both now and ever. Amen.

Organ music (Waiata Ōkana) *Concerto in A minor* (BWV 593) Antonio Vivaldi, arr. JS Bach (1685-1750)

Evening service – 7pm – Communion service in the Church, with the Choir - led by Margaret Garland

Serving today

Minister – Graham Redding
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson
Reader – Sara Brown
Prayer – Peter Matheson
Welcoming team – Margot Skinner's team
Counting team – team 2

Contact details

Ordained ministry team - minister@knoxchurch.org.nz
Church Office - 4770229, admin@knoxchurch.org.nz
Church website - knoxchurch.org.nz

In relation to your monetary offering, you may:

- *Make regular automatic payments (which are tax deductible) - contact Chris Bloore at plannedgiving@knoxchurch.org.nz*
- *Give online to the Church's bank account at 03 0903 0016425 00 - our charity number for tax rebate purposes is #CC52318*
- *Give into the offering boxes at the back of the church when you arrive or as you leave.*

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Readings retrieved from <https://lectionary.library.vanderbilt.edu/> [retrieved, 20 January 2025].

Image retrieved from <https://www.coventrycathedral.org.uk/> [retrieved, 21 January 2025].



Community of the Cross of Nails

For about a year Knox Church members have been thinking about joining this global Community, which is based in Coventry Cathedral in England. Several of our members have visited the Cathedral in the past and been deeply impressed by its engagement for peace and justice. The warm response from Coventry to our enquiries has encouraged our Outward Engagement Committee to explore what joining would mean for us as a congregation. At the community meetings of the congregation the proposal was explained in general terms and welcomed and the Church Council has therefore agreed to us committing ourselves to membership.

An exciting recent development has been that the Anglican parish of Otago Peninsula in Anderson's Bay is going to join the Community at the same time, and members of both churches have met together informally to nut out the details.

In March a representative of Coventry Cathedral will present both Knox and St Michael's with a cross of nails as a symbol of our common commitment. We believed that it was important for us to take good time in moving to this happy outcome, so that it could become a genuine grass-roots movement of the whole congregation at Knox. If we prepare properly it could be truly transformative.

We will be circulating more material from Coventry about the activities and ethos of this ecumenical community in February.

A central motive for joining the Community is that it puts us to touch with an exciting, world-wide group of some 260 congregations, chaplaincies, schools and retreat centres. We hope to learn heaps from them are committed to the three main aims of the Community: the healing of the nations, learning to live with diversity, and building a culture of justice and peace. As a sign of this we will regularly pray the Litany of Reconciliation and the cross of nails itself will be displayed in the church. We already run various mini-series in Knox and our membership in this Community will give us a supportive umbrella for reaching out to the world around us.

This may all sound a tad pious and generalised but we need to keep in mind that the impetus for founding the Community was the horrors of the Second World War, including the bombing and devastation of Coventry Cathedral. The counter-intuitive reaction of the cathedral to this calamity, despite the anger and terror of the war: "God forgive", was to lead eventually to a sense of solidarity with German Christians experiencing the destruction of their churches in Dresden and Hamburg.

Out of the medieval nails recovered from the ruins of Coventry Cathedral crosses were formed and shared with their erstwhile wartime enemies. Since then the Community has spread to other centres of conflict such as South Africa.

All this, of course, highlights the healing power of the Christian Gospel, though none of it happened easily. Much was due to the tireless mediatory work of Paul Oestreicher, once a King's High pupil in Dunedin, who became Dean of Coventry Cathedral. So the links between us in Ōtepoti and Coventry go back many decades!

As we thoughtfully and prayerfully prepare to make this commitment we will be excited about the new openings it will offer us to be part and parcel of courageous communities of Christians scattered throughout our war-torn and very confused world. They seek, like us, to follow the call to the very different kingdom of the Prince of Peace. So let us quietly pray that this new initiative may be transformative for us and our new partners in Otago Peninsula Anglican parish.