



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

10am – Sunday 31 March 2024

Easter Sunday

Ratapu Aranga

Pre-service “*Jesus Christ is Risen Today*” George Thalban-Ball, “*Erschienen ist der herrlich Tag*” (Christ is Risen)
JS Bach (1685-1750), “*Awake my heart, with gladness!*” music Flor Peeters (1903-86)
“*O Filii et Filiae*” (O Sons and Daughters) Flor Peeters

Introit “*Since by Man came death*” (by man came also the resurrection of the dead) from *The Messiah*
text 1 Corinthians 15 vs 21-22, music G F Handel (1685-1759)

Greeting

Kua ara te Karaiti

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

Mā Ihowā koe e manaaki. The Lord bless you.

A biblical vision: Isaiah 25:6-9

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines, of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain the shroud that is cast over all peoples, the sheet that is spread over all nations; he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces, and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth, for the LORD has spoken.

It will be said on that day, Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.

**This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.**

Hymn

1 The day of resurrection!
Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness,
the passover of God!
From death to life eternal,
from sin's dominion free,
our Christ has brought us over
with hymns of victory.

2 Our hearts be pure from evil,
that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal
of resurrection light;

CH4 413 - St John of Damascus, translated JM Neale

and, listening to his accents,
may hear, so calm and plain,
his own 'All hail!' and, hearing,
may raise the victor strain.

3 Now let the heavens be joyful
and earth her song begin,
the round world keep high triumph
and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen
their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord has risen,
our Joy that has no end.

A Resurrection Prayer based on Mark 16:3 *we remain seated*

Who will roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb?

Inside each of us is a tomb,
a place where we bury things
that are too painful or too shameful to bear,
things that we do not want to see the light of day.
But we know that for healing to occur,
the tomb cannot stay sealed.
We must welcome the Light.

Who will roll away the stone from the entrance to the tomb?

Come, Holy Spirit, come.
Roll away the stone,
so that the Light of the risen Christ
might flood the tomb,
beckoning us toward freedom and peace.

Amen.

Passing of the Peace

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

Kia tau te rangimarie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou.

May the peace of Christ be with you always. **And also with you.**

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

Focus: Mary Magdalene

Anthem "*Let The Song be Begun*" Piae Cantiones, 1582; "*Personent hodie*" arr. Don Mali

Gospel Reading: Mark 16:1-8

In this is the Word of God. Praise to Christ the Word.

Focus: A high-stakes rumour of resurrection

Hymn

CH4 422 – Shirley Murray

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 there are several options, including Eftpos at the door of the church and via our direct debit donation system. Cash offerings can be put in one of the donation boxes at the back of the church as you leave. Thank you for your support.

1 Christ is alive, and the universe must
celebrate
and the stars and the suns shout on this
joyful Day!

Christ is alive, and his family must celebrate
in a great alleluia,
a great alleluia
to praise the power that made the stone
roll away.

2 Here is our hope: in the mystery of suffering
is the heartbeat of Love, Love that will not let go;
here is our hope, that in God we are not separate,
and we sing alleluia,
we sing alleluia
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.

3 Christ Spirit, dance through the dullness of humanity
to the music of God, God who has set us free!
You are the pulse of the new creation's energy;
with a great alleluia,
a great alleluia
to praise the power that made the stone roll away.

Feast of the Resurrection

According to the Gospel of Saint John,
on Easter morning, just after daybreak,
the risen Jesus stood with his disciples on the beach,
and said to them, "Come and have breakfast."
And Jesus took bread and gave it to them,
and did the same with the fish they had caught.

As then, so now.

The invitation is for us to break bread with the risen Lord.

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

As we feed upon these symbols of Christ's life,
broken and poured out for us,
grant us a foretaste of resurrection life.

Awaken in us a sense of wonder, gratitude, and hope.

Instil in us a yearning for justice, reconciliation, and peace.

A period of silence will be kept. You are invited to ponder the mystery of the Resurrection and to hold before God in prayer anything that weighs heavily upon your heart this day. The silence will conclude with the Lord's Prayer ...

Our Father in heaven, holy 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.

Do not put us to the test; but deliver us from evil.

**For the kingdom, the power, and the glory
are yours, now and forever. Amen.**

On the night when he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and when he had given thanks, he broke it, and said, "This is my body broken for you; do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, he took the cup, saying, "This is the cup of the new covenant. Whenever you drink it, do it in memory of me."

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

As we remember our Lord's descent into darkness,

may we also remember his ascent into glory.

As we share in his death,

may we also share in his resurrection life. Amen.

A Choir Anthem will be sung as Communion is shared. Please remain seated as the communion elements are brought to you by the serving elders. After everybody has partaken, please stand as the communion elements are returned to the communion table.

"Simon Peter, can't you see the empty tomb, come follow me" Traditional Spiritual

Hymn

CH4 519 - Charles Wesley

1 Love divine, all loves excelling,
joy of heaven, to earth come down,
fix in us thy humble dwelling,
all thy faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, thou art all compassion,
pure, unbounded love thou art;
visit us with thy salvation,
enter every trembling heart.

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.

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.

Benediction and threefold Amen

Postlude "*Filii et Filiae*" (O Sons and Daughters) on the 15th cent French Melody Healey Willan (1956)

Serving today

Leader – Graham Redding
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson
Reader – Jill Rutherford
Welcoming team – Margot Skinner's team
Counting team – team 2

Contact details

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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 or using the Paywave when you arrive or as you leave.*