



# KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

## 10am – Sunday 22 September 2024

18<sup>th</sup> Sunday after Pentecost  
Season of Creation 4: River Sunday

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Pre-service *Allegro Maestoso* from *Water Music* G F Handel (1685-1759)

played by Alexa Choi

*An Wasserflussen Babylon (By the Waters of Babylon)* Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706; *Christ unser Herr zum Jordan*

*kam (Christ our Lord to Jordan Came)* BuxWV 180 Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707) played by Peter Stockwell

**Introit** “*Sanctus- Holy Holy*” from *Missa Brevis* in B flat, J Haydn (1732-1809)

### Welcome and greeting

Kia noho a Ihowā ki a koutou: may God be with you.

**Mā Ihowā koe e manaaki: may God bless you.**

### Call to worship

In the name of the Creator, the fountain of life,  
the name of Christ, the pulse of life,  
and the name of the Spirit, the breath of life. Amen

**Holy! Holy! Holy!**

**Earth is filled with God’s presence**

*remain seated to sing*

**Be still and feel the presence of God,  
the presence of God pulsing through Earth.  
Be still and feel the pulse of God.**

**Be still and hear the Spirit of God,  
the Spirit of God breathing through Earth.  
Be still and hear the breath of God.**

**Be still and see the glory of God,  
the glory of God filling the Earth.  
Be still and see the face of God.**

We invite the rivers to worship with us:

**the Clutha, the Leith,  
and all the rivers that flow to the sea.**

We invite the river creatures to praise God with us:

**eels and whitebait and trout,  
pukeko and ducks and stilts.**

We join with the waters in praising God:

**waterfalls singing upstream  
and waves dancing at the river mouth.**

We celebrate the song of the river!

**Sing, river, sing!**

## Hymn

(tune: *Praise my Soul* CH4 160) - words: ©William Boyd Grove

1 God, whose love is ever with us,  
source of all, the ending true;  
hear the universal chorus  
raised in joyful praise to you:  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
worship ancient, worship new.

3 Lift we then our human voices  
in the songs that faith would bring;  
live we then in human choices  
lives that, like our music, sing:  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
joined in love our praises ring!

2 Word of God from nature, bringing  
springtime green and autumn gold;  
mountain streams like children singing,  
ocean waves like thunder bold:  
Alleluia, alleluia,  
as creation's tale is told.

## Remembering

*Take the river stone you received as you came in, rub it between your fingers and think of a special memory of the streams, ponds or wetlands you have enjoyed. Share that memory with the person next to you.*

We remember the rivers God created in Eden and across our planet,  
rivers that are the lifeblood of Earth and vital for all that lives.

**We remember the streams of our past,  
the celebration of babbling water  
and powerful currents.**

We remember and rejoice.

**Thank you, God, for rivers and streams that flow with the water of life.**

## Confessing

We remember and confess  
that we have become alienated from Earth  
and have polluted the rivers of our garden planet.

**We are sorry.**

**We have polluted our rivers with poisons.**

**We have treated our streams as waste dumps.**

**We have turned living waters into deathtraps.**

**We have wasted precious waters in luxury living.**

**We are sorry. We are sorry.**

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As we come home to Earth, **Lord, have mercy.**

As we seek to love our home, **Christ, have mercy.**

As we seek to care for our kin, **Lord, have mercy.**

E te whanau o te Karaiti,  
God forgives you and cleanses you  
in the river of the water of life

**Thanks be to God**

## Sharing the peace of Christ

Kia tau te rangimārie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou: the peace of Christ be with you all  
Ki a koe anō hoki: and also with you

## With the family – a watery tale

### Song

(Songs of Praise 66) - L Casebolt

There's a river of life flowing out from me,  
makes the lame to walk and the blind to see,  
opens prison doors, sets the captive free.  
There's a river of life flowing out from me.

**Anthem** "Deep River- Spiritual/River Song" Andy Beck

Anna High/ piano, Carolyn Schmid/ organ

### First Reading: Ezekiel 47:1-12

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church: **Thanks be to God.**

### Second reading: Revelation 22:1-5

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church: **Thanks be to God.**

### Gospel Reading: John 7:37-39

This is the gospel of Jesus Christ: **Praise to Christ the Word.**

## Sermon

### Hymn

(tune: *Marching* CH3 423) - words: ©Beverley Jones (FFS 27)

*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 God of unexplored tomorrows,  
of today and yesterday,  
God of rock and flowing river,  
be our refuge, be our way.

3 Be the cleansing, quenching, water,  
irrigate, disturb and move,  
stir us from our easy shallows,  
current of refreshing love.

2 Guardian rock above, before us,  
strong foundation where we build,  
landmark through the haze of doubting,  
shelter where our fears are stilled.

4 God of rock and flowing river,  
now and ever with us stand  
to transform our land of promise  
into each one's promised land.

## We dedicate our offering

## Prayers of the people, followed by the Lord's Prayer

## Notices

## Hymn

CH4 149 - Brian Wren

1 Let all creation dance in energies sublime  
as order turns to chance,  
unfolding space and time  
for nature's art in glory grows  
and newly shows God's mind and heart.

2 God's breath each force unfurls,  
igniting from a spark  
expanding starry swirls,  
with whirlpools dense and dark.  
Though moon and sun  
seem mindless things,  
each orbit sings, "Your will be done".

3 Our own amazing earth,  
with sunlight, cloud and storms,  
and life's abundant growth  
in lovely shapes and forms,  
is made for praise, a fragile whole  
and from its soul heaven's music plays.

4 Lift heart and soul and voice;  
in Christ all praises meet,  
and nature shall rejoice  
as all is made complete.  
In hope be strong; all life befriend  
and kindly tend creation's song.

## Te Manaakitanga - The Benediction

Kia tau ki a tātou katoa,  
Te atawhai o tō tātou Ariki a Ihu Karaiti,  
Me te aroha o te Atua,  
Me te whiwhinga tahitanga ki te Wairua  
Tapu,  
Ake, ake, ake, Amine.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ,  
The love of God,  
And the fellowship of the Holy Spirit  
Be with us all now and forever.

*Sung threefold Amen*

Postlude "Toccata" Eugene Gigout (1844-1925)

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## Evening service – 7pm – Holy Communion – led by Bruce Howat in the Gathering Area

### Serving today

Minister – Anne Thomson  
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson  
Reader – Marita Jowett  
Prayers – Peter Wishart  
Welcoming team – Leigh Haslam's team  
Counting team – Tony Haslam

### Contact details

Ordained ministry team - [minister@knoxchurch.org.nz](mailto:minister@knoxchurch.org.nz)  
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Church website - [knoxchurch.org.nz](http://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](mailto: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.*