



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

10am – Sunday 21 May 2023

Ascension Sunday/Ratapu kakenga

Preservice music “Morning Mood” Grieg (1843-1907) arr. James Bastien, “Largo” Antonín Dvořák (1841-1904), played by Robbie Walker. “Jesus Christ is Risen” Flor Peeters (1903-86)

Introit “Gloria” Antonio Vivaldi (1678-1741)

Choir plus Junior Choristers

Welcome and Introduction

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

Mā Ihowā koe e manaaki. The Lord bless you.

Call to worship

We have gathered –
New followers and lifelong disciples,
The powerful and the powerless,
Those who have too little and those who have too much.

We have gathered, for we are one in Christ.

We have come –
Seekers and sceptics,
Sinners and saints,
The poor in spirit and the rich in faith.

We have come, for we are eager to hear God’s word.

We are all in this together.

Let us glorify the one true God.

Opening Hymn

1 Lord, the light of your love is shining
in the midst of the darkness, shining;
Jesus, light of the world, shine upon us,
set us free by the truth you now bring us.
Shine on me, shine on me:

*Shine, Jesus, shine,
fill this land with the Father's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze,
set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow,
flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word,
Lord, and let there be light!*

(tune: Shine Jesus Shine) CH4 448 - Graham Kendrick

2 Lord, I come to your awesome presence,
from the shadows into your radiance;
by the blood I may enter your brightness,
search me, try me, consume all my
darkness.

Shine on me, shine on me.

[Refrain]

3 As we gaze on your kingly brightness,
so our faces display your likeness,
ever changing from glory to glory,
mirrored here may our lives tell your
story.

Shine on me, shine on me.

[Refrain]

Prayer of Confession

Lord Jesus,

You long for us to be one, just as you and the Creator are one.

But we gravitate toward those who think like us,

behave like us, pray like us, because it is easier

than looking beyond difference to discover

what is good and kind and faithful in those we call the other.

Even in our houses of worship, we are slow to reach across the aisle

to embrace siblings in faith with whom we hold little in common.

Forgive us, we pray. Wash us in the waters of our baptism, so that,
with one mind, we might continue the work you gave us to do. Amen.

Words of assurance and declaration of peace

E te whanau a te Karaiti, God forgives us. Forgive others, forgive yourself. Amen.

Kia tau te rangimārie o te Karaiti ki runga i a koutou. May the peace of Christ be with you
always. And also with you.

Passing of the peace

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

Anthem "God is Gone Up" William Croft (1678-1727)

Choir plus Junior Choristers

Children's talk

Hymn

(tune: Dix (CH4 326)) CH4 578 - Charles Wesley

1 Christ, whose glory fills the skies,
Christ, the true, the only Light,
Sun of Righteousness, arise,
triumph o'er the shades of night.
Dayspring from on high, be near;
Daystar, in my heart appear.

3 Visit, then, this soul of mine;
pierce the gloom of sin and grief;
fill me, Radiance Divine:
scatter all my unbelief;
more and more thyself display,
shining to the perfect day.

2 Dark and cheerless is the morn
unaccompanied by thee;
joyless is the day's return,
till thy mercy's beams I see,
till they inward light impart,
glad my eyes, and warm my heart.

First reading: Acts 1:6-14

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church **Thanks be to God**

Gospel reading: John 17:1-11

This is the Gospel of Jesus Christ Praise to Christ the Word

Sermon 'We're All in This Together'

Hymn

1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!

What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!

Oh, what peace we often forfeit,
oh, what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!

2 Have we trials and temptations,
is there trouble anywhere?

We should never be discouraged:
take it to the Lord in prayer.

Can we find a friend so faithful,
who will all our sorrows share?

Jesus knows our every weakness:
take it to the Lord in prayer.

(tune: Converse) CH4 547 - Joseph Scriven

3 Are we weak and heavy-laden,
cumbered with a load of care?

Jesus is our only refuge:

take it to the Lord in prayer.

Do your friends despise, forsake you?

Take it to the Lord in prayer!

In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.

Prayer for others followed by the Lord's Prayer

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 āiane

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 kaweā 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

Dedication of the offering “Hallelujah” Leonard Cohen (1934-2016) Choir plus Junior Choristers

Hymn

(tune: Warrington) CH4 470 - Isaac Watts

1 Jesus shall reign where e'er the sun
does its successive journeys run;
his Kingdom stretch from shore to shore,
till moons shall wax and wane no more.

3 Blessings abound where Jesus reigns:
the prisoner leaps to lose their chains,
the weary find eternal rest,
and all who suffer want are blessed.

2 People and realms of every tongue
declare his love with sweetest song;
and infant voices shall proclaim
their early blessings on his name.

4 Let every creature rise and bring
the highest honours to our King;
angels descend with songs again,
and earth repeat the loud Amen.

Blessing and Amen

Postlude *Trumpet Tunes* from 'King Arthur' Henry Purcell (1659-95), arr Christopher Dearnley

played by Peter Stockwell

Sunday evening service – 7pm

Shards of Easter Light: *The Broken Body* – Communion

led by Richard Brown and Margaret Garland, in the Gathering Area

Serving today

Minister – Jay Robinson

Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson

Reader – Wendy Gunn

Prayers – Rachel Tombs

Welcoming team – Patsy Mason's team

Counting team – Paul Crack's team

Contact details

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Church website - <https://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.net*
- *Give online to the Church's bank account at 03 0903 0016425 00 - our charity number for tax rebate purposes is #CC52318*
- *Give before the service, into the offering boxes at the back of the church or using the Paywave*