



# KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

*growing in courage to live the Jesus way*

10am – 11 September 2016

Flora and Fauna Sunday – Quarterly Communion

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**Pre service music** *“Morning Mood”* Edvard Grieg (1843-1907) played by Darcy Baldwin  
*“Come down O Love Divine”* Chorale Prelude on Down Ampney Henry Ley (1887-1962)

Welcome

**Introit** *“Kyrie Eleison”* (Lord have mercy) David Hamilton (NZ composer, b. 1955)

**Call to worship** (from Season of Creation)

Kia noho a Ihowa kia koutou. May God be with you.

**Ma Ihowa koe e manaaki. May God bless you.**

We invite our fauna family to worship with us,

**All our kin living on this planet,  
from the busiest bee to the tallest giraffe.**

We join our brothers and sisters in praising God,

**Gliding hawks and watchful meerkats,  
gorillas in the mist and polar bears in the snow.**

We summon the kin we have come to love,

**The house cat and the backyard dog,  
the pony and the little lamb.**

All our fauna family in the wild,

**Raise your voices to the skies in a family festival of praise.**

Sing, family, sing!

**A fauna song of praise!**

We celebrate with our fauna family.

**Sing, family, sing!**

**Hymn “Immortal, Invisible”**

(St Denio) CH4 132 - Walter Chalmers Smith

1 Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of  
Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we  
praise.

2 Unresting, unchanging, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in  
might;  
thy justice like mountains, high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness  
and love.

3 To all, life thou givest, to both great and small;  
in all life thou livest, the true life of all;  
we blossom and flourish as leaves on the tree,  
and wither and perish, but naught changeth thee.

4 Great Father of glory, pure Mother of light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight.  
All praise we would render: O help us to see  
'tis only the splendour of light hideth thee.

## Prayer of Praise and Confession, Assurance of Forgiveness

E te whanau ... all are God's beloved people. **Thanks be to God.**

## Passing the Peace

## Notices

**Anthem** *"Ubi Caritas et amor"* (Where Charity and Love are found, God is there)

Ola Gjelio, 2012 (b. 1978)

## Conversation with young members

### Hymn *"God of the Sparrow"*

(Roeder) WOV 22 – Jaroslav Vajda, 1983

1 God of the sparrow  
God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise

4 God of the neighbour  
God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace

2 God of the earthquake  
God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save

5 God of the ages  
God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home

3 God of the rainbow  
God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks

**Reading**      **Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28**

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

# Gospel Luke 15:1-10

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

## Sermon

### Affirmation of Faith

Let us affirm our faith together.

**Women:** We believe that God creates all things, renews all things and celebrates all things.

**Men:** We believe Earth is a sanctuary, a sacred planet filled with God's presence, a home for us to share with our kin.

**Women:** We believe that God became flesh and blood, became a piece of Earth, a human being called Jesus Christ, who lived and breathed and spoke among us, suffered and died on a cross, for all human beings and for all creation.

**Men:** We believe that the risen Jesus is the Christ at the core of creation reconciling all things to God, renewing all creation and filling the cosmos.

**Women:** We believe the Spirit renews life in creation groans in empathy with a suffering creation, and waits with us for the rebirth of creation.

**Together: We believe that with Christ we will rise and with Christ we will celebrate a new creation**

### Hymn "Touch the earth lightly"

1 Touch the earth lightly,  
use the earth gently,  
nourish the life of the world in our care:  
gift of great wonder,  
ours to surrender,  
trust for the children tomorrow will bear.

2 We who endanger,  
who create hunger,  
agents of death for all creatures that live,  
we who would foster  
clouds of disaster,  
God of our planet, forestall and forgive!

3 Let there be greening,  
birth from the burning,  
water that blesses and air that is sweet,  
health in God's garden,  
hope in God's children,  
regeneration that peace will complete.

4 God of all living,  
God of all loving,  
God of the seedling, the snow and the sun,  
teach us, deflect us,  
Christ re-connect us,  
using us gently, and making us one.

(Tenderness/Bunessan) Ch4 243 – Shirley Murray

### Offering and Dedication "When I survey the wondrous cross"

Michael Praetorius (1571-1621)

arr. Peter Warwick (Knox Church Choir Director, 1980)

*We recognise and bless the gifts brought to the table,  
and those which wing their way electronically from our banks to the Church's account.*

## Communion

# The Great Thanksgiving

The Creator be with you and all living creatures.

**And also with you.**

Open your hearts.

**We open them to our Creator.**

Let us give thanks to our Creator.

**It is right to join creation in thanking God.**

God, our Creator, source of everything that is, we bring before you this day, bread and wine and with it we bring before you all creation to say:

**Thank you, God, thank you!**

Thank you for joining the web of creation for living and dying among us to redeem us and all creation:

**Thank you, God, thank you!**

Thank you for rising to life permeating creation with your Spirit to sustain and heal all things:

**Thank you, God, thank you!**

Therefore with voices of thanks echoing through the cosmos from the first day of creation until this very moment in time, we praise and thank you saying:

**Holy! Holy! Holy! Lord God of all life! The whole cosmos is filled with your presence!**

*The Great Thanksgiving continues... then*

**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 for ever. Amen.**

## Distribution

## Prayer

### Hymn “*God in such love for us*”

(Epiphany) CH4 240 - Frederick Pratt Green

1 God in such love for us lent us this planet,  
gave it a purpose in time and in space:  
small as a spark from the fire of creation,  
cradle of life and the home of our race.

2 Thanks be to God for its bounty and beauty,  
life that sustains us in body and mind:  
plenty for all, if we learn how to share it,  
riches undreamed-of to fathom and find.

3 Long have our human wars ruined its  
harvest;  
long has earth bowed to the terror of force;  
long have we wasted what others have need  
of,  
poisoned the fountain of life at its source.

4 Earth is the Lord's: it is ours to enjoy it,  
ours, as God's stewards, to farm and defend.  
From its pollution, misuse, and destruction,  
good Lord, deliver us, world without end!