



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

10am – Sunday 18 July 2021

Pentecost 8

Music to prepare us for worship “

Everyone is welcomed to worship. Please place your offering in the offering boxes at the back of the church, if possible before worship commences.

Call to Worship

Kia noho a lhowa ki a koutou. May God be with you.

Ma lhowa koe a manaaki. May God bless you.

Come, friends, come and worship. In the name of our God who shares creativity with us;

In the name of our God who shares humanity with us;

In the name of our God who unsettles and inspires us.

Let us give praise and thanks!

Hymn

(tune: Gather us in) CH4 623 - Marty Haugen

1 Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness vanished away,
see in this space our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.
Gather us in – the lost and forsaken,
gather us in – the blind and the lame:
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

2 We are the young – our lives are a mystery,
we are the old who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.
Gather us in – the rich and the haughty,
gather us in – the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

3 Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.
Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

4 Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven, light years away,
but here in this place, the new light is shining,
now is the Kingdom, now is the day.
Gather us in and hold us forever,
gather us in and make us your own;
gather us in – all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

Opening Prayer

(based on resources for the Cosmic Christ)

The impulse for survival is loud in us. It cries, protect yourself! Don't take risks. Look after number one before others.

But in the heart comes a murmur, put others first and you will escape from the small prison of self.

Grab what you can! Our ego shouts. Surround yourself with security and fiercely guard your possessions.

Get rid of this stuff, the heart whispers. Your house and your soul has become so cluttered that the light no longer comes in.

Fight! Screams the cynic inside. Get them before they get you. Show them that no one puts you down.

Go to them in love, says the heart. Anger creates anger. War creates war. Only love bears the fruit of love.

The tendency for despair and self-interest is loud in us but the voice of the heart is stronger.

Who are you? We ask in prayer.

You have always known me, says the voice of the heart. I am the way, the truth and the greater life. I am the Christ.

We pray we will listen to the voice of the heart and live the greater life of love.

Sung Response

(Gunnar Hartmann)

Let the Way of the heart, let the way of the heart, let the way of the heart shine through
Love upon love, upon love, all hearts are beating as one
Light upon light, upon light, shining as bright as the sun.

Assurance of Forgiveness and Acceptance

E te whanau, in Christ we forgiven and made whole. **Thanks be to God.**

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

Music (x2)

(Gunnar Hartmann)

Let the Way of the heart, let the way of the heart, let the way of the heart shine through
Love upon love, upon love, all hearts are beating as one
Light upon light, upon light, shining as bright as the sun.

Children "The Two Wolves"

Readings - Listen to God's Word for Us

Ephesians 2: 11-14; 17-19

So then, remember that at one time you Gentiles by birth, [a] called “the uncircumcision” by those who are called “the circumcision”— a physical circumcision made in the flesh by human hands — remember that you were at that time without Christ, being aliens from the commonwealth of Israel, and strangers to the covenants of promise, having no hope and without God in the world. But now in Christ Jesus you who once were far off have been brought near by the blood of Christ. For he is our peace; in his flesh he has made both groups into one and has broken down the dividing wall, that is, the hostility between us. So he came and proclaimed peace to you who were far off and peace to those who were near; for through him both of us have access in one Spirit to the Father. So then you are no longer strangers and aliens, but you are citizens with the saints and also members of the household of God.

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

John 1:1-5

In the beginning was the Word, and the Word was with God, and the Word was God. He was with God in the beginning. Through him all things were made; without him nothing was made that has been made. In him was life, and that life was the light of all humankind. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has not overcome it.

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

Reflection

Hymn

1 In Christ there is no east or west,
in Christ no south or north;
but one great fellowship of love
throughout the whole wide earth.

2 In Christ shall true hearts everywhere
their high communion find;
Christ's service is the golden cord
close binding human kind.

(tune: Crimond [CH4 14]) William Arthur Dunkerley

3 Come brothers, sisters of the faith,
whate'er your race may be.
Whoever does my Father's will is surely
kin to me.

4 In Christ now meet both east and west,
in Christ meet south and north;
all Christ-like souls are one,
throughout the whole wide earth.

Prayer for Others and the Lord's Prayer

(The New Zealand Book of Prayer He Karakia Mihinare a Aotearoa)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and that shall be,

Father and Mother to us all, Loving God in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by all the peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

**With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us,
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.
For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen**

Dedication of offering

Hymn

1 Called as partners in Christ's service,
called to ministries of grace,
we respond with deep commitment
fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing,
side by side and friend with friend,
equal partners in our caring
to fulfil God's chosen end.

2 Christ's example Christ's inspiring,
Christ's clear call to work and worth,
let us follow never faltering,
reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer poorer,
all God's people young and old,
blending human skills together
gracious gifts from God unfold.

(tune: Austrian Hymn [CH4 738]) Jane Parker Huber
3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission,
in a small or global sense,
help us bear each other's burdens,
breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision,
words of challenge, said with care,
bring new power and strength for action,
make us colleagues free and fair.

4 So God grant us for tomorrow
ways to order human life
that surround each person's sorrow
with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living,
our compassion to increase,
messengers of faith, thus giving
hope and confidence and peace.

Blessing

Music for our leaving “

Serving today

Officiating Minister - Peg Pfab
Associate Minister - Jordan Redding
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson
Reader - Heather McKenzie
Prayers for Others - John Elder

In relation to your monetary offering, you may:

- *Make regular automatic payments (which are tax deductible) - contact Helen Thew 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*