



KNOX CHURCH, DUNEDIN

10am – Sunday 1 August 2021

Pentecost 10

Music to prepare us for worship “Vater unser im Himmelreich (Our Father in Heaven) - Johann Krieger (1651-1735)
Andante in G major - Adolf Hesse (1809-1863), *Ver nur den lieben Gott lasst walten (Who Only Lets the Loving God Rule)* BWV 690 - Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

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

Introit “Ave Verum- Hail true body” text Pope Innocent VI (d. 1362), music Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

Grace Togneri & Jesse Hanan/ soloists

Call to Worship

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

Ma lhowa koe a manaaki. May God bless you.

Eternal One, Silence from whom our words come;

Questioner...from whom our questions arise;

Dreamer ...who leaves traces in our dreams;

Lover...of whom all our loves are hints;

Disturber...in whom alone we find our rest;

Mystery...in whose depths we find ourselves...and find healing...

Enter this space and time today.

Enfold us now in your presence; restore to us your peace; renew us through your power; and ground us in your grace.

Hymn

(tune: Slane (CH4 465)) PH 339 - Eleanor Hull

1 Be thou my vision, O Lord of my heart;
nought be all else to me, save that thou
art –
thou my best thought, by day or by
night,
waking or sleeping, thy presence my
light.

2 Riches I heed not, nor vain, empty
praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always:
thou and thou only, first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou
art.

3 Be thou my wisdom, and thou my true
word;
I ever with thee and thou with me, Lord;
heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.

Prayer

O God of mystery, who inhabits the silence and emptiness, who knows and is known by the creation you have fashioned--- grant us courage to seek you in wild, hidden places of our hearts. Grant us the vision to see you in the tranquil calmness; in the goodness among us; in the beauty of our world. May we add to the beauty, the peace and the harmony to which your creative love points us.

Forgive us the ways in which we have trivialized your mystery and attempted to control your grace. Forgive us for thinking that we have the only true image of you. Open our hearts and minds to the amazing and surprising ways in which we might experience you: though the beauty of creation; the love of the human community; the tender mercies of forgiveness and hope.

Assurance of Forgiveness and Passing of the Peace

Knox Church has a tradition of "sharing Christ's peace" with one another, which involves making a greeting of peace and saying, "the peace of Christ be with you." The response is "and also with you." At Covid Level One, we encourage people to be thoughtful of social distancing and practise non-tactile forms of greeting (i.e. a hand-wave).

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.**

Anthem *"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on Thee"* Samuel S Wesley (1810-78)

Carolyn Schmid/ organ, Sara Brown/ piano

Time for Children *What is God Like?*

by Rachel Held Evans

Hymn

(tune: Personent Hodie) CH4 193 - Percy Dearmer, *alt.*

1 God is love: God is care.
Tending each, everywhere,
God is love- all is there!
Jesus came to show us,
By the truth he gave us:

*Sing aloud, loud, loud!
Sing aloud, loud, loud!
God is good! God is truth!
God is beauty! Praise God!*

2 None can see God above;
All must here learn to love,
Thus may we Godward move,
Finding God in others,
Sisters all, and brothers: [*Refrain*]

3 Jesus shared joy and pain,
lived and died, rose again,
rules our hearts, now as then;
for he came to save us
by the truth he gave us: [*Refrain*]

4 To our God praise we sing-
Light and life, friend and king,
Coming down love to bring,
Pattern for our duty,
showing God in beauty: [*Refrain*]

First reading: Exodus 33: 12-23

Background for this passage

The Israelites had been liberated from slavery in Egypt and were on their way to the Land God promised. They had camped at Sinai, and stayed there for quite some time. But then the Lord God told Moses that the people should leave Sinai and continue the journey to the Promised Land.

Today's passage from Exodus:

Moses said to the Lord God, "You have said to me, bring this people, but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. ...For how shall it be known that the people and I have favor in your sight... unless you go with us? In this way we shall be distinct from every other nation on the face of the earth." The Lord God said to Moses, "I will do the very thing you ask for you have found favor in my sight and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And God said, "I will make all goodness pass before you, and I will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord.' And I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious and show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But, said the Lord God, 'you cannot see my face, for no one shall see me and live.' And God continued, "there is a place by me where you shall stand on a rock, and while my glory passes by I will put you in the cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by. Then I will take away my hand and you will see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

Second reading: 1 John: 4:11- 12; 16b-21

Dear friends, since God so loved us, we also ought to love one another. No one has ever seen God; but if we love one another, God lives in us and God's love is made complete in us. God is love. Whoever lives in love lives in God, and God in them. This is how love is made complete among us so that we will have confidence on the day of judgment: In this world we are like Jesus. There is no fear in love. But perfect love drives out fear, because fear has to do with punishment. The one who fears is not made perfect in love. We love because God first loved us. Whoever claims to love God yet hates a brother or sister is a liar. For whoever does not love their brother and sister, whom they have seen, cannot love God, whom they have not seen. And he has given us this command: Anyone who loves God must also love their brother and sister.

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

Reflections 'The Backside of God'

Hymn

1 God, who stretched the spangled
heavens
infinite in time and place,
flung the suns in burning radiance
through the silent fields of space:
we, your children in your likeness,
share inventive powers with you;
great creator, still creating,
show us what we yet may do.

(tune: Holy Manna) PH 268 - Catherine A Cameron

2 We have ventured worlds undreamed of
since the childhood of our race;
known the ecstasy of winging
through untraveled realms of space;
probed the secrets of the atom,
yielding unimagined power,
facing us with life's destruction
or our most triumphant hour.

3 As each far horizon beckons,
may it challenge us anew:
children of creative purpose,
serving others, honouring you.
May our dreams prove rich with promise,
each endeavour well begun;
great creator, give us guidance
till our goals and yours are one.

Prayer for others (followed by the Lord's Prayer)

Tom Hall, Progressive Christianity

**Eternal Spirit,
Source of all that is and ever shall be,
Loving Parent in whom we discern heaven,
May knowledge of your holiness inspire all peoples,
And may your commonwealth of peace and freedom flourish on earth
Until all of humankind heed your call to justice and compassion.
May we find the bread that we need for today,
And for the hurts we cause one another
May we be forgiven in the same measure that we forgive.
In times of trial and temptation, help us to be strong;
When life seems overwhelming, help us to endure;
And thus from the yoke of sin deliver us.
May you reign in the power of human love,
Now and forever. Amen**

Offering Prayer

Hymn

(tune: Hyfrydol) 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.

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.

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.

Benediction

Music for our leaving “*Tuba Tune*” NZ composer C S Lang (1891-1971)

Serving today

Officiating minister - Peg Pfab
Associate Minister - Jordan Redding
Organist and Choir Director - Karen Knudson
Reader - David Skegg
Prayers for Others - Keren Skegg

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*