



Kaurihohore Historic Church

Email: kaurichurch@gmail.com Phone: 946 0813



Kaurihohore / Kamo Co-operating Parish Sunday 28 July 2024 – Pentecost 10

The service this morning is led by Rev Freddy

Welcome to our service this morning.

In working together on our shared mission, we commit to seven core values:

Togetherness, Humility, Curiosity, Love, Inclusiveness, Justice, Sustainability.

Inclusiveness: we recognise the full equality of the entire human family to share in ministry, leadership, and worship, regardless of race, age, physical ability, neurodiversity, marital or economic status, gender identity, or sexual orientation.

We invite you to:

*Join in the congregational responses printed in **Bold**.
Stand if you are able, for the hymns and the offering prayer*

Welcome and introduction

Sentence

My steps have held to your paths; my feet have not stumbled. I call on you, my God, for you will answer me; turn your ear to me and hear my prayer. Psalm 17:5-6

[Hymn: Give me joy \(HFTC S.11\)](#)

Call to worship:

We are always surrounded by the love of God.

We are constantly encouraged by the Holy Spirit of God.

We are continually confronted by the Son of God.

We are always in the presence of God.

Silence....

God – source of all life,
the breath of your Spirit
touches gently the weariness of our souls;
re – awaking the longing for new life.

God – nurturer of all life,
the breath of your Spirit announces to the world get ready
make preparations for new life.

God – sustainer of all life,
the breath of your Spirit opens wide our eyes;
the reality of your love
seen in the new life we have in Christ.

**Adoration, honour and worship are the gifts we bring
celebrating new life and new hope we find through you.**

Amen thanks be to God. *(Ash & rainbows- Louise Casey)*

Hymn: Every day I will offer you (AA 36)

1. Every day I will offer you, loving God, my heart and mind,
every way I discover you in the work your hand has signed;
help me see I'm your image, and, you have dreamed what I might be,
every day in your Spirit, I'll find the love and energy!
2. Every day I will look to Christ, and give thanks for wine and bread
through the pain and the emptiness where your world cries to be fed;
help me see I can work for change, and wherever I might be,
every day in your Spirit, I'll find the love and energy!
3. Every day I will take your word, answer your compassion's claim,
celebrate every sign of hope, every deed done in your name;
help me see you are always there, and your light can shine through
me,
every day in your Spirit, I'll find the love and energy!

Celebrations and notices

Prayer of confession and healing

We confess God of compassion,
that regrettably we do not always live
as you would want us to live.

We live in the past.

We run away from the fullness of life.

We choose to live in darkness rather than the light.

Forgive us risen Lord Jesus

And lead us into the experience of forgiveness.

We do not always remember who we are.

Our faith flickers and begins to fade.

Our hope drains from us when life becomes complex.

Our generosity is measured
by how much we feel loved.

Our capacity to love hindered by our own selfishness.

Forgive us risen Lord Jesus

And lead us into the experience of forgiveness through your holy name. Amen.

Hymn: Come, teach us (Shirley Murray; [Tune: Richmond](#))

1. Come, teach us, Spirit of our God,
the language of your way,
the lessons that we need to live,
the faith for every day.
2. Excite our minds to follow you,
to trace new paths in store,
new flight paths for our spirit space,
new marvels to explore:
3. Engage our wits to dance with you,
to leap from logic's base,
to capture insight on the wing,
to sense your cosmic grace:
4. Inspire our spark to light from you,
to catch creation's flair,
new artistry to celebrate,
new harmonies to dare:
5. Delight our hearts to worship you,
to learn compassion's code,
to live in context of your love,
great teacher who is God!

First reading: Micah 4:1-5

Second reading: Luke 9:49-55

Message: Inclusiveness and peaceful co-existence

(Please read the background bible references before reading the sermon: 2 Samuel 5; 1-4 (Warrior king). John 1:11, Mark 6:1-5(Prince of Peace) and the Son of God. 1 Samuel 15;1-4).

Gen chapter 1 and 2 was the answer to a different question of the people: 'What is God's intention for the world- how and the purpose it was created?'. Life is to be lived in relationship with God, with people, with all living creatures, and with the plant earth. Everything is inter-dependent. It seems creation as a gift. *Our Life is a gift from God, what we do with that gift is our gift to God.*

It speaks the wholeness rather than divisions, relationship and accountability rather than exploitation.

Look at the picture, Prophet Micah is creating in chapter 4. Was the world ever like this? But, if that picture of a harmonious relationship was what God intended for the world, quite clearly that was not what had eventuated. What we have today divided world, nations at war with nations, religious wars, tribal wars, economic war, fighting for power, possessions for themselves. Millions of people left out in poverty and in refugee camps etc,..On the other hand gross destruction of our forest and animals, fisheries and birds, as well as the pollution of sea and rivers, the air and the ozone layer and the use of space for weapons mass destruction, nuclear and hypotonic weapons. These are the consequences of structural sin and the sin of the rich/ fanatics/fundamentalism and the people who thinks that they have the whole **truth**, our **way** is the only way.

- Vs. 49, Master we saw a person driving out demons in your name, we stopped him. Because **he/she doesn't belong to our group.**

Auckland is one of the world's most culturally diverse cities with the fourth most foreign-born population. According to an international study it has been found. that 42 per cent of its population born overseas, the city is revealed to be more diverse than Sydney, Los Angeles, London and even New York. Only Dubai, Brussels, where foreign born residents outnumber local born, and Toronto are ranked as cities with more overseas-born people than Auckland.

Culture and Identity: (There is always something for immigrants to learn too). Culture is way of life and Identity

Diversity - Two ways of understanding “**diversity**”.

1. **If you take diversity as a challenge**, then you have to keep ‘dominion’ as a form of self-protection because fear of inclusiveness (fear of sharing resource, jobs, education etc) then you will have to stand up for it. Some even taken the responsivity to eliminate, genocide/apathy. E.g. Palestine, Rohigia in Myanmar.
2. **If you take diversity as a rich component** of our multicultural society and the inclusive churches, then it will be a blessing.

There are many ways to understand God, but God has His own way to come into our hearts, **No one or no church has a monopoly over the truth of God.**

- John Wesley once said, “I have no right,” to object to a person for holding a different opinion from mine.

When his nephew, Samuel, (son of his brother Charles), when he couldn't find a Methodist Church to worship, then, went to a Roman Catholic church, John wrote to him, I don't care what church you go to as long as you believe in Jesus Christ...

‘Be true to your principles,use every ordinance which you believe is of God. Beware of narrowness of spirit,love as brothers and sisters those who cannot agree with you,agree with truth and reason. Condemn no one for not thinking as you think. Let everyone enjoy the full liberty of thought, abhor every approach, in any kind or degree, to the spirit of persecution. If you cannot reason or persuade a person into the truth, never attempt to force someone into it.’

Lk 9: 51-56, Since hospitality for Jesus was refused by the Samaritans, the disciples wanted to take revenge, and wanted to destroy the villages. Like Samuel 15. **Peace or violence** - Most of the people and communities, countries, families think they are righteous and they honor peace as long as other parties respect them..... The concept is “if you want peace we have it, if you want violence we can deliver it”, **Peace or violence** – If they accept us, that's fine, otherwise destroy them all. Please read 1 Samuel 15. This is a MOB mentality.

Why should anybody become an enemy just because he or she belongs to a different religion, ethnic group holding on to a different ideology? Let us look what Prophet Micah is saying and what is his dream. And **what does it mean by Peaceful Coexistence** Micah 4:1-5. Let us do a re-reading of this passage.

- God will settle disputes among the nations
- (Values of the Kingdom) – People will turn killing machines or weapons into agricultural tools. Turn the minds of scientists to development rather than building nuclear weapons.
- No preparation for war...
- Every one live in peace....Peace is having his/her own income.
- Each nation will have their own religion and god, but we will worship our God.

Amen, Peace to the world, may God continue to bless us all.

Prayers of the people and Intercessory prayers

Contemporary Lord's prayer:

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

Source of all that is and that shall be,

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

The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by the people 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 for ever.

Amen.

Offertory prayer

Greeting of Peace:

The peace of God be with you all.

And with you also.

Let us greet one another with a sign of peace.

[Hymn: Now to your table spread \(AA 100\)](#)

1. Now to your table spread we come, each one, in faith
that you alone provide the words of life and death:
in wine and bread, in promised food
we find your loving heart, O God.
2. Hands of the world stretch out, your mystery to touch
in longing to believe a truth beyond our reach,
to sing in joy, to cry in grief,
to know your meaning for our life.

3. Here is our common wealth in sharing what is good,
as though all humankind around one table stood,
this bread to break, this wine to taste –
one people in the name of Christ.

The Great Thanksgiving:

Please stand as you are able

The Lord is here.

God's Spirit is with us.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

With all your people in heaven and on earth we give you thanks, Holy Father, for Jesus Christ, through whom all things are made; who in the fullness of time became flesh and lived among us, full of grace and truth; who in obedience suffered death on the cross, and was raised in triumph that we might have life. Therefore, we worship and praise you saying:

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest; Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord; Hosanna in the highest.

Preparation:

Please be seated

Among friends, gathered round a table, Jesus took bread.

Having blessed it, He broke the bread and gave to His disciples, saying, "This is my body which is given for you".

In the same way Jesus took the wine, and having given thanks for it, He poured it out and gave the cup to His disciples, saying,

"This cup is the new relationship with God, sealed with my blood".

In sharing this bread and wine
**we remember the example of our Lord Jesus Christ,
the one who shared His life with the poor, the oppressed,
the one who lived, was crucified, and raised to new life in God.**

In sharing this bread and wine
**we commit ourselves again to follow Jesus in the Way of the cross,
to share His pain and His joy
and to claim the promise of new life for the entire creation.**

In sharing this bread and wine
**we celebrate the faith that gives us life and hope,
we celebrate the journey we begin with one another this day,
a journey of mutual understanding and companionship,
and we commit ourselves to reflect in the life of the Church today
the presence we know in the breaking of bread. Amen.**

Come Holy Spirit, touch this bread and this cup, that we might find food
and drink for our faith journey. **Amen.**

Breaking of the bread:

By the sharing of this bread and wine,
May we bring each other into fullness of life. **Amen.**

Sharing the bread and wine

Prayer after Communion:

**Gracious God, we give you thanks for satisfying our hungry hearts
with this holy meal shared in the Spirit with Jesus, your Son, and
our Lord. Strengthened and refreshed, we go from here to continue
his work in the world, through our faithful witness and loving
service.**

This we pray through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

[Hymn: Now let us from this table rise \(HFTC 419; Tune: Niagara\)](#)

Benediction and grace:

God's blessings are upon us, in the name of the Father, and of the Son and of the Holy Spirit.

Go now to love and serve!

We go in the name of the Christ.

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all. Amen, Amen, Amen.