



# OPENING SERVICE & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THOSE WHO HAVE DIED

Methodist Conference 2013

*Wesley College*

Te Haahi Weteriana O Aotearoa

<b>President</b>	Rev Rex Nathan
<b>Vice-President:</b>	Miss Jan Tasker
<b>Ex President:</b>	Rev John Roberts
<b>Ex Vice-President:</b>	Mrs Olive Amani Tanielu
<b>General Secretary:</b>	Rev David Bush
<b>Tumuaki:</b>	Rev Diana Tana
<b>Tauivi Executive Officer:</b>	Rev Aso Samoa Saleupolu
<b>Chaplains:</b>	Dr Arapera Ngaha Rev Jill van de Geer
<b>Organist:</b>	Michael Bell
<b>Soloist:</b>	Rev Robyn Allen-Goudge

# *Opening Service and Acknowledgement of Those Who Have Died*

**Theme: 'God of the past, present and future  
God in a Changing World'**

## **Processional**

*All please stand as the President, Vice President and other  
Conference Leaders enter.*

## **Chaplain:**

Kia ora e te whanau o te Haahi Weteriana,  
Talofa lava, Malo e Lelei, Ni sa bula vanaka.  
Welcome to this service where we gather to  
celebrate our life as The Methodist Church of  
New Zealand - Te Haahi Weteriana O  
Aotearoa and acknowledge the contribution  
of those who have died.

Ko te Atua te timatanga o te whakaaro nui,  
Whakapaingia tona ingoa tapu.  
Whakapaingia te Atua i runga, i raro, i waho,  
i roto, whakapaingia te Atua Wairua kei nga  
wahi katoa.

Kia kotahi to tatou whakamoemiti, whakapai i  
a Ihowa o nga mano, a te Atua kaha rawa,  
ora tonu.

Otira, te Kaihanga o te rangi, te whenua me  
nga mea katoa – tae hoki ki te tangata.

Kia tau ki a koutou te atawhai, me te  
rangimarie  
O te Atua.

## **Response:**

**Ma te Atua koe e whakau, ki te pono me te  
hari.**

## *Lighting of the Conference Candle*

### **Chaplain:**

Kia Inoi tatou:

E te Atua, tenei ano matou au pononga te inoi nei ki a koe, kia tata mai koe ki a matou i tenei wa, hei awhina, hei arataki i a matou, kia whakakororiatia ai koe i roto i a matou mahi katoa.

Ko koe hoki te Atua e ora nei, e mana nei i au Pononga, i nga wa katoa.

**Amine.**

We praise God as we join with generations of Methodists who have gone before us, as we sing the traditional Conference Hymn:

### **Hymn:**

**“And are we yet alive?”**

And are we yet alive,  
and see each other's face?  
Glory and praise to Jesus give  
for his redeeming grace!

Preserved by power divine  
to full salvation here,  
again in Jesu's praise we join,  
and in His sight appear.

What troubles have we seen,  
what conflicts have we passed,  
fightings without, and fears within,  
since we assembled last!

But out of all the Lord  
hath brought us by His love;  
and still he doth His help afford,  
and hides our life above.

Then let us make our boast  
of His redeeming power,  
which saves us to the uttermost,  
till we can sin no more.

Let us take up the cross,  
till we the crown obtain;  
and gladly reckon all things loss,  
so we may Jesus gain.

*Charles Wesley  
Tune: St Michael, MHB377*

**President:** Gracious God be near us, we pray  
through the life of this Conference.  
May your grace surround us,  
may Christ be present with us  
may the Holy Spirit be our guide and  
counsellor.  
So, in all that we do, in all that we say,  
and in all that we are,  
may we be worthy of Jesus Christ  
whom we seek to serve. Amen

## *The Ministry of the Word*

**First Reading:** Jeremiah 29:11-14

**Father of the Conference:** The Rev Trevor Shepherd

**Second Reading:** Revelation 21:1-6 – Josiah Tu'inukuafe

**Prayer:**

**President:**

Loving God,  
You have searched each of us and you know us  
You are familiar with our ways.  
In your rhythm of life each finds our place.  
You are never far from us.  
If we experience a touch of heaven you are found there.  
Should we feel completely forsaken, we turn only to find you there also.  
If we take the wings of the morning, and fly as far as we can go, even there your hands will guide us, your hands will hold us fast.  
You are with us in this unfamiliar place as you are with those we love and cherish.  
You are the God in whom we live, and move, and have our being.  
Be known to us and let your light shine within us.

**People:**

**Amen**

*Silent reflection*

**Vice-President:**

Today, we take time to remember those members of our families who have died in the past year.  
We give thanks to God for their life and witness and the contribution each has made to The Methodist Church of New Zealand Te Háhi Weteriana O Aotearoa.

## Reflection: **WE REMEMBER**

Edward (Ted) Baker  
Alison Beeston  
Edward (Ed) Petrie Boyd  
Hughan Morris Craig  
Barrie Crichton  
Arthur Dickie  
Graham Harris  
Tevita Kilifi Heimuli  
Ruth Le Couteur  
Evan Rhys Lewis  
Veronica Madeleine Lowe  
Noeline Nuttall  
Henry Heremia Pate  
Mori Pickering  
Gillian Anne Telford  
Sunnah Thompson  
Langi'ila Uasi  
Wiremu Waiomio  
Alexander (Alex) Crushington Watson  
Alan Charles Webster  
Francis Henry George Westaway  
Maurice Wilson

## Hymn: **GIVE THANKS FOR LIFE**

Give thanks for life,  
the measure of our days  
mortal we pass through  
beauty that decays,  
yet sing to God our hope,  
our love, our praise,  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Give thanks for those  
who made their life a light  
caught from the Christ-flame,  
bursting through the night,  
who touched the truth,  
who burned for what is right,  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

And for our own,  
our living and our dead,  
thanks for the love by  
which our life is fed,  
a love not changed by time  
or death or dread  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

Give thanks for hope,  
that like the wheat, the grain  
lying in darkness  
does its life retain,  
in resurrection  
to grow green again.  
*Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Shirley Murray (Alleluia Aotearoa #45)*

**President:** Lord of creation  
We, who have gathered together in this place,  
represent many cultures;  
some of us have called this land of Aotearoa  
'home' for many generations;  
some of us trace our roots back to the other side  
of the world;  
some of us carry the memory of island beaches  
and the sound of the sea;  
but all of us are called to reflect your image.

**Vice President:** We are the people called Methodist,  
and within that family are many branches and  
many traditions;  
we sing our faith in different languages and  
pray using different words,  
but we all rejoice in your gift of grace and do  
our best to follow your call to love and service.

**President** As the rivers in our eastern plains flow down  
from the mountains, dividing and re-joining,  
surging in flood, or disappearing beneath the  
stony surface, but all moving towards the  
same sea.  
So we, your people move on different courses  
and at different speeds towards the goal of  
building your commonwealth of love and  
peace in this place.

**Vice President:** O God, lover of the world,  
we pray for our wounded world  
torn apart by warring and greedy factions  
**May we be makers and menders.**

**President:** We pray for our country, Aotearoa New  
Zealand.  
**May we, who live in this fortunate place,  
work to bring about your vision of justice  
and integrity.**

**Vice President:** We pray for our church  
facing the challenges of this rapidly changing  
time.  
**May we use our shared vision and differing  
strengths to empower each other in  
mission.**

**President:** We pray for ourselves.  
**Strengthen us to answer your call to offer our different gifts and skills in your service.**

**Vice President:** Nothing is impossible.  
Whatever confronts us,  
we are the people who have inherited courage and freedom, vision and responsibility.  
**We will move into the future in hope and faith**  
**Carrying Christ's light wherever we go.**  
**Amen.**

**Inoi O Te Ariki** (*The Lord's Prayer*)

Tumuaki: E Ihowa tohungia matou  
**All: E te Karaiti tohungia matou**

Tumuaki: E Ihowa tohungia matou  
**All: E to matou Matua i te rangi**  
**Kia tapu tou Ingoa.**  
**Kia tae mai tou rangatiratanga.**  
**Kia meatia tau e pai ai**  
**ki runga ki te whenua.**  
**kia rite ano ki to te rangi.**  
**Homai ki a matou aianei**  
**he taro ma matou mo tenei ra.**  
**Murua o matou hara,**  
**me matou hoki e muru nei**  
**i o te hunga e hara ana ki a matou.**  
**Aua hoki matou e kawea kia whakawaia;**  
**engari whakaorangia matou i te kino;**  
**nou hoki te rangatiratanga,**  
**te kaha me te kororia,**  
**ake, ake, ake. Amine**

**Hymn: “Tama ngakau marie”**

Tama ngakau marie  
Tama a t’Atua  
Tenei tonu matou  
Arohaina mai.

*Son of peace  
Son of God  
here we are always.  
Show us compassion.*

Murua ra nga hara:  
Wetekina mai  
Enei here kino,  
Whakararu nei.

*Wipe away our sins,  
and unshackle  
these evil ties  
that are so troublesome.*

Homai he aroha  
Mou i mate nei.  
Tenei ra, e Ihu,  
Takina e koe.

*Grant that we may have  
love  
for You who died  
May this be so Jesus,  
that you lead us.*

Tenei arahina  
A tutuki noa:  
Putā i te pouri,  
Whiwhi hari nui

*This is where we wish to be  
led to a good end,  
overcoming darkness  
and attaining paradise.*

Tama ngakau marie  
Tama a t’Atua  
Tenei tonu matou  
Arohaina mai.

*Translation: Toby Rikihana*

*Traditional Maori Hymn  
Sung unaccompanied*

## *The Blessing*

Vice-President: We are the church,  
the mission of God is ours.

**People: We go in hope and love  
into the world.**

President: May God the heart of life  
be deep within us,  
God the Christ  
be present in our history,  
and God the Spirit  
give us power, truth and peace.  
**Amen**

## *Sending Forth*

President: Go into the world in the power of the Spirit.

**People: We go in the name of Christ**

**Hymn: ‘Ma te marie’ (sung unaccompanied)**

Ma te marie a te Atua  
Tatou katoa e tiaki;  
Mana ano e whakau  
O tatou ngakau ki te pai.

Ma te Atua Tamaiti ra,  
Ma te Wairua Tapu hoki,  
Ratou, Atua kotahi nei.  
Tatou katoa e whakapai.

*Traditional Maori Hymn*

*Please remain standing while the Families of the Deceased and  
the Presidential party leaves*

*“The Blessing” from Echoes of our Journey, Dorothy  
McRae-McMahon*