



OPENING SERVICE

Methodist Conference 2021

Online Conference

Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa

President: Rev. Andrew Doubleday

Vice-President: ‘Etuini Talakai

General Secretary: Rev. Tara Tatari

Te Taha Māori: Rev. Keita Hotere

Chaplains: Rev. Dr Susan Thompson
Rev. Tevita Finau

Musicians: Rev. Ieremia Amituana’i
Ivan Fuimaono
Wesley Machee

Opening Service

Theme: Life, in all it's fullness

Chaplain:

Kia ora e te whānau o te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa, Talofa lava, Mālō ē lelei, Ni sa bula vinaka. Welcome to this service where we gather to celebrate our life as The Methodist Church of New Zealand – Te Hāhi Weteriana o Aotearoa.

Ko te Atua te tīmatanga o te whakaaro nui, whakapaingia tōna ingoa tapu.

Whakapaingia te Atua i runga, i raro, i waho, i roto, whakapaingia te Atua Wairua kei ngā wāhi katoa.

Kia kotahi tō tātou whakamoemiti, whakapai i a Ihowa o ngā mano, a te Atua kaha rawa, ora tonu.

Otirā, te Kaihanga o te rangi, te whenua me ngā mea katoa – tae atu hoki ki te tangata.

Kia tau ki a koutou te atawhai, me te rangimārie o te Atua.

Response:

Mā te Atua koe e whakaū, ki te pono me te hari.

Lighting of the Conference Candle

Chaplain:

Kia inoi tātou:

E te Atua, tēnei ano mātou āu pononga te inoi nei ki a koe, kia tata mai koe ki a mātou i tēnei wā, hei āwhina, hei arataki i a mātou, kia whakakorōriatia ai koe i roto i a mātou mahi katoa.

Ko koe hoki te Atua e ora nei, e mana nei i āu pononga, i ngā wā katoa.

Āmine.

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!

Tongan

‘Oku tau kei mo’ui,
mo femamata’aki!
Fakafeta’i hotau malu’i
he Tamai Fakalangi.

Fijian

Sa sivi oti tu
na leqa kecega,
ni kauti keda ko Jisu
e na loloma ga.

Samoan

Sa maua i matou
i puapuaga
sa tupu tele ai le sou
ma mea faigata.

Tongan

Tau fua kolosi pe:
‘e ‘ikai fiu’a fai.
Kalauni ‘oku ha mei
tau lova pe ki ai.

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, MHB 377*

Minita: Ka whakawhetai tonu mātou ki a koe, e te Atua.
Ka whakawhetai tonu mātou.
Kei te tata mai hoki tōu ingoa.
E kōrerotia ana e te tangata āu mahi
whakamīharo.
*(We give thanks to you O God,
we give thanks to you.
We proclaim how great you are and tell of the
wonderful things you have done.)*

Psalm 75:1

Response: **Korōria ki a koe e te Atua.**
(Glory to you O God).

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.

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

Minita: E Ihowa tohungia mātou
All: **E te Karaiti tohungia mātou**

Minita: E Ihowa tohungia mātou
All: **E tō mātou Matua i te rangi**
Kia tapu tōu Ingoa.
Kia tae mai tōu rangatiratanga.
Kia meatia tau e pai ai
ki runga ki te whenua.
kia rite anō ki tō te rangi.
Homai ki a mātou aianeī

he taro mā mātou mō tēnei rā.
Murua o mātou hara,
me mātou hoki e muru nei
i o te hunga e hara ana ki a mātou.
Aua hoki mātou e kawea kia whakawaia;
engari whakaorangia mātou i te kino;
nōu hoki te rangatiratanga,
te kaha me te korōria,
ake, ake, ake. Āmine

The Ministry of the Word

Gospel: John 10:7-10

Presidential Address: Life!

Hymn: “Be the Centre”

Jesus, be the centre
be my source, be my light, Jesus.

Jesus, be the centre
be my hope, be my song, Jesus.

*Be the fire in my heart
be the wind in these sails
be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.*

Jesus, be my vision
be my path, be my guide, Jesus.

*Be the fire in my heart
be the wind in these sails
be the reason that I live, Jesus, Jesus.*

Repeat

Jesus, be the centre
be my source, be my light, Jesus.
Jesus, be the centre
be my source, be my light, Jesus,
be my source, be my light, Jesus,
Jesus, Jesus.

Words and Music: Michael Frye

Prayer

Vice President: Gracious God, giver of all that is good,
we thank you for creating the world in which
we live and with whom we share our life.

All: **Give us the grace as we need to see.
Cause us to act responsibly as part of
the family of creation.**

Vice President: Gracious God, giver of all that is good,
we thank you for making each one of us in
your image, unique and beloved.
Help us to recognise the gift of who we are,
our strengths and weaknesses, our passions
and vulnerabilities.

All: **Give us the grace of true humility that we
might know to whom we belong and find
the courage and hope to be, to love and
to serve.**

Vice President: Gracious God, giver of all that is good,
we thank you for Jesus Christ who lived and
died to show the depths of your love.

Give us the grace to be open to your love, rather than attributing to you a meanness of spirit which reflects our own fear.

All: Give us the grace of gratitude that we might see the extent of your commitment to the whole world and accept your invitation to work for its flourishing.

Vice President: Gracious God, giver of all that is good, we thank you for your generous activity in every part of our lives, often unnoticed. Thank you for the stirring of your love and justice often close at hand.

All: Give us the grace of noticing, our eyes and ears opened to recognise your Spirit in the ordinary and the everyday, calling us to share in your life-giving work.

Strengthen us to respond with courage, with peace and with joy to your call upon our lives. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

Dismissal

President: God of Providence, who has led us to this day and will lead us into the future you call us to create with you. Send us out in your name, send us to do your work, to be your people and to renew your church. And the blessing of God be with you, the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of the World. Amen

The candle is extinguished

Hymn:

“Mā te mārie” (sung unaccompanied)

Mā te mārie a te Atua
tātou katoa e tiaki;
māna anō e whakaū
ō tātou ngākau ki te pai.

*The peace of God
keeps us all.
He will confirm
our hearts in goodness.*

Mā te Atua Tamaiti ra,
mā te Wairua Tapu hoki
rātou, Atua kotahi nei,
tātou katoa e whakapai.

*May the Son of God
and the Holy Spirit too,
one God
bless us all.*

Āmine

*Traditional Maori Hymn
Tune: Old 100th, WOW 679, sung unaccompanied*