

Knox Service Outline

09/21/25

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: Pastor James Prette

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Fiona Gow

Reader: Marianne Mortimer

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements/Land Acknowledgement (Unison) Elder

As followers of Jesus, we are compelled to act justly, love mercy and walk humbly with God. It is our love of God and neighbour that leads us to acknowledge that we gather with gratitude on the traditional and unceded Coast Salish Territory of Lkwungen people. We pray that past and present injustices can be reconciled as we commit ourselves again to just and respectful relationships.

Gathering Song: Come, now is the time to worship

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Pastor

Praise the name of the Lord.

Blessed be the name of the Lord!

From the rising of the sun to its setting, praise God.

We will bless God's holy name now and evermore.

The glory of the Lord is high above the heavens, but God raises up the poor and needy on the earth.

So we will sing God's praise.

Let us worship God.

First Hymn: 321 - Praise to the Lord

Verses 1,3,4

Gathering Prayer

Pastor

God our Creator, You sustain your creation as the source of life for every precious thing. You have given us more than we could ever earn or deserve, and so we offer you our love and loyalty, for without you, we would not be. Receive our worship this day, O God. Speak to us in the sounds and silence of this hour, and amaze us with your promise of new life revealed in Jesus Christ, and your power at work in us and among us through the Spirit. Amen.

Second Hymn: 371 - Love divine, all loves excelling

Verses 1,3,4

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Reader

Holy God, send us your Spirit to give us a fresh understanding of the Scriptures this day. Challenge us and change our lives as we encounter your wisdom and truth, through Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

First Scripture: Jeremiah 8:18-9:1 [OT 708]

Reader

My joy is gone; grief is upon me; my heart is sick. Listen! The cry of the daughter of my people from far and wide in the land: “Is the LORD not in Zion? Is her King not in her?” (“Why have they provoked me to anger with their images, with their foreign idols?”) “The harvest is past, the summer is ended, and we are not saved.” For the brokenness of the daughter of my people I am broken, I mourn, and horror has seized me. Is there no balm in Gilead? Is there no physician there? Why then has the health of the daughter of my people not been restored?

O that my head were a spring of water and my eyes a fountain of tears, so that I might weep day and night for the slain of the daughter of my people!

Second Scripture: 1 Timothy 2:1-7 [NT 209]

Reader

First of all, then, I urge that supplications, prayers, intercessions, and thanksgivings be made for everyone, for kings and all who are in high positions, so that we may lead a quiet and peaceable life in all godliness and dignity. This is right and acceptable before God our Savior, who desires everyone to be saved and to come to the knowledge of the truth. For there is one God; there is also one mediator between God and humankind, Christ Jesus, himself human, who gave himself a ransom for all—this was attested at the right time. For this I was appointed a herald and an apostle (I am telling the truth; I am not lying), a teacher of the gentiles in faith and truth.

Scripture Response

Reader

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Luke 16:1-13 “Shrewd Generosity”

Pastor

Third Hymn: 569 - O Jesus I Have Promised

Verses 1,2,4

Offering and Prayer

Pastor

In every generation, God calls us to participate in the world's healing and renewal. The gifts we offer will help touch lives with God's renewing grace. Be generous as God is generous.

Offering Song: 306 - Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Pastor

We bring our gifts to you, O God, in gratitude for all you give us. Bless them and make them a source of healing for a world in need, for the sake of Jesus Christ, who sends us out in love. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Pastor

Generous God, You have enriched us with life worth living, but we confess we often squander your good gifts. We have wasted our time and energy, but held tightly to things we think we need. Forgive our foolish priorities and those times we overlooked the needs of others. Inspire us to live more generously, trusting your goodness to sustain us always. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor

Friends in Christ, while it is true that we have squandered God's good gifts, it is a greater truth that we are forgiven through God's love in Jesus Christ. Trust the mercy of God, and be at peace with God, with yourself, and with one another.

Pastoral Prayers (Responsive)

Pastor

God in whom we live and move and have our being, each week our prayers join with those of Christians around the world to seek your healing grace for those in need and to pray for justice and mercy in your fragile creation. We thank you for the ways in which your Spirit can surprise us, bringing healing and hope in situations which cause us to despair. Encourage us when we feel overwhelmed.

God, speak to us a word of hope
Embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people living face to face with war and violence, for the peoples of ... and all those places where ancient hatreds burn.

(Moment of silence.)

God, speak to us a word of peace
Embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people living with illness and suffering, for those struggling with disability or waiting for treatment, and for those who know grief or fear or loneliness...

(Moment of silence.)

God, speak to us a word of healing
Embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today people facing discrimination and social prejudice, for those who are bullied at school, at work, or at home, and for those who are made ashamed of who they are...

(Moment of silence.)

God, speak to us a word of dignity
Embrace us with your love.

We remember before you people caught up in economic uncertainty, those worried for the future, or struggling to make ends meet...

(Moment of silence.)

God, speak to us a word of reassurance
Embrace us with your love.

We remember before you today your whole creation in its increasing vulnerability. Teach us how to care for the rips and tears in the fabric of the world you love so that all your creatures may live together in health and wholeness...

(Moment of silence.)

God, speak to us a word of wisdom
Embrace us with your love.

Receive all our prayers, spoken and unspoken, as we offer together the words Jesus taught us ...

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

Pastor

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever. Amen

Fourth Hymn: 637 - Take my life and let it be

All verses

Blessing

Pastor

Go with confidence and commitment, to serve God in ways large and small for the sake of Christ, our friend and Saviour. And may God bless you and keep you; may God's face shine upon you, and bring you joy and peace, now and evermore. Amen.

Dispersal Song: 622 - Go now in peace

Postlude