

Knox Service Outline - Communion 11/02/25

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: Cathy Victor

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Ursula Crockett

Reader: Harold McNabb

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Elder

God's Blessing on You

No Repeats

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: Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary

Repeat Twice

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Pastor

Those who wait for the Lord shall renew their strength.

They shall mount up with wings as eagles;

They shall run and not be weary;

They shall walk and not faint.

In the company of all God's saints and pilgrims, come and worship.

We come with prayer and praise to find our strength renewed!

First Hymn: 611 For All the Saints

Gathering Prayer

Pastor

Holy One, Ancient of days, God of our everyday lives, we praise you for your guidance and care in every generation. We give thanks for the example of those who have gone before us, who taught us your name and brought us to faith. In the great mystery of your love, we know these saints gather to praise and adore you for your wisdom that instructs, your grace that redeems, your Spirit who guides us, and for the comfort and hope we claim in the knowledge that neither death nor life can separate us from your love in Christ Jesus.

Gracious God, you have been faithful to us in every generation. Yet we confess that we are not always so faithful to you. We shrink from costly discipleship, and we seek cheap grace. Forgive our fleeting enthusiasms and our shallow commitments. And guide us always with the love and mercy we witness in Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor

God's love for us is tender and compassionate. It meets us in the dark places where we forget that there is still hope. Christ's grace and love is lavish and unending, surrounding and upholding us, always ready to create something new. We are set free to begin again as redeemed people! Friends believe the good news! In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven people. Thanks be to God! Amen.

Second Hymn: 763 To Show by Touch and Word

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Reader

God of the prophets and poets, the seers and storytellers of scripture, thank you for the ancient visions of your truth that still guide us. Send us your Spirit this day to open our minds and hearts to the word you have for us in our times, in the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

First Scripture: Isaiah 42:5-10 (OT 670)

Reader

Thus says God, the LORD, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people upon it and spirit to those who walk in it: I am the LORD; I have called you in righteousness; I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations, to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness. I am the LORD; that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols. See, the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; before they spring forth, I tell you of them. Sing to the LORD a new song, his praise from the end of the earth! Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the coastlands and their inhabitants.

Second Scripture: Psalm 107:1-9 (Responsive)

Reader

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good,
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the LORD say so, those he redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands, from the east and from the west, from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes, finding no way to an inhabited town;
hungry and thirsty, their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the LORD in their trouble, and he delivered them from their distress;
He led them by a straight way, until they reached an inhabited town.

Let them thank the LORD for his steadfast love, for his wonderful works to humankind.
For he satisfies the thirsty, and the hungry he fills with good things.

Third Scripture: Ephesians 1:11-23 (NT 192)

Reader

In Christ we have also obtained an inheritance, having been destined according to the purpose of him who accomplishes all things according to his counsel and will, so that we, who were the first to set our hope on Christ, might live for the praise of his glory. In him you also, when you had heard the word of truth, the gospel of your salvation, and had believed in him, were marked with the seal of the promised Holy Spirit; this is the pledge of our inheritance toward redemption as God's own people, to the praise of his glory.

I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers, that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may perceive what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, far above all rule and authority and power and dominion and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Fourth Scripture: Luke 6:17-31 (NT 64)

Reader

He came down with them and stood on a level place with a great crowd of his disciples and a great multitude of people from all Judea, Jerusalem, and the coast of Tyre and Sidon. They had come to hear him and to be healed of their diseases, and those who were troubled with unclean spirits were cured. And everyone in the crowd was trying to touch him, for power came out from him and healed all of them.

Then he looked up at his disciples and said: "Blessed are you who are poor, for yours is the kingdom of God. Blessed are you who are hungry now, for you will be filled. Blessed are you who weep now, for you will laugh. Blessed are you when people hate you and when they exclude you, revile you, and defame you on account of the Son of Man. Rejoice on that day and leap for joy, for surely your reward is great in heaven, for that is how their ancestors treated the prophets.

"But woe to you who are rich, for you have received your consolation. Woe to you who are full now, for you will be hungry. Woe to you who are laughing now, for you will mourn and weep. Woe to you when all speak well of you, for that is how their ancestors treated the false prophets.

"But I say to you who are listening: Love your enemies; do good to those who hate you; bless those who curse you; pray for those who mistreat you. If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also, and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. Give to everyone who asks of you, and if anyone takes away what is yours, do not ask for it back again. Do to others as you would have them do to you."

Scripture Response

Reader

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

Sermon

Pastor

Third Hymn: 651 Guide me O Thou Great Redeemer

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor

When we gather as God's Church, we celebrate the gifts of so many others, for so many centuries, offered in Jesus' name. Now is our opportunity to join our gifts to theirs, so that God will be praised and Jesus' love will be spread in this generation and in those to come.

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

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Pastor

(Stand if you are able...)

Generous God, you are faithful and fruitful in every generation. Bless our gifts and make them fruitful beyond our imagining in the work of your kingdom. Keep us faithful in this generation so we can offer the inheritance we have received in Christ to the generation that comes after us. Amen.

Apostles Creed # 539 (Unison)

Pastor

(Remain standing if you are able...)

I believe in God, the Father almighty, creator of heaven and earth. I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord, who was conceived by the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried; he descended to the dead. On the third day he rose again; he ascended into heaven, he is seated at the right hand of the father, and he will come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body, and the life everlasting. Amen

Invitation to the Table

Pastor

This is the meal lovingly set. This is where bread and wine for bodily nourishment and spiritual hunger are given and received. This is food for the sinner and the saint, the rich and the poor, the weak and the strong. It is a blessing for the proud and the humble, the lost and the wise, the bold and the meek. This is the meal lovingly set and all are welcome at this table.

Fourth Hymn: 507 Break Thou the Bread of Life

Words of Institution

Pastor

That we may fulfill our Lord's intention for us, we take these natural elements of bread and wine, setting them apart from all common use, to the Holy Mystery. And as Christ gave thanks, we present to God our prayers and thanksgivings.

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive)

Pastor

God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is good to give God thanks and praise.

Living God, we acclaim you, majestic in holiness, worthy of praise, worker of wonders. In the beginning you created the universe. You made the sun and stars above our heads, the earth beneath our feet. You fashioned life in all its myriad forms, and shaped from clay, the wonder of the human frame. You spoke your word to those whom you had chosen; in disobedience they turned from your commands. You came yourself in Christ, the Word made flesh. You still call your people to repentance to renew their covenant with you, and to prepare for the joyful feast of the Lamb who is slain. By Jesus' suffering and death he defeated the power of death, becoming for us -the source of eternal life.

And so, with every generation before us, with all who will come after us, we lift our voices and sing in joyful praise:

O holy, holy, holy God, O God of time and space.

All earth and sea and sky above bear witness to your grace.

Hosanna in the highest heav'n, creation sings your praise.

And blessed is the one who comes and bears your name always!

Holy and merciful God: In the fullness of time You gave your Son for the life of the world, Who, being truly and eternal God, took flesh and became human for us-and for our salvation. Sharing our joy and our sorrow, he healed the sick, and was friend of sinners. Obeying you – he took up his cross and died that we might live. We praise you that he overcame death and is risen to rule the world. He is still the friend of sinners. We trust him to overcome every power that can hurt or divide us and believe that when he comes in Glory, we will celebrate victory with Him.

And so we proclaim together the mystery of our faith:

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Sing Christ has died and Christ is risen, Christ will come again!

Gracious God, pour out your Holy Spirit upon us and upon this bread and wine, that the bread which we break may be to us a communion in the body of Christ, and the cup of blessing which we bless may be a communion in the blood of Christ. In union with Christ, and the whole church in heaven and on earth we present ourselves to you, O God, to be a living and holy sacrifice.

Through Christ, by Christ, with Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory is yours, now and forever, and so we sing:

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and amen!

Amen, amen, O Holy One! Hosanna and amen!

Sharing the Cup & Bread

Pastor

(When it is time to share in Holy Communion, you are invited to please come forward. Please hold your hand out to receive the bread. And remember that all are welcome at this table. If you are unable to come to the front, please signal an elder who will come and serve you. The bread is gluten and dairy-free. Both juice and wine are available.)

Fifth Hymn: 527 Eat this Bread

Repeat Twice

Prayer after Communion

Pastor

Lord Jesus Christ, you have nourished us with bread broken and wine poured out to strengthen us for our journey. And you have put your Spirit into our hands to take your peace with us wherever we go. You rise in us in spite of all that challenges us within our own lives and in the world you love. You rise in us to mend our broken hearts and put us back together again so that we can befriend the world, and make peace for all God's people in your name. Set us free from our fears, our anxieties, our misdirected concerns for our rights, and the burdens we need not carry. Teach us to hear the questions that we have but are afraid to voice or even consider. Show us the outcast within our selves. Holy Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness, in words and silence, receive our prayers for others. In your love and in your power, bring healing; bring peace.

We bring to you those who need your healing touch: for those whose illness is long, painful or difficult to cure. In your love and in your power, bring healing; bring peace. We name before you those who are troubled in mind, those who feel trapped, those who have lost hope, and those who are burdened with grief. We pray for your church in all places; in troubled and broken countries as well as peaceful ones. We remember those who are running from war and violence and ask that you will protect them. We pray for those in the midst of all dangerous situations- especially we think of those whose lives are affected by hurricanes. We remember our families and friends and ask you to enfold them with your love. Bless those we name in our hearts before you.

Send us out as your witnesses to share your peace and your grace with hope and humility and for your sake. God of life and wholeness, hear these, our prayers for others and for ourselves. Open our eyes to

see the radiance of your glory, and bring us at the last to your everlasting kingdom, where in light undimmed and unending, you are worshipped and adored, Father, Son and Holy Spirit. Hear us now as we pray in the words that Jesus taught his friends:

The Lord's Prayer: 469 - Our Father in heaven

No Repeats

Sixth Hymn: 634 Will you come and follow me?

Blessing

Pastor

In the darkness may there be a blessing. In the shadows, may there be a welcome. In the night, may you be encompassed by the love that knows your name. For you are God's own people, called out of darkness into God's marvellous light. Dare to live fully your calling as servants of Christ - as Saints -set apart for God's purposes. *(The Aaronic Blessing from Numbers 6:24-26)*

May the Lord bless you and keep you. May the Lord make his face to shine upon you, And be gracious to you. May the Lord look kindly on you, And give you peace. Amen.

Dispersal Song: May the God of hope go with us every day

Repeat Twice

Postlude