

Knox Service Outline

11/16/25

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: James Prette

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Ursula Crockett

Reader: Heather Anderson

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: Lord, Prepare Me to be a Sanctuary

Repeat Twice

Psalm Reading: Psalm 98

Pastor

O sing to the LORD a new song, for he has done marvelous things. His right hand and his holy arm have gotten him victory. The LORD has made known his victory; he has revealed his vindication in the sight of the nations. He has remembered his steadfast love and faithfulness to the house of Israel. All the ends of the earth have seen the victory of our God.

Make a joyful noise to the LORD, all the earth; break forth into joyous song and sing praises. Sing praises to the LORD with the lyre, with the lyre and the sound of melody. With trumpets and the sound of the horn make a joyful noise before the King, the LORD.

Let the sea roar and all that fills it, the world and those who live in it. Let the floods clap their hands; let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the LORD, for he is coming to judge the earth. He will judge the world with righteousness and the peoples with equity.

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Pastor

Make a joyful noise to the Lord, all the earth;

We will lift up joyous songs and sing your praises.

Let the sea roar, and all that fills it; the world and those who live in it rejoice.

Let the hills sing together for joy at the presence of the Lord,

For God will come to judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with equity.

Let us join with all creation to praise the Lord! Let us worship God.

First Hymn: 247 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Gathering Prayer

Pastor

God of creation and compassion, You hear the cries of your people. You know our fear and despair. In your great love, you assure us that you walk with us in Christ Jesus. In this time of worship, we long to see your new heaven and new earth break through, making your justice known and life fruitful for all your children. We praise you for the hope you offer us in Christ Jesus. We trust that you are at work in your church and in creation so all that is broken will be made new. Through our prayers and our praise, strengthen our trust in your promised future, O God, Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer of all life.

Second Hymn: 328 This is My Father's World

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Reader

Holy God, you speak words of challenge and words of comfort through the scriptures. Send your Spirit to open our understanding to the word we need to hear this day, for the sake of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Malachi 4:1-2a

Reader

See, the day is coming, burning like an oven, when all the arrogant and all evildoers will be stubble; the day that comes shall burn them up, says the LORD of hosts, so that it will leave them neither root nor branch. But for you who revere my name the sun of righteousness shall rise, with healing in its wings. You shall go out leaping like calves from the stall.

New Testament Reading: 2 Thessalonians 3:6-13

Reader

Now we command you, brothers and sisters, in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, to keep away from every brother or sister living irresponsibly and not according to the tradition that they received from us. For you yourselves know how you ought to imitate us; we were not irresponsible when we were with you, and we did not eat anyone's bread without paying for it, but with toil and labor we worked night and day so that we might not burden any of you. This was not because we do not have that right but in order to give you an example to imitate. For even when we were with you, we gave you this command: anyone unwilling to work should not eat. For we hear that some of you are living irresponsibly, mere busybodies, not doing any work. Now such persons we command and exhort in the Lord Jesus Christ to do their work quietly and to earn their own living. Brothers and sisters, do not be weary in doing what is right.

Scripture Response

Reader

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: The Day of The Lord

Pastor

Third Hymn: 375 Fairest Lord Jesus

Offering and Prayer

Pastor

Each week we pray for the coming of God's Kingdom. Though we do not know exactly what this will look like, we offer our gifts to God for the work of the Kingdom here and now.

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

Prayer of Dedication

Pastor

Steadfast God, we enjoy your loving kindness day by day. We offer our gifts in gratitude for what we have received from your love. Bless our gifts and our lives so that your goodness will touch many lives in the name of Jesus Christ, our friend and saviour. Amen.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Pastor

God of promise and purpose, You set before us a vision of your new heaven and earth, yet we confess we easily cling to the past. We hold on to grudges and resentment. We grumble about change even when we see the need for it. We resist making room for those who have faced discrimination in our community. Forgive these old ways of thinking and acting. Create in us hearts made new by your mercy and love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor

Friends, hear the good news! While the world judges in order to condemn, God judges with justice, equity and mercy. All things have been made new in Christ and our sin is forgiven. Thanks be to God that we can all make a new start.

Pastoral Prayers (Responsive)

Pastor

God of our past and our future, God of healing and hope, We come before you with grateful hearts trusting that you walk with us through all the times of our lives. We give you thanks for all the benefits we share in a nation with many resources and many opportunities. Yet we remember before you the many who do not have enough and cannot see their way forward. We remember before you those living with hunger and communities struggling with the impact of fire and storm, earthquake and famine.

Keep silence

Abba, as in highest heaven
so on earth your will be done

We pray for all those working to relieve suffering in so many precious lives here and around the world.

Keep silence

Abba, as in highest heaven
so on earth your will be done

God of these present times, We pray for the work of healing and reconciliation engaging Indigenous communities with other citizens in this land. Open hearts in mutual understanding and provide opportunities for common enterprise. We pray for those who have come to Canada, fleeing violence and deprivation in their homelands. Provide comfort and support through the generosity of neighbours and protect newcomers from misunderstanding and discrimination. Guide us to create a sense of home that all can share.

Keep silence

Abba, as in highest heaven
so on earth your will be done

God of time beyond our imagining, We give you thanks for all we learn through scientific investigation that stretches us to reimagine your creation in its vast mystery and beauty. Create better agreement and cooperation in our communities to protect the earth for future generations by the ways we adapt our lifestyles now. Bless us all with your Spirit of courage and commitment.

Keep silence

Abba, as in highest heaven
so on earth your will be done

God of all life and each life, In these moments of silence we hold before you those on our hearts this day who need to know you are near and that you care for them too:

Keep silence

Abba, as in highest heaven
so on earth your will be done

Make us signs of hope and healing for every life we touch for we are the followers of Jesus who dare to pray together the words that he 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: 20 The Steadfast Love of The Lord

Blessing

Pastor

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Luke records Jesus saying “The kingdom of God is within you.” So go with courage, carrying seeds of the kingdom, sowing justice, kindness and mercy in Jesus’ name. And take with you the blessing of the God who made you, the Christ who mends you, and the Spirit who gives you life. Amen.

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

Postlude