

Knox Service Outline - ACM

03/15/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: April Watt

Reader: Mary Dimech

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements/Land Acknowledgement (Unison) Elder

Knox Church recognizes that the land where we gather for worship belongs to God, as does all of creation. We also acknowledge the Coast Salish Peoples on whose territories we meet, worship, and engage in ministry. We recognize that this is the unceded territory of the Lkwungen and WSÁNEĆ people. As we pray, reflect, and celebrate in this place, we do so as guests lamenting historic and current injustices. We are grateful to be here, and we honour the Nations who have cared for these lands, waters and air and continue to do so today. We ask that God lead us along the path of reconciliation, bringing accountability and healing.

Gathering Song: Be still for the presence of the Lord (Verse 1)

Gathering Prayer

Pastor

Faithful and loving God, in this season of Lent, when our hearts are sometimes heavy and our minds troubled, draw us again into the peace of Christ. Quiet our fears, steady our hearts, and turn our eyes to Jesus, who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life. As we gather in worship, fill this place with your presence, your mercy, and your hope. Through Christ our Lord. Amen.

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Pastor

In this season of Lent, when the road leads us toward the cross, Jesus says to us: “Do not let your hearts be troubled.”

We come with our fears, our burdens, and our hopes.

Jesus is the Way, the Truth, and the Life.

We come to follow him, to trust him, and to worship him.

When the world feels uncertain, and our hearts grow anxious, Christ calls us to faith.

We will not be ruled by fear, for the Lord is with us.

Come, then, people of God—do not be afraid.

We come to worship with trust, with hope, and with open hearts. Amen.

First Hymn: 461 - Be Thou my vision (Verses 1, 2, and 5)

Prayer of Adoration & Confession (Responsive)

Pastor

Faithful and loving God, you are our peace when hearts are anxious. In Jesus Christ, you have shown us the way, the truth, and the life. So we come to worship you.

God of mercy, we confess that our hearts are often troubled. We are quick to fear and slow to trust. Forgive us, faithful Father and renew in us a deeper confidence in your love and care.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor

Hear the good news: Jesus says, “Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me.” In Christ, God has not abandoned us but has come near in his Spirit. Those who trust in him are forgiven, loved, and held secure in God’s embrace. Thanks be to God.

Second Hymn: 64 - Be still and know that I am God

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Reader

Loving God, as your Word is read and proclaimed, Open our minds and make our hearts ready to be shaped by your truth. Through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

First Reading: John 9:1-41

Reader

As he walked along, he saw a man blind from birth. His disciples asked him, “Rabbi, who sinned, this man or his parents, that he was born blind?” Jesus answered, “Neither this man nor his parents sinned; he was born blind so that God’s works might be revealed in him. We must work the works of him who sent me while it is day; night is coming, when no one can work. As long as I am in the world, I am the light of the world.” When he had said this, he spat on the ground and made mud with the saliva and spread the mud on the man’s eyes, saying to him, “Go, wash in the pool of Siloam” (which means Sent). Then he went and washed and came back able to see. The neighbors and those who had seen him before as a beggar began to ask, “Is this not the man who used to sit and beg?” Some were saying, “It is he.” Others were saying, “No, but it is someone like him.” He kept saying, “I am he.” But they kept asking him, “Then how were your eyes opened?” He answered, “The man called Jesus made mud, spread it on my eyes, and said to me, ‘Go to Siloam and wash.’ Then I went and washed and received my sight.” They said to him, “Where is he?” He said, “I do not know.”

They brought to the Pharisees the man who had formerly been blind. Now it was a Sabbath day when Jesus made the mud and opened his eyes. Then the Pharisees also began to ask him how he had received his sight. He said to them, “He put mud on my eyes. Then I washed, and now I see.” Some of the Pharisees said, “This man is not from God, for he does not observe the Sabbath.” Others said, “How can a man who is a sinner perform such signs?” And they were divided. So they said again to the blind man, “What do you say about him? It was your eyes he opened.” He said, “He is a prophet.”

The Jews did not believe that he had been blind and had received his sight until they called the parents of the man who had received his sight and asked them, "Is this your son, who you say was born blind? How then does he now see?" His parents answered, "We know that this is our son and that he was born blind, but we do not know how it is that now he sees, nor do we know who opened his eyes. Ask him; he is of age. He will speak for himself." His parents said this because they were afraid of the Jews, for the Jews had already agreed that anyone who confessed Jesus to be the Messiah would be put out of the synagogue. Therefore his parents said, "He is of age; ask him."

So for the second time they called the man who had been blind, and they said to him, "Give glory to God! We know that this man is a sinner." He answered, "I do not know whether he is a sinner. One thing I do know, that though I was blind, now I see." They said to him, "What did he do to you? How did he open your eyes?" He answered them, "I have told you already, and you would not listen. Why do you want to hear it again? Do you also want to become his disciples?" Then they reviled him, saying, "You are his disciple, but we are disciples of Moses. We know that God has spoken to Moses, but as for this man, we do not know where he comes from." The man answered, "Here is an astonishing thing! You do not know where he comes from, yet he opened my eyes. We know that God does not listen to sinners, but he does listen to one who worships him and obeys his will. Never since the world began has it been heard that anyone opened the eyes of a person born blind. If this man were not from God, he could do nothing." They answered him, "You were born entirely in sins, and are you trying to teach us?" And they drove him out.

Jesus heard that they had driven him out, and when he found him he said, "Do you believe in the Son of Man?" He answered, "And who is he, sir? Tell me, so that I may believe in him." Jesus said to him, "You have seen him, and the one speaking with you is he." He said, "Lord, I believe." And he worshiped him. Jesus said, "I came into this world for judgment, so that those who do not see may see and those who do see may become blind." Some of the Pharisees who were with him heard this and said to him, "Surely we are not blind, are we?" Jesus said to them, "If you were blind, you would not have sin. But now that you say, 'We see,' your sin remains.

Scripture Response

Reader

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Trusting God in Every Season

Pastor

Third Hymn: 587 - Called as partners in Christ's service

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor

As we trust in the God who does not leave us orphaned or alone, we offer our gifts with grateful hearts. May what we bring today become a sign of our faith, our worship, and our hope in Christ.

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

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Pastor

God our Good Shepherd, receive these gifts and bless them with your love. Use them to bring light and healing to the world you love for the sake of Christ, your Son, our Saviour. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Responsive)

Pastor

God of Hope, lead us in your way.

Loving God, we come before you with grateful hearts, seeking to offer our prayers in spirit and in truth. We thank you for the comfort of your presence when our hearts are troubled, and the road feels uncertain.

God of Hope, lead us in your way.

Merciful Father, we pray for our world, so wounded by violence, fear, and unrest. We pray for Ukraine, the Middle East, the United States, and every place where conflict, grief, and uncertainty are growing. Protect the innocent. Shelter the vulnerable. Comfort those who mourn. Guide the leaders of nations in the ways of wisdom, truth, and peace.

God of peace, lead us in your way.

Gracious Lord, we pray for all who need your healing touch today. Draw near to those who are sick in body, mind, or spirit. Grant them strength for each day, peace for troubled hearts, and the deep assurance that they are not alone.

God of peace, lead us in your way.

Loving God, we pray for your church. Make us a people who trust you when the future feels uncertain. Grant wisdom and grace for our congregational meeting. Guide the future of Knox, and bless the partnership with Holydene. In this Lenten season, keep us close to Jesus, that our fears may give way to trust and our lives may bear witness to your love. And now, with the confidence of children loved by their Father, we join our voices in the prayer Christ taught us, saying:

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

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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

Annual Congregational Meeting Agenda

1. Call to Order
2. Appointment of Recording Secretary
3. Adoption of 2025 Meeting Minutes
4. Leadership Reports
5. Presentations of Ministries
6. Ministry Information
7. Finance
8. New Business
9. Adjournment

Commissioning & Benediction

Pastor

As we continue our Lenten journey, go now in the peace of Christ, and do not let your hearts be troubled or afraid. Trust in the One who is the Way, the Truth, and the Life, and follow him with courage, hope, and love. And may the blessing of God—Father, Son, and Holy Spirit— rest upon you, remain with you, and lead you in peace, now and always. Amen.

Dispersal Song: 665 - Lord Jesus you shall be my song (Verse 1)

Postlude