

# Knox Service Outline

04/19/26

**Interim Moderator:** The Rev. Daniel Martinez

**Pastor:** Pastor James Prette

**Music:** Connie Dunwoody

**Elder:** Lorraine Whiting

**Reader:** Fiona Gow

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## *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: And on this path (Verse 1)*

**Psalm:** 34:1-10

**Pastor**

I will bless the LORD at all times;  
his praise shall continually be in my mouth.

My soul makes its boast in the LORD;  
let the humble hear and be glad.

O magnify the LORD with me,  
and let us exalt his name together.

I sought the LORD, and he answered me  
and delivered me from all my fears.

Look to him, and be radiant,  
so your faces shall never be ashamed.

This poor soul cried and was heard by the LORD  
and was saved from every trouble.

The angel of the LORD encamps  
around those who fear him and delivers them.

O taste and see that the LORD is good;  
happy are those who take refuge in him.

O fear the LORD, you his holy ones,  
for those who fear him have no want.

The young lions suffer want and hunger,  
but those who seek the LORD lack no good thing.

**Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)**

**Pastor**

We have come from many places, following different roads.

**We come hungering for greater understanding.**

We have come to hear the wisdom of Scripture.

**We come seeking companions in the faith.**

We have come to discover the One revealed in the breaking of the bread.

**We come to grow as disciples of Christ.**

Come, let us worship God, made known in Christ Jesus.

**First Hymn: To God be the glory #350**

**Prayer of Adoration & Confession (Responsive)**

**Pastor**

Loving God, you are the light of the hearts that love you, the life of the souls that serve you, the inspiration of those who seek you: you are infinite, eternal and unchanging, filled with love and compassion, abundant in grace and truth. To turn from you is to fall and to turn towards you is to rise up: Your works everywhere praise you and your glory and truth are revealed in Jesus Christ, and so we praise you as Creator, Christ and Spirit, now and forever. Remembering Christ's loving kindness and mercy, let us confess our sins:

**Loving God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed; by what we have done and left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart, body, mind and soul and we have not loved our neighbours as we love ourselves. In your mercy, forgive what we have been, amend what we are and direct who we shall be. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

**Pastor**

On the Emmaus road, Jesus met friends who were discouraged and distracted by his death. Yet when he spoke God's word to them, their hearts burned within them. Hear God's word of forgiveness today. May the fire of God's love warm your hearts with God's promise of peace and new life. Amen.

**Second Hymn: My faith looks up to thee #677**

**Prayer for Understanding (Unison)**

**Reader**

**Living God, you speak to us in sacred story, through friendship and conversation, in bread broken and wine poured out. Send us your Holy Spirit as the Scriptures are read. May our hearts burn within us as we encounter your truth, through Christ, our Risen Lord. Amen**

**OT Reading:** Isaiah 51:1-6

**Reader**

Listen to me, you who pursue righteousness,  
you who seek the LORD.  
Look to the rock from which you were hewn  
and to the quarry from which you were dug.  
Look to Abraham your father  
and to Sarah, who bore you,  
for he was but one when I called him,  
but I blessed him and made him many.  
For the LORD will comfort Zion;  
he will comfort all her waste places  
and will make her wilderness like Eden,  
her desert like the garden of the LORD;  
joy and gladness will be found in her,  
thanksgiving and the voice of song.

Listen to me, my people,  
and give heed to me, my nation,  
for a teaching will go out from me  
and my justice for a light to the peoples.  
I will bring near my deliverance swiftly;  
my salvation has gone out,  
and my arms will rule the peoples;  
the coastlands wait for me,  
and for my arm they hope.  
Lift up your eyes to the heavens  
and look at the earth beneath,  
for the heavens will vanish like smoke,  
the earth will wear out like a garment,  
and those who live on it will die like gnats,  
but my salvation will be forever,  
and my deliverance will never be ended.

**NT Reading:** 1 Peter 1:8-12

**Reader**

Although you have not seen him, you love him, and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

Concerning this salvation, the prophets who prophesied of the grace intended for you made careful search and inquiry, inquiring about the time and circumstances that the Spirit of Christ within them indicated when it testified in advance to the sufferings intended for Christ and the subsequent glory. It

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was revealed to them that they were serving not themselves but you, in regard to the things that have now been announced to you through those who brought you good news by the Holy Spirit sent from heaven, things into which angels long to look!

**Scripture Response**

**Reader**

This is the word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Sermon: A Living Holiness**

**Pastor**

**Third Hymn: Holy, holy, holy #299**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**Pastor**

Our lives overflow with God's blessing and goodness in Christ and in creation. Out of the bounty of our lives, let us offer God our gifts with overflowing gratitude.

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

**Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

**Pastor**

**Generous God, you bless us with life, purpose, and opportunities to serve in the world you love. We offer you our gifts in Christ's name, not seeking greater gain, but desiring to enrich life around us with your love. Amen.**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Responsive)**

**Pastor**

God our Maker, you have walked the Emmaus Road with your faithful people in many generations, people facing challenge and uncertainty, people seeking your purpose and promise. Thank you for your faithfulness to us in all situations. Walk with us and with those for whom we pray this day, that your grace and mercy may sustain our faith and hope.

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for children and young people who must think about the future in these uncertain times. Give them hope rooted in the knowledge that their lives matter to you. Show them how to make a difference in the world, whatever threats and challenges they face as they grow.

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for those for whom age or experience, illness or disability allow for the creation of barriers to full participation in your world. Give each one a sense of dignity and purpose. Show them where their gifts are needed and how much they matter to you.

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for communities challenged by forces beyond their control: economic uncertainty, environmental stress, natural disaster, political strife. Give courage to those facing these crises day by day, and wisdom to those who lead others through them, so that wellbeing may be restored and hope for the future prevail.

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

We pray for our congregation, for our life together, and our future in mission. That future feels so challenging. It is hard to read the signs of our times and respond wisely. Sustain our fellowship and give us courage to take new paths, so that you will find us faithful on our journey into that future. We pray for the wellbeing of those lives linked to ours who bring us both joy and heartache because they matter so much to us and to you:

God in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayers.**

God our Maker, hear our prayers, spoken and unspoken, and use us in ways we may not yet even imagine to respond to others with the love and mercy that we see in Jesus Christ who taught us to pray together:

**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: Called as partners in Christ's service #587***

**Commissioning & Benediction**

**Pastor**

Now go, facing the road ahead, confident that the Risen Christ goes with you. And may the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit and the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen.

***Dispersal Song: Alleluia, Alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord, (Verse 1)***

***Postlude***