

Knox Service Outline

05/03/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: Rev. Grant Wilson

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Martha Anderson

Reader: Dennis Sutherland

Prelude

Music

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 (Verses 1-2)

Music

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Pastor

Let us see you this day, O God;

Come to us as light.

Let us hear you this day, O God;

Come to us as truth.

Let us sense your presence, O God;

Come to us as love.

Come and let us worship, God.

We have come to rejoice in God, our Saviour.

First Hymn: Love divine, all loves excelling #371

Music

Prayer of Adoration & Confession (Responsive)

Pastor

God of life, we praise you this day for the gift of your creation as new life rises around us in flower beds and farmers' fields, in the nests and burrows of your creatures. We praise you for the gift of our lives, and for all those people - from our parents, grandparents, and great-grandparents to our teachers and coaches and good friends - who have encouraged us along the way. In this time of worship, encourage us in the present moments of our lives, challenging as they may seem. Refresh us with the new life you promise us in Christ Jesus in whose name we praise you as the Spirit prays within us. Amen.

God of love, we are grateful for the love you bless us with in our homes and families. Yet you know family life is not always easy. Our love for each other gets strained some days. Forgive us if we have taken our family for granted. Give us grace to repair relationships where strain is showing. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Pastor

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ - and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free to love more fully by God's generous grace.

Second Hymn: And can it be #352

Music

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Reader

God of green pastures and still waters, quiet our hearts and minds as we listen to the Scriptures. By your Spirit, deepen our understanding so that we come to know you more fully, and follow your Word more faithfully. Amen.

Scripture 1: Psalm 27

Reader

The LORD is my light and my salvation;
whom shall I fear?

The LORD is the stronghold of my life;
of whom shall I be afraid?

When evildoers assail me
to devour my flesh—
my adversaries and foes—
they shall stumble and fall.

Though an army encamp against me,
my heart shall not fear;
though war rise up against me,
yet I will be confident.

One thing I asked of the LORD;
this I seek:
to live in the house of the LORD
all the days of my life,
to behold the beauty of the LORD,
and to inquire in his temple.

For he will hide me in his shelter
in the day of trouble;
he will conceal me under the cover of his tent;
he will set me high on a rock.

Now my head is lifted up
above my enemies all around me,
and I will offer in his tent
sacrifices with shouts of joy;
I will sing and make melody to the LORD.

Hear, O LORD, when I cry aloud;
be gracious to me and answer me!
“Come,” my heart says, “seek his face!”
Your face, LORD, do I seek.
Do not hide your face from me.

Do not turn your servant away in anger,
you who have been my help.
Do not cast me off; do not forsake me,
O God of my salvation!
If my father and mother forsake me,
the LORD will take me up.

Teach me your way, O LORD,
and lead me on a level path
because of my enemies.
Do not give me up to the will of my adversaries,
for false witnesses have risen against me,
and they are breathing out violence.

I believe that I shall see the goodness of the LORD
in the land of the living.
Wait for the LORD;
be strong, and let your heart take courage;
wait for the LORD!

Scripture 2: Daniel 3:8-18

Reader

Accordingly, at this time certain Chaldeans came forward and denounced the Jews. They said to King Nebuchadnezzar, “O king, live forever! You, O king, have made a decree, that everyone who hears the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, shall fall down and worship the golden statue, and whoever does not fall down and worship shall be thrown into a furnace of

blazing fire. There are certain Jews whom you have appointed over the affairs of the province of Babylon: Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego. These men pay no heed to you, O king. They do not serve your gods, and they do not worship the golden statue that you have set up.”

Then Nebuchadnezzar in furious rage commanded that Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego be brought in, so they brought those men before the king. Nebuchadnezzar said to them, “Is it true, O Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, that you do not serve my gods and you do not worship the golden statue that I have set up? Now if you are ready, when you hear the sound of the horn, pipe, lyre, trigon, harp, drum, and entire musical ensemble, you should fall down and worship the statue that I have made. But if you do not worship, you shall immediately be thrown into a furnace of blazing fire, and who is the god who will deliver you out of my hands?”

Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego answered the king, “O Nebuchadnezzar, we have no need to present a defense to you in this matter. If our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the furnace of blazing fire and out of your hand, O king, let him deliver us. But if not, be it known to you, O king, that we will not serve your gods and we will not worship the golden statue that you have set up.”

Response

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Reader

Sermon: Even if He Doesn't

Pastor

Third Hymn: Be thou my vision #461

Music

Invitation to the Offering

Pastor

The Apostle Paul declared that in God, we live and move and have our being. We offer our gifts to God in thanksgiving for all we enjoy in life, praying that our generosity will become a blessing throughout all God's precious creation.

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

Music

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Pastor

God our Creator and Redeemer, you made us in love to share that love with neighbour and stranger as Jesus commanded. Take our gifts and make them tokens of your love that we can share throughout our community and in the world you love, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Pastor

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: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer #651

Music

Commissioning & Benediction

Pastor

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

Music

Postlude

Music