

Knox Service Outline

08/09/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: James Prette

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Ursula Crockett

Reader: Jim Jeatt

Prelude

Welcome/Announcements/Land Acknowledgement (Unison)

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 & 3)

Psalm Reading: Psalm 85:8-13

Let me hear what God the LORD will speak,
for he will speak peace to his people,
to his faithful, to those who turn to him in their hearts.
Surely his salvation is at hand for those who fear him,
that his glory may dwell in our land.
Steadfast love and faithfulness will meet;
righteousness and peace will kiss each other.
Faithfulness will spring up from the ground,
and righteousness will look down from the sky.
The LORD will give what is good,
and our land will yield its increase.
Righteousness will go before him
and will make a path for his steps.

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

Give thanks to God!

We will tell the world what God has done.

Let us bring praise to the name of our Creator.

We will honour God's name with shouts of joy!

Recall all that God provides.

Let us give thanks for all the wonders God has made!

First Hymn: # 466 Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpets

Prayer of Adoration

Surprising and mysterious God, you come to us when we least expect it, calling us out of our routines and plans, inviting us to follow Christ into new opportunities. We praise you for the many ways your Spirit guides and comforts us. In moments of fear, you speak with words of reassurance. In moments of doubt, you reach out your hand to hold. In moments of turmoil, you bring calm to the storm; and so, we place our trust in you this day and every day, and honour you as our Creator, Redeemer and Guide, in the name of Christ, our Lord and friend we pray. Recalling your grace and kindness, and out of a desire to begin again with you and each other, we confess to you our sins:

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful and patient God, we confess our fear, doubt and anger and all the ways we are less than you call us to be. You call us to live with courage and perseverance, yet we give up too easily and opt for the safer route. You encourage us to be bold in our struggles for justice, yet we remain silent in the face of unfairness. You command us to love, yet we are too often thoughtless and cruel. Forgive us our sins and. renew our lives through your mercy and grace. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

God offers forgiveness and saving grace to everyone. Accept these gifts for yourselves and offer forgiveness to others in the name of Christ our Lord.

Second Hymn: #500 Open My Eyes, that I May See

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

God of wisdom, as we gather to hear your Word this day, calm our spirits and still our minds so that we can receive your message with clarity and respond in faithfulness. Amen.

OT Reading: 1 Kings 19:9-16

At that place he came to a cave and spent the night there.

Then the word of the LORD came to him, saying, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away."

He said, "Go out and stand on the mountain before the LORD, for the LORD is about to pass by." Now there was a great wind, so strong that it was splitting mountains and breaking rocks in pieces before the LORD, but the LORD was not in the wind, and after the wind an earthquake, but the LORD was not in the earthquake, and after the earthquake a fire, but the LORD was not in the fire, and after the fire a sound of sheer silence. When Elijah heard it, he wrapped his face in his mantle and went out and stood at the

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entrance of the cave. Then there came a voice to him that said, "What are you doing here, Elijah?" He answered, "I have been very zealous for the LORD, the God of hosts, for the Israelites have forsaken your covenant, thrown down your altars, and killed your prophets with the sword. I alone am left, and they are seeking my life, to take it away." Then the LORD said to him, "Go, return on your way to the wilderness of Damascus; when you arrive, you shall anoint Hazael as king over Aram. Also you shall anoint Jehu son of Nimshi as king over Israel, and you shall anoint Elisha son of Shaphat of Abel-meholah as prophet in your place.

NT Reading: Matthew 14:22-33

Immediately (Jesus) made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, but by this time the boat, battered by the waves, was far from the land, for the wind was against them. And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, "It is a ghost!" And they cried out in fear. But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, "Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid."

Peter answered him, "Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water." He said, "Come." So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, "Lord, save me!" Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, "You of little faith, why did you doubt?" When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, "Truly you are the Son of God."

Response

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: You Gotta Get Out of the Boat

Third Hymn: #325 Eternal Father, Strong to Save

Invitation to the Offering

Thankful for the good gifts God gives us in Christ and in creation, let us present the fruit of our living for the work of God in the church and in the world.

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

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

Faithful God, bless the gifts we bring to you today. Use them and us to plant seeds of faith, hope and love in the world so that your goodness will flourish and your name will be honoured for Christ's sake. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession (Responsive)

Gracious God, we give you thanks for help offered by a stranger, kindness in an anxious moment, good news that changed expected outcomes, relief in the midst of ongoing crises and signs of hope when things seemed bleak. We pray for all who face upheaval and uncertainty, whatever the cause. Fill our hearts with compassion and understanding for the fearful.

Steadying God,
Reach out to us in the storms of life.

God of peace, we pray for those who struggle with illness or grief, anxiety or depression. We remember those who feel worthless or ashamed, whatever the reason. May they know your peace and strength. Equip us to reach out in every way we can to embody your love in our words and actions.

Steadying God,
Reach out to us in the storms of life.

God of hope, we pray for all those people crying out for fair treatment, working against racism and discrimination, telling painful stories of their lives. Open our hearts with understanding and motivate us to act for change. We pray for those who resist the stories of injustice and defend inequality. Open their minds to the truths they deny and show them new possibilities for relationships that bridge divides. Send your Spirit to work in our communities to create mutual respect and new ways to live as neighbours.

Steadying God,
Reach out to us in the storms of life.

Faithful God, we place our trust in you and your purposes. Answer our prayers according to your wisdom and will, for we offer them humbly in the name of Jesus who taught us to pray together:

The Lord's Prayer (Unison)

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: #570 I Have Decided to Follow Jesus

Commissioning & Benediction

Whether the week ahead brings storms or calm for you, take heart. God is with us. Do not be afraid. And may the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding, guard your hearts and minds in Christ Jesus, now and always. Amen.

Dispersal Song: #755 Go ye, go ye, Into All the World

Postlude