

Knox Service Outline

08/23/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: Rev. Harold McNabb

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Ursula Crockett

Reader: Fiona Gow

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 (verses 1 & 3)

Psalm: 124 pg. 572

A Song of Ascents. Of David.

If it had not been the LORD who was on our side — let Israel now say— if it had not been the LORD who was on our side, when our enemies attacked us, then they would have swallowed us up alive, when their anger was kindled against us; then the flood would have swept us away; the torrent would have gone over us; then over us would have gone the raging waters. Blessed be the LORD, who has not given us as prey to their teeth. We have escaped like a bird from the snare of the hunters; the snare is broken, and we have escaped. Our help is in the name of the LORD, who made heaven and earth.

Call to Worship Prayer (Responsive)

We give thanks to God with all our hearts,

for God's faithful love endures forever.

We sing praises to the Lord, with all our strength,

for God's promises declare God's goodness to all the earth.

We place our trust in God with full confidence,

and we come to worship with hearts full of praise

First Hymn: Praise the Lord with the sound of trumpet #466

Prayer of Adoration

Eternal God, you are the same yesterday, today and tomorrow, and yet you come to us afresh each new day. You breathe new life into what has grown tired and discouraged. You offer healing for what is worn or broken. You restore hope when things seem impossible. You are the source of life and love for all your creatures, and you renew us to put our love for you into action for the wellbeing of your creation. And so, we worship you, Creator, Christ and Holy Spirit, and offer our prayers and praise to you, eternal and ever-present God, now and always. Confident of your grace and loving kindness, we confess to you our sins

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

Merciful God, we confess that we have strayed from your purposes. You set a path for us to follow, but we conform to the ways of this world. You give each of us gifts to use for the work of your kingdom, but we wait for others to do what needs doing. Forgive us for taking the easy way out and renew in us the eagerness and energy to serve.

Assurance of Pardon

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ – and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free by God's generous grace. So let us make a fresh start today!

Second Hymn: Come thou almighty King #293

Prayer for Understanding (Unison)

Source of all wisdom and understanding, amid so many competing voices, let us hear your word for our times. Send your Holy Spirit to help us discern your will and follow the path Jesus sets for us as your Living Word. Amen

OT Reading: Isaiah 51:1 - 6 pg. 681

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: Matthew 16:13-20 pg. 18

Now when Jesus came into the district of Caesarea Philippi, he asked his disciples, “Who do people say that the Son of Man is?” And they said, “Some say John the Baptist but others Elijah and still others Jeremiah or one of the prophets.” He said to them, “But who do you say that I am?” Simon Peter answered, “You are the Messiah, the Son of the living God.” And Jesus answered him, “Blessed are you, Simon son of Jonah! For flesh and blood has not revealed this to you but my Father in heaven. And I tell you, you are Peter, and on this rock I will build my church, and the gates of Hades will not prevail against it. I will give you the keys of the kingdom of heaven, and whatever you bind on earth will be bound in heaven, and whatever you loose on earth will be loosed in heaven.” Then he sternly ordered the disciples not to tell anyone that he was the Messiah.

Response

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: “Who do you think I am?”

Third Hymn: There is a redeemer #358

Invitation to the Offering

Paul’s letter to the Romans reminds us that we all have gifts to share. When we give, let us generously offer what we have. When compassion opens our hearts, let us share cheerfully, so that God’s good work may continue.

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

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

O God, bless what we offer today as well as the time, talent, and concern we will offer you this week. We trust that, with your blessing, your Holy Spirit is able to accomplish more than we can ask or imagine in Christ’s name. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

Life-giving God, you equip your people with gifts to work for your kingdom, bringing justice and peace to every land and community...

Gift-giving God, we are grateful for all the people in whom we meet your gifts at work. Inspire us to add our energy and experience to the care of creation as the loyal followers of Jesus who embodied all your gifts and 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: Shall we gather at the river #797

Commissioning & Benediction

May the God of hope fill you with all joy and peace in believing, so that you may abound in hope by the power of the Holy Spirit. And the grace of Christ be with us all. Amen

Dispersal Song: Go Ye, go ye, into all the world #755

Postlude