

Knox Service Outline

10/18/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez

Pastor: James Prette

Music: Connie Dunwoody

Elder: Lillian Sutherland

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: The steadfast love of the Lord (Chorus)

#20

Psalm Reading: Psalm 96:1-13

O sing to the LORD a new song; sing to the LORD, all the earth. Sing to the LORD, bless God's name; tell of salvation from day to day. Declare God's glory among the nations, the marvelous works among all the peoples. For great is the LORD, and greatly to be praised; God is to be revered above all gods. For all the gods of the peoples are idols, but the LORD made the heavens. Honor and majesty are before God; strength and beauty are in his sanctuary. Ascribe to the LORD, O families of the peoples ascribe to the LORD glory and strength. Ascribe to the LORD the glory due his name; bring an offering, and come into the courts. Worship the LORD in holy splendor; tremble before God, all the earth. Say among the nations, "The LORD is king! The world is firmly established; it shall never be moved. God will judge the peoples with equity." Let the heavens be glad, and let the earth rejoice; let the sea roar, and all that fills it; let the field exult, and everything in it. Then shall all the trees of the forest sing for joy before the LORD; for God is coming, God is coming to judge the earth. God will judge the world with righteousness, and the peoples with truth.

Call to Worship (Responsive)

Let us sing to the LORD a new song.

We will bless God's name from day to day.

Let us declare God's marvelous deeds among all the people;

For God is great and greatly to be praised.

Let us praise God for God's strength and beauty.

We will bring God honour and glory as we worship God's holy name.

First Hymn: Sing a new song unto the Lord

#422

Prayer of Approach

Holy God, your mysterious presence stretches to the furthest reaches of the universe, yet you draw near to us in Christ Jesus. In him, you walk beside us, guiding us with wisdom, loving us with boundless grace. We praise you that your love embraces the whole creation, yet you find a place and a purpose for us mortals. Your Spirit gives us the energy and insight we need to serve you. Creator, Christ and Spirit, we are humbled in your presence. In our worship we offer you our love and loyalty, now and always. Amen.

Prayer of Confession

Patient God, we confess we need your mercy. We claim to be your people, but we forget to love as you do. We claim to seek your guidance, but we follow our own ways. Forgive us, O God, amend who we are and direct who you would have us be for the sake of Christ, our Saviour and Friend.

Assurance of Pardon

Friends, God knows us and still God loves us. This is good news!
By God's grace, we are forgiven, loved and set free to start again. Thanks be to God!

Second Hymn: Take my life and let it be

#637

Prayer of Understanding (Unison)

God of Word and Wisdom, as we turn to the scriptures, may we hear your voice calling us to deeper faith and truer devotion. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Old Testament Reading: Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the LORD, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The LORD said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The LORD'; and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. "But" he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the LORD continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by, I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen."

New Testament Reading: Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, "Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?" But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, "Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax." And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, "Whose head is this, and whose title?" They answered, "The emperor's." Then he said to them, "Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor's, and to God the things that are God's." When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

Scripture Response

This is the word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God!

Sermon: What belongs to God?

Third Hymn: Be thou my vision

#461

Offering invitation

Jesus reminds us to give to God the things that are God's. God has been so generous to us, that truly we owe God our lives. Let us return to God what God has shared with us, so that God's goodness can spread in the world in the name of Jesus.

Offering Song: Praise God from whom all blessings flow

#306

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of abundance, we bring what we have to share, a portion of your goodness to us. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that generosity and justice will join hands, and your goodness touches those in need, in Jesus' name.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of Truth and Wisdom,

We give you thanks for all those people throughout our lives
who taught us what is trustworthy and true,
and shared wisdom that has shaped the way we live.

We remember our favorite teachers in school and church,
in college and university, in training programs and instructional opportunities.

Thank you for everyone who has the knack for teaching.

Give all students, of every age and in every endeavour,
a desire to learn for the sake of the world, not just for the sake of finishing a program.

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On this Theological Education Sunday,
we pray for all who contribute to the life of learning at the Colleges of our Church.
In these challenging times for ministry,
guide all who teach, all who learn and all who support learning
to explore traditions of our faith and new technologies with wisdom and imagination.
Awaken in us all the trust that you will lead us into the future you are creating,
and the willingness to learn when to keep and when to cast away
past practices and new experiments in faithful witness.

We give you thanks for all those who taught us by example,
parents and grandparents, friends and neighbours,
colleagues and even strangers met by chance.
Help us cherish life lessons and build on them in new situations,
sharing them when we can.
Keep us open to learn new things about our faith, about life,
and about what you are calling us to do.

We thank you for Jesus and his teaching,
and the compassion he showed for his disciples when they were slow to learn.
Give us patience and compassion
when we are teaching something we've learned,
and make us good listeners so we learn from others' experience.

In this time of silence, hear us as we remember people and places on our hearts this day:
Keep silence

In gratitude that he taught us to pray, we offer together the words Jesus gave his disciples:

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

Forth Hymn: Called as partners in Christ's service

#587

Commission & Benediction

Go in faithfulness, cherishing the lessons of love you have learned from Christ and his people, so that your life will speak with that love. And may God, the Source of Love, Christ, the Face of Love, and the Spirit of Love in action bless you now, and go with you into each new day. Amen.

Dispersal Song: Go make a difference (vs 3)

Postlude