Knox Service Outline 11/08/26

Interim Moderator: The Rev. Daniel Martinez
Pastor: James Prette
Music: Connie Dunwoody
Elder: Lorraine Whiting
Reader: Marianne Mortimer

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 W̱SÁNEĆ 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.

A Service of Remembrance

Please stand, if you are able to, for our Service of Remembrance.

O Canada ***#833***

Last Post

Moment of Silence

Laying of Wreath

Reveille

Prayer of Remembrance (Responsive)
They shall grow not old, as we that are left grow old: Age shall not weary them, nor the years condemn. At the going down of the sun and in the morning, we will remember them.

As we remember before God those who have made the ultimate sacrifice, let us commend their souls anew to God's eternal mercy and compassion, and let us pray that God would grant us grace to serve faithfully until our life's end, to the honour and glory of God's Holy name.

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In unity with all Canadians, of every race, gender, and creed we offer up prayers of thanksgiving for all those who made selfless sacrifices for God and country so that we and future generations might live in peace.

Bring your comfort and relief to those who mourn. Enable those who are wounded in body, mind, or spirit to live more peaceful and satisfying lives. Endow us all with a new resolve to hasten that day when war shall be no more, and your will alone is done on all the earth.

Amen

God save our gracious king ***#834***

Dona nobis pacem ***#737***

Please be seated.

Gathering Song: The Steadfast Love of The Lord (Chorus) **#20**

Psalm Reading: Psalm 70

Be pleased, O God, to deliver me. O LORD, make haste to help me! Let those be put to shame and confusion who seek my life. Let those be turned back and brought to dishonor who desire to hurt me. Let those who say, “Aha, Aha!” turn back because of their shame. Let all who seek you rejoice and be glad in you. Let those who love your salvation say evermore, “God is great!” But I am poor and needy; hasten to me, O God! You are my help and my deliverer; O LORD, do not delay!

Call to Worship (Responsive)

God of all times and places, we gather to worship you.
We turn our eyes to you and rejoice in your presence.
God of all life and love, we gather to sing your praise.
We turn our eyes to you and marvel at your power and your promise.
God of all wisdom and wonder, we gather to learn from your Son.
We turn our eyes toward Christ and wait for your Word to lead us.

First Hymn: O God, our help in ages past **#330**

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Prayer of Approach

God of might and mercy, we come to worship you this day, proclaiming your power and your promise in a world where many things keep us on edge. We proclaim your power to defeat forces that work against your hope for the world. We proclaim your love that cracks open our hearts and draws us to you and to one another. We proclaim your promise in Jesus Christ that nothing can separate from your love. Strengthen our desire to live out our trust in you in friendship with our Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen

In a broken world in need of God's healing, we come as broken people in need of God's grace; let us confess to God our sins.

Prayer of Confession (Unison)

God of mercy, we confess that the world around us is broken and heartbreaking. Countries turn disputes over territory into threats of terror. Old enemies stir up conflict within tribes and nations. The threat of violence keeps us all on edge. We have not learned from past conflicts what leads to peace with justice among nations and neighbours. Forgive us all.

Assurance of Pardon

Believe the Good News! The mercy of our God is from everlasting to everlasting. In Jesus Christ, God's generous love reaches out to embrace us. In him, we are forgiven and set free to begin again. Thanks be to God!

Second Hymn: Open my eyes, that I may see #500

Prayer of Understanding (Unison)

God of prophets and parables, your Word can meet us with a challenge, a puzzle and a promise. Send your Spirit with the gifts of understanding to grasp the puzzle and courage to take up the challenge and the promise, through Christ, your Living Word.

Old Testament Reading: Joshua 24:14-25

"Now therefore revere the LORD and serve him in sincerity and in faithfulness; put away the gods that your ancestors served beyond the River and in Egypt and serve the LORD. Now if you are unwilling to serve the LORD, choose this day whom you will serve, whether the gods your ancestors served in the region beyond the River or the gods of the Amorites in whose land you are living; but as for me and my household, we will serve the LORD."

Then the people answered, "Far be it from us that we should forsake the LORD to serve other gods; for it is the LORD our God who brought us and our ancestors up from the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery, and who did those great signs in our sight. He protected us along all the way that we went, and among all the peoples through whom we passed; and the LORD drove out before us all the peoples, the Amorites who lived in the land. Therefore, we also will serve the LORD, for he is our God."

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But Joshua said to the people, “You cannot serve the LORD, for he is a holy God. He is a jealous God; he will not forgive your transgressions or your sins. If you forsake the LORD and serve foreign gods, then he will turn and do you harm, and consume you, after having done you good.” And the people said to Joshua, “No, we will serve the LORD!” Then Joshua said to the people, “You are witnesses against yourselves that you have chosen the LORD, to serve him.” And they said, “We are witnesses.” He said, “Then put away the foreign gods that are among you, and incline your hearts to the LORD, the God of Israel.” The people said to Joshua, “The LORD our God we will serve, and him we will obey.” So Joshua made a covenant with the people that day and made statutes and ordinances for them at Shechem.

New Testament Reading: Matthew 25:1-13

“Then the kingdom of heaven will be like this. Ten bridesmaids took their lamps and went to meet the bridegroom. Five of them were foolish, and five were wise. When the foolish took their lamps, they took no oil with them; [4] but the wise took flasks of oil with their lamps. As the bridegroom was delayed, all of them became drowsy and slept. But at midnight there was a shout, ‘Look! Here is the bridegroom! Come out to meet him.’ Then all those bridesmaids got up and trimmed their lamps. The foolish said to the wise, ‘Give us some of your oil, for our lamps are going out.’ But the wise replied, ‘No! there will not be enough for you and for us; you had better go to the dealers and buy some for yourselves.’ And while they went to buy it, the bridegroom came, and those who were ready went with him into the wedding banquet; and the door was shut. Later the other bridesmaids came also, saying, ‘Lord, lord, open to us.’ But he replied, ‘Truly I tell you, I do not know you.’ Keep awake therefore, for you know neither the day nor the hour.

Scripture Response

This is the word of the Lord.
Thanks be to God!

Sermon: Wake Up

Third Hymn: Rejoice, the Lord is King **#267**

Offering invitation

Each week we pray for the coming of God’s Kingdom. Though we do not know exactly what this will look like, we offer our gifts and talents to God for the work of the Kingdom here and now, that it will be known here and everywhere.

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

Prayer of Dedication (Unison)

God of purpose and promise, we offer our gifts to help fulfill your purposes on earth. Bless our gifts and our actions so that others will grasp the promise of your love and discover your purpose for their lives, through Christ, our friend and saviour. Amen.

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Prayer of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of life, you open our eyes on the world you love and show us your presence and your purpose. We see the wonder of your creation and the compassion you offer through friend and stranger. For these gifts we give you thanks. We pray for those who cannot recognize these gifts and find themselves lost and alone. Open their eyes to your presence and our companionship.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of justice, You open our eyes on the world and show us struggle and conflict. We see the stressful times around us and the burdens many must carry. We pray for those whose businesses are struggling; For producers unsure they will receive a fair return; For workers uncertain about their jobs or looking for new work; For families feeling the stress of economic uncertainty. Open their eyes to new possibilities and open our eyes to ways we can support them.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of compassion, You open our eyes on the world and show us suffering and despair. We see the challenges for health care rights around the world. We pray for communities struggling with HIV/AIDS, malaria, and chronic hunger and for those nearby facing illness, delays in treatment and uncertain outcomes. Give strength and energy to those who provide care and courage and hope to all who wait for healing. Open their eyes to your mercy and open our eyes to needs we can meet.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of wisdom, You open our eyes on the world and show us its complexities. We see countries locked in old animosities and communities overwhelmed by fresh upheaval. We pray for those displaced by current conflicts and natural disasters. Open the eyes and ears of leaders to the suffering of their people, and to solutions as yet untried; and open our eyes to ways we can participate in resolving situations which break your heart and ours.

God, in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.

God of peace;
The world does not reflect the peace and prosperity you intended. Move among us to bring peace to a broken and too often violent and angry world. And where people are broken in body, mind or in spirit because of violence and war, bring support and healing.

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And now, we pray for the politics and principles of your kingdom to be established among us we pray the prayer that Jesus taught:

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: Lord, the light of your love is shinning $376

Commission & Benediction

May the God who made us, the Christ who mends us, and the Spirit who brings peace and life bless you and sustain you in every challenge and commitment. Amen.

Dispersal Song: Go Make a Difference Screen

Postlude

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