

# KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

5th Sunday after Pentecost

Canada Day weekend

July 2, 2023



**Interim Minister:** Rev. Dr. David Thompson

**Music Director:** Suzanne Strahan **Treasurer:** Shannon Archer

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CCLI #2405391

## **PRELUDE**

### **Procession of the Canada flag (all standing if able)**

The Flag is processed down the aisle. The Flag is held until the organ concludes, “I vow to thee my country”

**Then the Flag is placed in the stand in silence.** The silence is broken by the pipe organ as the National anthem is introduced.

All remain standing for the singing of the National Anthem:

**HYMN:** #800 O Canada. We sing both verses.

### **Responsive Call to Worship**

Leader: We will offer our praise in songs of joy.

**People: God’s faithfulness is as vast as the heavens.**

Leader: We will proclaim God’s faithfulness to all generations.

**People: Let us worship God in our prayers and our praise.**

### **PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together)**

Lord God, Loving God, how majestic is Your name in all the earth. From north and south, from east and west, from sea to sea to sea, drawn by Your majesty, we come to worship You. For the gift of this new day, fresh from Your hand, we rejoice. For the renewal we know through friendship with Jesus, we praise You. For the Spirit’s energy, blessing us in each moment, we honour You. Lord God, Loving God, all of life is Your gift, Help us to listen to You, so as to give us glimpses of Your splendor and love in this time of worship. Accept our praise offered in word and action, Creator, Redeemer and Holy Spirit, here and everywhere, now and always. Amen.

**HYMN:** #632 Help us accept each other    Verses 1-3.

### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Together)**

Lord of all life and each life,

We confess we can forget that life is Your gift,  
especially when we face struggles or feel hard done by.

We confuse our own desires for Your will,  
and stop listening for Your guidance.

Forgive any hurt we have caused by action or inaction,  
and show us how to make amends.

May we live with You and with each other in reconciling grace through the mercy of our Lord Jesus Christ. Amen

**Assurance of Pardon** (Minister): Friends, Jesus knows we have fallen short of His intentions for us, yet in His great mercy, He welcomes us back into His embrace. Thanks be to God that we are forgiven, refreshed and restored for ministry by God's grace.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

**Leader:** The Peace of Christ be with you

**Congregation:** And also, with you

\* Please turn and greet one another

**ANTHEM**

**STORY**

**HYMN: #462** All my hope on God is founded Verses 1,4, & 5.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**1 Kings 19: 9-14**

**John 16: 12-13**

**SERMON: "Who do we listen to?"**

**OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY #830** - Offering brought forward.

Your offering can be left on the plates upon entering the service.

**Your gifts and prayers for the mission and outreach  
of Knox Stratford are greatly appreciated.**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Together): Generous God, what we return to You today has first come to us from You. Bless what we offer so that those we serve who have need, may taste Your abundance through us. Amen.

**Prayer for Canada Day weekend**

O God, on this day when we celebrate the birthday of our country, we give thanks for the majestic beauty of its mountains, lakes, oceans, fields, and hills. Help us to be thankful for our freedom and to share our resources with others. Amen.



**HYMN: #801** From Ocean unto Ocean Verses 1 and 3.

**BENEDICTION: Let there be peace on earth**

*Jill Jackson-Miller and Sy Miller, 1955*

Let there be peace on earth

And let it begin with me;

Let there be peace on earth,

The peace that was meant to be.

With God, our creator,

We are family.

Let us walk with each other

In perfect harmony.

Let peace begin with me,  
Let this be the moment now.  
With every step I take,  
Let this be my solemn vow:  
To take each moment and live each moment  
In peace eternally,  
Let there be peace on earth  
And let it begin with me.  
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## **POSTLUDE**

**\*\* Join us for refreshments following the service \*\***