

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD**  
**7th Sunday after Pentecost      July 16, 2023**

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

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

142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario. N5A 3H2

519-271-0373      knoxs@wightman.ca

CCLI #2405391

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Responsive Call to Worship:**

**Leader:** God's Word is a lamp to our feet;

**People: and a light to our path.**

**Leader:** God's Word is made visible in Christ;

**People: in him we are rooted in truth.**

**Leader:** God's Word is revealed through The Holy Spirit;

**People: and lived out in faithful service.**

**Leader:** Come and listen for God's Word to you  
in this time of worship.

**People: We wait to receive the Word of Life.**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together)**

**God of wisdom, You are the light of the minds that know  
You, the strength of those who serve You, and rest for  
those who seek You. God who tends our lives, we come to  
You in worship, to rest from our responsibilities, to turn  
from our distractions, and to hand over our concerns to  
You. Nourish us with Your Words that set us free, so that  
we grow as Christians, resting in the Presence of Your  
Holy Spirit. Amen.**

**HYMN: #435** All things bright and beautiful Verses 1, 2, and 4

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Together)**

**Faithful God, You have planted the seeds of faith in us,  
but we confess we have not tended those seeds well.  
We fail to keep seeking Your work in the world.  
We often consider that we already know enough, rather  
than pursue deeper encounters with You and what You are  
doing. Forgive us, God, when we think You have nothing  
more to offer us. Amen**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Minister): No matter what we have said  
or done, God's Spirit sets us free from dark powers. Know that  
as the Lord's Prayer says, we are forgiven when we choose to  
forgive one another. Let's begin that process today and be  
free. Amen.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

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

**Congregation: And also, with you**

\* Please turn and greet one another

**INSTRUMENTAL SOLO:** Amazing Grace - arr. S. Strahan  
Bev Hider, hurdy-gurdy

**STORY**

**HYMN: #508** Verse 1-Your Word, O God, awoke the uncreated

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Romans 8: 35-39      (Page 801 in the Pew Bible)

Galatians 6: 7 and 8      (Page 826 in the Pew Bible)

**SERMON: "Overcoming anxiety in 2023"**

**OFFERING AND DOXOLOGY #830** The offering can be placed  
in the offering plates at the back of the church in the narthex prior to  
it being brought forward.

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together): God of our souls, we  
offer our gifts in thanksgiving for Your kindness to us.  
Bless and multiply them to add to the abundance of Your  
love at work in the world. Make them seeds of new life to  
inspire faith in the souls they touch, in Christ's name, we  
pray. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

## **We sing together:**

### **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. CCLI #2405391

### **PRAYER:** God of all the nations,

You gather people together in communities to care for each other and enjoy each other's company and creativity.  
Thank you for the support we find in our congregation, and for the difference volunteers make in our community.  
Wherever there is division in the world, bring unity and peace with justice; where people dispute opinions, give wisdom to see what is important; where people are tired and anxious, bring strength and courage. God, in your mercy,  
**Hear our prayer. Amen.**

**HYMN:** #467 Praise, my soul, the God who crowns you.  
Verses 1 and 4.

## **BENEDICTION**

## **POSTLUDE**

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

**NOTE:** Anyone wishing to purchase a pew, please contact the church office, or BMI Operations Manager, Leonard Stannard at [leonard@thebmigroup.ca](mailto:leonard@thebmigroup.ca) or 519 215 1465