

# KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

10th Sunday after Pentecost

August 6th, 2023

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

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

142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario. N5A 3H2

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CCLI #2405391

Our services are mask friendly.

\*The offering can be placed in the offering plates at the back of the church in the narthex prior to it being brought forward.

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Responsive Call to Worship:

**Leader:** Our God is faithful in words, and gracious in action.

**People:** Our eyes look to God for nurture in every season.

**Leader:** God is near to all who call out in truth.

**People:** God watches over us all.

### PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):

**Mysterious and merciful God,**

**We are grateful when the sun rises and the earth blooms around us, and when evening falls and we find ourselves in a lonely place, we count on Your presence for comfort. For the times You show us the way and give us guidance, for the healing You offer when we are broken and hurting, we are grateful. We worship You as the Source of life and love, comfort and courage. Hear our prayers, O God, this day and every day, now and always. Amen**

**HYMN: #313** Oh worship the King Verses 1,3, and 5.

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (Together)

**Gracious and merciful God, in Jesus you show us the way of compassion and forgiveness, yet we often neglect the suffering of others. We can blame and judge each other, when You call us to act with kindness and mercy.**

**Free us from greed and from grievance.**

**Open our hearts so that we may embody Jesus' teachings and walk in His ways. Amen**

**Assurance of Pardon** (Minister): The Lord is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Know that in Christ, you are forgiven. Forgive one another, and be at peace with God, with yourself and with each other.

### PASSING OF THE PEACE:

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

**Congregation:** And also, with you

\* Please turn and greet one another

## MUSIC

## STORY

**HYMN: #674** In the bulb there is a flower All verses

### SCRIPTURE READINGS

**Psalms 19: 1-4** (Page 390 in the Pew Bible)

**Romans 1: 18-21** (Page 796 in the Pew Bible)

## SERMON: "Probability of a Creator God"

### OFFERTORY

\***OFFERING** brought forward **DOXOLOGY #830**

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Together): **Blessed are You, God of all creation, for all Your good gifts. Use the gifts we offer to spread Your goodness. Let Your Spirit work through us so that Your goodness will move through us into the world, wherever we go. Amen.**

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### THE LORD'S PRAYER

We sing for world peace and for peace in Ukraine.

**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

### **CLOSING PRAYER:**

We pray for those who are hungry or homeless in these challenging times, and all those feeling the stress of rising prices.

We pray for those who have lost everything in wild fire or flooding this year, and for growers facing drought, shortage of workers and uncertain markets.

Guide the leaders in our communities and our nation.

Give them wisdom and courage to work together to make decisions for the wellbeing of the most vulnerable.

We pray for all who are sick or in pain, those waiting for diagnosis or treatment, and all who face chronic health challenges.

Equip those who offer health care to manage the demands they face to provide care in timely ways.

Bring healing in body, mind, and spirit to all who struggle. Amen

**HYMN: #462** All my hope on God is founded Verses 1,3, and 4

### BENEDICTION

### POSTLUDE

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### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Join us for refreshments following the service.**  
If you would like to host or co-host the refreshment time,  
please contact Shirley Weitzel.

**NOTE:** You will notice a change at the front of the sanctuary. Gradually pews will be replaced with chairs. Anyone wishing to purchase a pew, please contact the church office, or BMI Operations Manager, Leonard Stannard at [leonard@thebmggroup.ca](mailto:leonard@thebmggroup.ca) or 519 215 1465

**SAVE the DATES: Kirk in the Cedars at CAMP KINTAL**  
Sunday, August 27, September 24, October 22, and  
November 19. Worship service at 4:00pm in the outdoor  
chapel - followed by a dinner at 5pm. No registration  
required. Donations are accepted at the door for dinner.

"For the joy of the Lord is your strength."  
Nehemiah 8:10

