

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH**  
**26th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Sunday of the Reign of Christ**

**November 26, 2023**

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

**Music Director: Suzanne Strahan**

\* We continue to be mask friendly, but it is now a personal decision. Thank you.

\*\* 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:**

One: The Lord is the first and the last,  
our beginning and our end.

Many: **Holy, holy, holy is the Lord our God,**  
**who was and is, and is to come.**

All: **Blessing and honour, glory and majesty be to our God, now and evermore.**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH** *(together)*

**God most holy,**

**You are known to us as the Almighty,**

**Eternal Ruler and Lord.**

**We call You our Shepherd and Guide.**

**We praise You with many names,**

**but You are beyond our imagination, so much greater than our words.**

**We know You in the stories of Jesus**

**and in Him, we see Your love in action, reaching out to the world.**

**You move in us and through us by Your Spirit,  
drawing us to you, sending us to live out Your word.**

**God most holy,**

**we praise You with our lips and with our lives  
to offer you honour and love, now and always.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn # 65 all people that on earth do dwell v: 1, 3, and 4**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION: *(together)***

**God most merciful,**

**We confess that we have failed to love fully or forgive wholly.**

**You offer us freedom but we settle for the familiar.**

**You offer us hope but we prefer knowing what will happen next.**

**Teach us to give up cautious faithfulness,**

**so that we can offer you our whole lives,**

**and commit to following Jesus into the future you are creating.**

**Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)**

Hear the Good News. God's compassion never fails. God's loving kindness is steadfast.

Know that you are forgiven by the grace of Jesus Christ. Forgive each other, and live in peace and harmony.

**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: # 313 Oh worship the King v: 1,2, and 5**

**SCRIPTURE READING**

**St. Matthew 4:1-11**

**St. John 8: 1-11**

**SERMON: Battle for a free heart**

**OFFERTORY:**

#79 Praise God...

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION ((together)**

**Generous God, You envision a world where the hungry are fed and strangers are welcomed.**

**We bring You our gifts to put Your vision into action. Bless them and the lives they will touch**

**so that the love of Jesus Christ wears a human face again for those who need Him in our time. Amen.**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**LET THERE BE PEACE ON EARTH ( We sing this prayer especially for Israel, The Middle East and The Ukraine, please pray it as you sing)**

**PRAYER of Intercession (Minister and Congregation together)**

**Our Lord Jesus Christ, although You were tempted unsuccessfully to seize power, You chose instead to come as a Good Shepherd.**

**Where people are led astray, or nations are ruled by corrupt leaders, or leaders greedy for power, peace is reluctant to dwell there. Bring us peace we pray through leaders who understand how to bring about peace, Love and compassion.**

**May, Your kingdom come.**

**And, Your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.**

**You came to us all, proclaiming the kingdom of God.**

**And so, we lift up these prayers in your name, Lord Jesus,**

**knowing that your kingdom is drawing near**

**and that we meet You in the face of those who cry out to us.**

**Help us see Your face in theirs.**

**Amen.**

We also ask for those in our congregation who need Your healing touch

We bring their names before You now in silent prayer....

**Hymn # 274 Crown him with many crowns V;1,4, and 5.**

**Benediction**

**POSTLUDE:**