

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH  
2nd Sunday after Epiphany**

**January 14th, 2024**

**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:**

Before we were born, God knew us.

**God knit us together in the womb.**

God searches out our paths, and accompanies us along our way.

**We praise God, for we are fearfully and wonderfully made.**

There is nowhere we can go where God's presence cannot be found.

**Let us worship God together.**

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

**God ever creating, ever loving, ever leading,**

**You are stillness when we are frantic;**

**You are truth when we are perplexed.**

**You give us freedom when fear takes hold;**

**You send light when we have lost our way.**

**You are love when we feel lonely and empty;**

**You give us energy when we are ready to reach out.**

**We praise you, Creator, Christ, Spirit,  
for all that You are, and all that You will be for us.  
In our worship we offer You our love and loyalty,  
Here, now, and always,  
Amen.**

**Hymn # 342:** All who the name of Jesus bear - verses 1 & 2

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

**God of mercy and patience,  
You call us to follow You  
and offer us purpose and new possibilities.  
Yet we confess we often hesitate.  
We are not sure what we have to offer You.  
We'd prefer that someone else take the lead  
and maybe we will follow them.  
Forgive us when we hesitate.  
Help us to trust in Your Goodness.  
Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)**

Let us all believe the good news! In Christ, God has offered us forgiveness for all our sins and shortcomings.

Trust that this forgiveness is for you, and know that God's steadfast love and grace endure forever.

## **PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Leader: Let the Peace of Christ be with you!

*Congregation: And also with you.*

*(Please turn and greet one another)*

## **Anthem**

## **STORY**

**HYMN # 500:** Open My eyes, that I may see - verse 1

## **SCRIPTURE READING:**

### **Job 3:20-22**

“Why is light given to those in misery, and life to the bitter of soul, to those who long for death that does not come, who search for it more than for hidden treasure, who are filled with gladness and rejoice when they reach the grave?”

### **Job 9:32-35 New International Version (Speaking of God) Job says:**

“He is not a mere mortal like me that I might answer him, that we might confront each other in court. *If only there were someone to mediate between us, someone to bring us together,* someone to remove God’s rod from me, so that his terror would frighten me no more. Then I would speak up without fear of him, but as it now stands with me, I cannot.

### **John 10:10**

I have come that they may have life, and have it to the full.

**SERMON: “Learning to love Life!”**

OFFERTORY #306 - Praise God....

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION: ((together))**

God of new possibilities, in The One who came to give us abundant Life, You create a future for each of us, inviting us to flourish in our faith. Use us and the gifts we offer to create new possibilities for those who are uncertain about what the future holds. For we trust that You hold the future for us all. Amen.

**PRAYERS of the people**

**The Lord’s prayer: (trespasses)**

**Prayer of intercession for 2024: (Minister and Congregation together)**

**God of all life and each life,**

**Each week our prayers combine with those of others  
in many different places.**

**We face different challenges  
and yet we long for many of the same things,  
things You offer in Your grace and mercy.**

**Thank You for honouring all our prayers with the gift of Your Spirit,  
so that we can find both strength and wisdom to serve You.**

**Today we remember before you  
people living face to face with war and violence,  
in places where hatred has been stirred up**

**and fear stalks people on their own streets;  
And we pray for all those displaced by conflict,  
seeking refuge among us or in camps and communities around the world:  
God, speak to us a word of peace:  
With thanks giving for listening to our prayers,  
Amen.**

**Hymn #411: Stand up and bless the Lord - Verses 1, 4 & 5**

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**