

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### Sunday, March 3

Everyone is welcome to go to the Banquet Hall following the service for refreshments and the meeting will start right away.



### KNOX HANDCRAFTERS GROUP

Do you knit, crochet, embroider, do needle work or any other hand craft? **Join our group on Tuesday, March 5 at 10:30am** at Knox in our new space on the Main Floor (totally accessible). If you would like to learn how to do any of these crafts, come join the group and we will help you learn. We hope to meet twice a month. If you would like to have some fellowship and chat you are welcome too. Bring your project and join us for good fellowship and fun.

**Knox Congregational BOWLING** at Mike's Bowling Lanes  
**Sunday, March 10 at 2pm.** Cost is \$10.  
Sign up to join in the fun!



A Life Study Group focusing on the sermon and scriptures will begin  
**Thursday, March 14 at 10am.**

## KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

**3rd Sunday in Lent**

**March 3rd, 2024**

**Interim Minister:** The Reverend 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

*\*We welcome children to our service and have activities to do in the Narthex or in their seat. \**

### PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Lead us Lord (Dream Again)  
- Bev and Peter Dougall; Suzanne Strahan

### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The heavens are telling the glory of God.

**MANY: With earth and sky, let us proclaim God's handiwork.**

One: The law of the Lord revives the soul.

**MANY: We seek God's wisdom in our worship.**

**TOGETHER: Let us worship God.**

### PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):

**Faithful God, may we experience Your Goodness in our hearts and minds. Your glorious Spirit fills this world and renews our hearts and visions so that we can see your image in every person, irrespective of background, race, and ethnicity.**

**Your love moves beyond divides and borders and works in us to end misunderstandings, racisms, and injustices; when we love as You taught us we create communities of human flourishing. We praise you for reconciling Your world and making us one in Christ. Amen.**

**HYMN: #407 Praise my Soul Verses 1 and 5**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (Together): **Wise and welcoming God, You are always seeking us out, yet we confess we are easily distracted from Your presence. We envy those who are successful in the world's terms, and pursue our own desires. We fail to question the cost of our desires to the earth or those in need. Forgive us, O God as we forgive those who have hurt us or those we have hurt. Re-awaken us to Your Great Purposes and re-ignite our commitment to pursue them for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Lord, Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon** Minister:

Let us give God thanks that we have been set free through the Life and Resurrection of Jesus. Let us live in peace, love the Lord, and love others. Amen.

**PASSING OF THE PEACE:**

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you

**Congregation: And also, with you.** Please greet one another

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**STORY**

**HYMN: #197** Forty days and forty nights Verses 1, 2 and 5.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS**

Matthew 18: 21-22

1 Corinthians 13: 8-13

**SERMON: "Who is forgiveness for?"**

**OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #830** Offering is brought forward. The offering can be placed in the offering plates at the back of the church before or during the service, or at the front after the service.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (Together): Lord Jesus, You challenge Your followers to offer to God commitment and gratitude. Receive our gifts as an expression of our commitment to You and Your ministry and teachings in the world. Use all that we can give, to offer hope and healing in the world that You love. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.**

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION:**

Today we pray for those who find this winter hard going,  
For those who are shut in by the weather,  
For those worrying about making ends meet,  
And for those concerned about the way the world is going.  
*[Pause]*



Give us all peace and patience through Your love. We pray for all churches searching for new ways to worship and witness in a changing culture. *[Pause]* Keep us strong in faith and fellowship, and make us creative agents of healing and hope in our communities. We pray for our nation and the nations of this world. Raise up leaders with the courage, wisdom, and compassion to confront the challenges of these times. Guide citizens to discern the difference between conspiracy theories and truth telling. Amen.

**HYMN: #490** God of Grace and God of Glory Verses 1, 3 & 5.

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

