

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
4th Sunday in Lent
March 10th, 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

Call to Worship:

Give thanks to the LORD, for God is good;

God's steadfast love endures forever.

God gathers people from the east and the west, from north and south.

We will thank God for such all-embracing love.

Let us praise God for all God's wonderful works.

We will worship God and tell of God's deeds with songs of praise.

Prayer of approach: (together)

Gracious God,

Great and wonderful are Your works!

Your steadfast love is everlasting.

Where there is darkness, You bring light.

Where there is sadness, You speak words of hope.

Where there is despair, You bring new possibilities.

You have come among us in Jesus to save us,
bringing healing for the sick, and forgiveness for the sinner.
In this time of worship, stir us with Your Spirit, O God.
Awaken our joy and reverence
in our songs and our silence, in our prayers and praises,
for you are our God,
here and everywhere, now and always. Amen.

Hymn #314: God is love Verses 1 & 3

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Merciful God,

We confess that we often take Your acceptance of us for granted.

**We are careless in our relationships,
focused on our own needs and desires.**

**The news distracts us,
and we put opinion above Your expectations of us.**

Forgive us.

**Renew our understanding of Your purposes and our place within them,
So that we may serve you more faithfully, day by day.**

Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)

Friends in Christ, by grace we have been saved through faith. This is not our doing but God's gift to us. Know that God forgives you, and so forgive one another. May the peace of Christ belong in you.

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 # 209: O Love that wilt not let me go Verses 1 & 3

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 139: 1-14

Matthew 10: 28-31

1 Corinthians 13: 4-7

SERMON: "What are we here for?"

OFFERTORY: #79: Praise God

PRAYER OF DEDICATION ((together))

Lord Jesus, you gave so much without counting the cost. Bless these gifts with your generous love. Use them to bless the world with the same hope and healing we have found in you. And let us not count the cost until we too have given all we can for your sake.

Amen.

PRAYERS of the people

The Lord's prayer (trespasses)

Prayer of Intercession (Minister and Congregation together)

Dear Lord Christ, Prince of peace,
thank you for your commitment to mercy and forgiveness
which overcome our desires for revenge.
Speak to the hearts of peoples everywhere
and to those who occupy places of power and influence in every land.
Teach us how to seek peace on earth together.
Especially this week we remember the regions in conflict:
 Palestine and Israel, Russia and the Ukraine,
and pray that a just resolution to conflict will soon prevail
for the sake of the vulnerable.
Overcome the fear, greed, violence or vanity
that turn neighbour against neighbour and nation against nation.
May all who claim your name, be known as **makers of the peace**.
God in your mercy,
Hear our prayer.
Amen.

Hymn #651: Guide me, O thou great Redeemer Verses 1 & 2

Benediction

POSTLUDE