

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH
5th Sunday in Lent
March 17th, 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:

Come, all who desire to know God.

We come, for we want to know the Jesus who came to us.

Come, all who thirst for His Spirit.

We come, believing that God is in our midst this day.

Let us praise God's holy name.

**We will worship God with heart, mind, soul and strength,
and declare God's goodness to us. Amen.**

Prayer of approach: (Together)

Creating God, Loving Christ, Guiding Spirit,

With the promise of Spring and new life awakening,

Wake us from our slumbers.

You are faithful to us through every season of the year
and every season of life.

The hope you offer in Jesus draws us together,

as His Spirit rises within our hearts.
we praise you for Jesus' courage and compassion,
which bring renewal to us in the midst of all our challenges.
We praise you, O God, for a love which will never let us go. Amen.

Hymn #205: O Love, how deep Verses 1,3, & 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Gracious and Loving God,

we recognize that we fall short of Your hope for us.

We get lost in our own concerns

and neglect to show love, even to those right beside us.

We find some people too difficult to care for.

We think others unworthy of Your love and ours.

Forgive us and renew a right spirit within us,

so that we find the courage to go on

and the compassion to reach out to others. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)

Jesus said, come to me all you who labour and are heavy laden and I will give you rest. Friends, trust that peace and forgiveness are God's gifts to you this day. Be renewed by the power of the Spirit that moves with you into each new day.

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: # 496: Thy word is a lamp unto our feet - Verses 1 & 2

SCRIPTURE READING:

Psalm 51:10-15

Romans 12:1-2

Luke 19:1-10

SERMON: “Seize the baton and run!”

OFFERTORY #: 306 Praise God

PRAYER OF DEDICATION: (together)

God of growth and new life, with our gifts we offer you our thanks and praise for the promise of Spring and the promise of resurrection. With these gifts, accomplish more than we can ask or imagine, as they bear fruit in the world you love, through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS of the people

The Lord's prayer: (trespasses)

Prayer of Intercession: (Minister and Congregation together)

Loving God,

in this time of when there is much to be anxious about,

we pray for the world You love.

Send Your healing Spirit to bring peace with justice to the troubled places,

Especially this week we remember the regions in conflict:

Palestine, Israel, Russia and the Ukraine, Haiti and the Sudan.

We pray that a just resolution to conflict will soon prevail

for the sake of the vulnerable.

Send your healing Spirit to mend relationships
between religious groups, cultural groups and military groups,
who find themselves in tension or turmoil.

We pray for mutual respect to grow
between people who look at each other with suspicion,
and among people who have painful histories with each other.

Open our hearts and minds
to those whose situations and concerns we don't understand,
and bring Your gift of reconciliation to us all.

Amen.

Hymn # 353 Hail: Our once-rejected Jesus Verses 1 & 3

Benediction

POSTLUDE