



KNOX STRATFORD
A place where friendships begin!
Every Person In Church Sunday
May 5, 2024.

**We welcome The Rev. John Borthwick
as our Guest Minister today.**

PRELUDE
ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT – Bev Dougall, Heather Hislop,
Suzanne Strahan, Peter Dougall

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Let us sing to the Lord a new song,
ALL: for God has done marvelous things.
One: Let us make known the Lord's victory,
ALL: for God's steadfast love covers the whole earth.
One: Let us sing joyful praises,
ALL: and join all creation to worship God's Holy Name.

PRAYERS OF APPROACH (Together): Holy God, the power of Your love is beyond comprehension, the breadth of Your compassion without measure, the depths of Your wisdom knows no bounds. In Jesus Christ, You meet us in the midst of life's joys and challenges to show us what it means to love and be loved. And so, we offer You our love and loyalty, and our prayers and praise; through the power of Your Spirit, draw us closer to You and closer to each other as friends and followers of Christ, our Risen Lord. **AMEN.**

HYMN: #422 Sing a new song unto the Lord - All Verses

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together):

Merciful God, we often find it difficult to love others as You command. We seek our own security before the wellbeing of others. We fulfill our own desires rather than act for the common good. Forgive us. Redirect our priorities, and renew our commitment to live out Your love, even when that demands more of us than we expect.

Assurance of Pardon (Minister): Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us? Only Christ and Christ died for us; Christ rose for us; Christ reigns in power for us; Christ prays for us. Friends, believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God's generous grace. Thanks be to God. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you
Congregation: And also, with you. Please greet one another.

CHOIR ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S STORY

*Children leave for Sunday School during this Hymn.

HYMN: #592 I, the Lord of sea and sky – All Verses

SCRIPTURE READING

Acts 10: 1 – 38 (Common English Bible)

SERMON: "Cornelius"

OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #79 Offering is brought forward. The offering can be placed on 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): Giving God, You are our Shepherd, strong and wise. Bless the gifts we offer and multiply their impact in the world. Use them to spread Your love and protect all that is vulnerable in Your creation, for the sake of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord. **AMEN.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE followed by
THE LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

CLOSING PRAYER

HYMN: #410 Joyful, joyful we adore you Verses 1, 3, 4

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

We welcome the Rev. John Borthwick to our pulpit today.

He is the Director of the Centre for Lifelong Learning at Knox College, Toronto and Curator of www.ministryforum.ca, the virtual presence of the Centre. In this new role for John and the College, the Centre is seeking to be responsive to the needs of the Church today. We are seeking to support and encourage ministry leaders and remind them that they are not alone as they serve. Prior to taking on this role, John was the minister of St. Andrew's in Guelph for almost 21 years and served Rexdale Presbyterian Church, Toronto for five years prior. John is married with two adult children. His favourite week of the year is Discovery's Shark Week.

*****TODAY***** Plan to join in our first hike - meet between 2:30-3pm and the hike will begin around 3pm across from Gail Smith's farm near Fairview on Line 35.

ADDRESS: 357036 Line 35, Embro. Maps are available.

The terrain is moderate, some small hills through a bush, and scenic. Bring sturdy footwear and a hiking pole, if desired. We plan to join at Gail's pond directly across from the trail afterward for some snacks and coffee, tea juice etc. The hike is open to anyone who can join us, even if they don't want to hike they can wait at the gazebo near the pond and visit until the hikers return. Please feel free to invite friends. And bring a lawn chair. Hope to see you there!

thank you

Thank you to everyone for your contributions to the OUTREACH for the Emily Murphy Centre.

Items that were collected included, Toothpaste, toothbrushes, soap, shampoo, conditioner, paper products; Kleenex, paper towels, toilet tissue, cleaning products, snacks for school lunches

***** ** JOIN US FOR REFRESHMENTS *** ****

in the west transept following the service.

The **KNOX HANDCRAFTERS GROUP** meets on **Tuesday, May 7 at 10:30am** at Knox in the Multipurpose space on the Main Floor (Accessible).

The **Life Study Group** focusing on the sermon and scriptures will meet again on Thursday, May 23 at 10am.

NEW SMALL GROUP to begin later in May/June

Are you interested in being part of a **Random Acts of Kindness** group? Sign up in the Narthex on the clipboard by the bulletin board.

All are invited and welcome to a monthly worship service at Camp Kintail called "Kirk in the Cedars." Kirk is simply a Scottish word for church, and everyone gathers in the cedars of the outdoor chapel. Theresa (Trillium) and Jen (Maranta), along with the staff, will provide leadership in worship, but everyone will be creating the Kirk together! **Upcoming dates: May 19 and June 16.**



"WE LOVE KNOX" Cups:
Simply bring coins - loonies or toonies, dimes, nickels or quarters or folding money and put them into the **"WE LOVE KNOX" Cup** that it is the middle of the offering plate. This will go to the Operating Fund. **THANK YOU!**

Interim Minister: The Reverend Dr. David Thompson

Music Director: Suzanne Strahan

Treasurer: Shannon Archer

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