

KNOX STRATFORD

12th Sunday After Pentecost August 11th, 2024

Interim Minister: The Reverend Dr. David Thompson

Music Director: Suzanne Strahan

Treasurer: Shannon Archer

142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario. N5A 3H2

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PRELUDE

WELCOME to Knox: a place where friendships begin and grow! Come for fellowship in the west transept after the service and make yourself known to us over refreshments!

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Let us bless God at all times;

MANY: We will praise God's holy name.

One: Let us look to God, and be joyful;

MANY: For God has delivered us from all our fears.

One: Jesus has promised whoever comes to him will never have spiritual hunger, those who believe in him will never have spiritual thirst.

ALL: Let us worship God

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):

Living, giving God, You are the source of all good things.

Your love reaches wider than the expanding universe,
and your kindness embraces the tiny sparrow.

In Christ, You offer us abundant life, to sustain us day by day. Through the Holy Spirit, you are present in every situation, our daily tasks and demanding challenges.

We gather to offer you our love and loyalty, the very best of ourselves, for You deserve all we can offer, heart, body, mind, and soul, our living, loving God. Amen.

HYMN: #18 Through all the changing scenes of life Verses 1,2, 3, and 5

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together):

Living, forgiving God,

in Christ you promise us new life.

Yet we often cling to bitter disappointments;
anger can hold us hostage for years.

We say one thing to someone's face
and something else behind their back.

Forgive us.

Free us from old habits and resentments,
and renew us to live abundantly, according to your mercy. Amen

Assurance of Pardon (Minister):

God is tender hearted and gracious to all, offering forgiveness in Jesus Christ. Trust in God's grace, being kind to one another, forgiving others as God has forgiven you.

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

Leader: Let the Peace of Christ be with you!

Congregation: And also with you. Please turn and take time to greet one another.

MUSIC

STORY

HYMN: # 459 O servants of God Verses 1 and 4

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 10: 10-13

John 19: 23-24

Sermon: “The Gift in Vulnerable Moments”

OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #830 - The 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 afterwards.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together):

Lord Jesus, we bring our gifts to You, knowing that You have given Yourself for us. Bless these gifts. Make them a source of Your abundant love in the lives we touch through mission and ministry in Your name. Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE and THE LORD’S PRAYER (Trespases)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION (Minister and Congregation together):

God of nations and neighbours,

we look back over the past few months, and we worry for the world.

We have witnessed both conflict and compassion, war and broken peace, deep differences and also calls for collaboration.

Send Your Spirit to guide world leaders and for those who have strayed away from the values that sustain the world, forgive them and move them towards repentance and mercy. Hear our prayer.

In politics, education, health care, in business, labour and community life help us to: create understanding across differing perspectives, especially for those who struggle with their daily realities. Sustain truth telling and mutual respect in our common life.

God of each life and all life, Give us the strength to remain faithful, whatever happens.

HYMN: #565 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life Verses 1 and 3

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE