

KNOX STRATFORD

13th Sunday After Pentecost **August 18, 2024**

Interim Minister: The Reverend Dr. David Thompson

Music Director: Suzanne Strahan

Treasurer: Shannon Archer

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PRELUDE

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

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Praise God! Give thanks to God from your heart!

MANY: Great are the works of our God and we delight in them.

One: Yes, the works of God's hands are faithful and just;

MANY: Holy and awesome is God's name.

One: The fear of the LORD is the beginning of wisdom.

MANY: We honour God's name, so that God's praise may endure forever.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together): Creator, Christ, and Spirit, when our souls thirst for communion with You, You refresh us with living water. Creator, Christ, and Spirit, when we long for what is authentic, You show us the Way, the Truth and the Life. And so, we come to worship You, Creator, Christ, and Spirit. Receive our praise and gratitude, Living God, for You are the source of all that matters, and the strength to live out Your purposes, now and evermore. Amen

HYMN: #321 Praise to the Lord, the Almighty Verses 1 and 4

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together): God of all that matters, forgive us when we forget what matters to You. Forgive the sins we have tried to hide, and those we were once proud to commit. Forgive the sins we have done to please ourselves, and the sins we have done to please others. By Your grace, forgive us, and bless what we can become through Your faithfulness to us. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon (Minister):

In Christ, all things are made new. Know that you are forgiven by His great mercy. Trust in God's mercy and have the courage to forgive each other in Jesus' name.

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: #696 In suffering Love Verses 1,3 and 5

SCRIPTURE READING: St. Luke 7: 36-50

SERMON: “What is holding you back today?”

OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #79 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): Loving God, we offer You our gifts with thanksgiving, grateful for all we have received in Christ and in creation. Bless our gifts and our lives, so that we may live to bring You glory, and share Your love with the world. Amen.

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

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION (Minister and Congregation together):

Dear God of us all: We thank You for times of rest and reunion this summer, for opportunities to see people we miss and places that inspire us with wonder. Yet we know this summer holds deep challenges for many, and so we bring before You people and places on our minds and hearts. We pray for the families and communities facing fire, flood or storms, worrying about what will remain of their homes and hometowns. Protect those who fight fires or conduct rescues in dangerous circumstances. Open our hearts in generosity to do what we can to assist recovery. God, in Your mercy, Hear our prayers. Amen.

HYMN: #384 O breath of life, come sweeping through us Verses 1, 3 and 4

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

**Mark your calendars for our first EPIC Sunday on September 8
with Sunday School and special refreshments!**

“WE LOVE KNOX” Cups: Help us to fill the cup for our Operating Fund with loonies or toonies, dimes, nickels or quarters or folding money.

God's Inspiration in Nature - Share some photos to be featured on the website and used in the Power Point. Please send the images to: knoxstratford142@gmail.com

For PASTORAL CARE – Please call the church office
to connect with the Minister. 519-271-0373