

## **KNOX STRATFORD**

**August 25, 2024    14th Sunday after Pentecost**

**Interim Minister:** The Reverend Dr. David Thompson

**Music Director:** Suzanne Strahan

**Treasurer:** Shannon Archer

142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario. N5A 3H2

519-271-0373    [knoxs@wightman.ca](mailto:knoxs@wightman.ca)    CCLI #2405391

### **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: God hears our cries and rescues us from trouble.

**MANY: God draws near the broken hearted and saves the crushed in spirit.**

One: Let us worship the One Who brings new life.

#### **PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):**

God of majesty and mystery, we come before You in wonder and gratitude.

Source of all that is, You are beyond our imagining;

Your creation astounds us with its beauty and power.

Word of hope and healing, You embrace us with tender care,

drawing near in every situation. Spirit of purpose and possibility,

You show us which way to turn when we trust our choices to You.

Receive our praise and prayer this day,

Source, Word, and Spirit of Life, ever Three and One. Amen.

**HYMN: #411** Stand up and Bless the Lord Verses 1,2 and 4

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together):**

Forgive the choices we've made that hurt others, those that ignored our own wellbeing, and those that betrayed Your love. Guide us in all our choices, simple or complicated, so we express our faithfulness to You day by day. 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 take time to greet one another.**

### **MUSIC**

### **STORY**

**HYMN: #52** How lovely is Thy dwelling place Verses 1 and 5

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Psalm 24: 1-4

Colossians 1:15-17

**Sermon:** “The Power of One”

**OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #306** 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):**

God of growth and goodness, we offer what we have to share, knowing that others have lost their crops and worry for the future. Bless our gifts and use them to spread seeds of hope and wellbeing among those whose future is uncertain, for the sake of Christ, the Bread of Life. Amen

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

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION (Minister and Congregation together):**

God in whom we live and move and have our being: As we gather in Your presence today, we are aware of many challenges in our own lives, in the lives of those we care about, and in the world around us. Thank You for your faithfulness to each of us and to Your whole creation, given all the different situations we face. Show us how our concern for the world and for each other can respond to the needs we name before You today.

We pray for those who have been in the headlines lately, for those situations in the world and in our county that concern us deeply, and for all whose lives cry out to You and to us for help....(Silent prayer)

**HYMN: #654** O God of Bethel, by Whose Hand Verses 1,4 and 5

**BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE**

<p><b>Mark your calendars for our first EPIC Sunday on September 8 with Sunday School and special refreshments!</b></p>
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**FALL Small Groups** will be starting the **first week of September!**

**“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](mailto:knoxstratford142@gmail.com)

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