

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD

16th Sunday after Pentecost September 8, 2024

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 CCLI #2405391

PRELUDE

WELCOME TO KNOX: a place where friendships begin and grow! Join us for fellowship, refreshments, and Ice Cream Sundaes in the Banquet Hall following the service.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP: Let us will to put our confidence in God. We believe that we have God as our helper and so we rejoice. We believe that God gives justice to the oppressed and food to the hungry. We believe that God can free the prisoners and open the eyes of the blind. Let us put our trust in God's goodness. For God's goodness endures forever.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together): Eternal God, You are our beginning and our end. You gave breath to all living things. By your Spirit, You come among us this day, breathing new life into our familiar patterns, as the gift You offer us through Jesus The Christ. By Your grace, You open new possibilities for the world You love. We offer You our lives in worship and in service, joining our voices with all Your creatures, to offer You honour and blessing, glory and gratitude, now and always. Amen.

Hymn: #625 Seek Ye First Verses 1 and 2

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together): God of mercy, You keep an eye out for those who dwell on the margins of life. We confess we fail to keep our eyes open for those on the margins. We have been silent when we should have spoken up in the face of injustice. Our generosity to others does not match what You offer us. Forgive us for thinking of ourselves first. Renew our commitment to show others the kindness we meet in Jesus Christ. Amen.

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. Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven. So be renewed to live according to God's generous grace.

THE PEACE of CHRIST:

Leader: Let the Peace of Christ be with you

Congregation: And also, with you. Please greet one another.

CHOIR ANTHEM

CHILDREN'S STORY

* Children will leave for Sunday School during the Hymn.

HYMN: #410 Joyful, joyful we adore thee Verses 1, 3 and 4.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Proverbs 4:20-27

Proverbs 17:22

Romans 8:27-28

SERMON: "Enjoy your life!"

OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #830 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):

Generous God, You call us to reach out to those in need in kindness rather than judgment; and with generosity, not just good intentions. Bless our gifts and our actions for Christ's sake, so that our faith in His love will show in the work of the Church that bears His name.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Trespases)

PRAYER OF INTERCESSION (Together): Dear God of us all: today we remember those for whom this summer has been touched by suffering: we pray for those who have lost loved ones and those facing an uncertain future or a difficult diagnosis. We pray for those who have lost their homes, for whatever reason, and for those who despair about the climate crisis and what can be done to repair the suffering earth. We pray for all those who join efforts to relieve suffering of any kind. May each one find courage to face tomorrow in Your company. Amen.

Hymn: #376 Lord, the light of your love is shining - All verses

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE

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OUTREACH FOCUS for SEPTEMBER

“The SANDWICH PROJECT” - Connection Centre in Stratford

Knox continues to make sandwiches twice a month for the Connection Centre. There is a cost for the supplies to make the sandwiches. For this Outreach focus, we are asking for cash donations to support this project. Envelopes have been provided in today’s bulletin and are also in the Narthex. They can be placed on the offering plate. Thank you!

FALL Groups have started for September!

Choir - Wednesdays at 7pm

Life Group Sermon and Bible Study - Thursdays at 10am

Handcrafters Group - Tuesday, September 17 at 10:30am

Random Acts of Kindness - anyone interested, please meet in the banquet hall following the service today

Q&A Group - Sunday mornings 9am-10am

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



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