

## **KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH STRATFORD**

**18th Sunday after Pentecost September 22nd, 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! Join us for fellowship and refreshments in the west transept after the service!

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

One: From sunrise to sunset,

**MANY: Let us praise God's Holy name.**

One: With the wisdom of the aged and the energy of the young,

**MANY: Let us praise God's Holy name.**

One: In our work, in our homes, and in all we do,

**MANY: Let us praise God's Holy name.**

One: Let us praise the Lord with all our hearts!

**MANY: We will worship God now and relax into the Peace of God, forever...**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together):** God of all creation, You have opened the world around us and filled it with beauty and purpose. Each creature declares Your praise – the mountain states Your majesty; the ripened field, Your generosity. Birds flying aloft sing of Your freedom; the tiny ant works with Your persistence. We pray that all our work will honour Your justice and mercy. May all our relationships speak of Your compassion. So may we praise You, O God, not just in this hour of worship but in all the hours You grant us, as we follow Jesus Christ, our Lord and Greatest Friend.

**Hymn: #490** God of Grace and God of Glory Verses 1-3.

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Together):** God of all creation, You opened the world around us and filled it with wonder, yet we confess we look away from its harsher realities. Our ears can be deaf to cries of need. Our minds ignore opinions, which differ from our own. Forgive us when we seek greatness instead of goodness, and miss the wisdom You intend us to embrace. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon: (Minister)** The prophet Micah reminds us that God requires of us three things: to do justice, and to love kindness, and to walk humbly with our God. To all who truly repent and seek reconciliation with God and neighbour in kindness and humility, God offers forgiveness and peace.

### **THE PEACE of CHRIST:**

Leader: Let the Peace of Christ be with you!

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

### **CHOIR ANTHEM**

### **STORY**

**HYMN: #1** How blest are they, who, fearing God Verses 1-3

### **SCRIPTURE READINGS:**

Isaiah 54: 11-17

2 Timothy 4: 9-18

St. John 8: 1-11

**SERMON:** “Dealing with false accusations”

**OFFERING - DOXOLOGY #661** 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.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together):** Wise and faithful God, we offer our gifts to You in thanksgiving for Your gifts to us in Christ and in creation. Bless these gifts and the good works they will support, so that the world may know Your wisdom and faithfulness through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**  
**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (Trespases)

**PRAYER OF INTERCESSION (Together):** We pray for all those facing famine and drought this year, and for those who have lost everything through fire, storm or conflict. Bring support to those people and agencies who work to alleviate suffering and help them rebuild lives and communities. Lord, in your mercy, Hear our prayer. Amen.

**Hymn:** #487 Onward Christian soldiers Verses 1 and 2

**BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE**

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**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENT**

We are excited to announce that we have a Minister that will be Preaching for the Call at Knox Stratford, on **Sunday, October 6, 2024 at the 10:30am** Worship Service. Following that service, there will be a Congregational Meeting to consider the Call and vote on the decision. We strongly encourage all members and adherents to attend that service.

There will also be a **Meet and Greet on Saturday, October 5 from 2:00pm-4:00pm in the Banquet Hall.** This will be an opportunity to informally meet the Minister Candidate, and enjoy some fellowship and refreshments together.

Please mark this on your calendar and plan to participate in this important service and weekend event.

Blessings and prayers,  
Knox Session and Search Team



**Next Sunday, September 29 – please wear your Orange Shirt. Orange Shirt Day** is an annual event held each September 30th in remembrance of the Canadian Residential School system and the impact of this government policy on First Nations.

**On Sunday, September 29**  
we will celebrate the Sacrament of  
Holy Baptism  
and new memberships.



**FALL Groups have started!**

**Choir - Wednesdays at 7pm**

**Life Group-Sermon and Bible Study - Thursdays at 10am**

**Handcrafters Group - Tuesday, October 1 at 10:30am**

**Random Acts of Kindness - meeting soon...!**

**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 are available in the Narthex. They can be placed on the offering plate. Thank you!



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

**FOR PASTORAL CARE-** Please call the Knox Office 519-271-0373 and the Minister will connect with you.