KNOX CHURCH STRATFORD

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Well, here we are this day, gathered together so we can worship our God together. Some of us are here for the music, and some for the friends and some for the muffins and coffee. And we are all here because of God. Now is the time to give thanks, to unload our hearts, To share our lives, and to hear the story again. So friends, let us worship God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (UNISON)

Holy God, we admit to you that all is not right - in our hearts and in our world,

We look to the darkness and not to the light.

We look for what is broken and not at what is being mended.

We look to criticize and to praise.

We look to ourselves and not to you.

Turn us around so that we look at the possibility, at hope, at promise,

at grace, at healing, at love. Amen

HYMN: #814 Morning Has Broken

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison)

Father God, you are the one who leads us from darkness into light,

From captivity into freedom, from anxiety into peace, from despair into joy. Yet we long to break free, choosing independence, convinced of our own wisdom, forgetting your love and grace. Forgive us, draw close to us, embrace us once again in your loving arms, and enable us to follow you in worship and grateful service each day of our lives.

Amen.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST: Let the Peace of Christ be with you.

Congregation: And also with you.

CHOIR ANTHEM

OFFERING: What can I bring Him

OFFERTORY PRAYER (Unison)

We give because all we have has been given to us. Even when we have little, we know ourselves to be richly blessed. We bring these offerings knowing that it is not the size of our gift, but sincerity of our commitment that counts with God. May these offerings help to accomplish the tasks to which you have called us.

MEDITATION: NEW BEGINNINGS

HYMN: God of Every New Beginning

PRAYER/LORD'S PRAYER

TABLE TALK TIME

BENEDICTION