

**KNOX PRESBYTERIAN STRATFORD     January 19, 2025**

**Minister:** Pastor Kelli Berkner

**Music Director:** Suzanne Strahan     **Treasurer:** Shannon Archer

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**PRELUDE, WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: How precious is God's steadfast love!

**All: We will find refuge in the shelter of God's wings.**

One: Come and feast on God's abundance.

**All: We will drink from the river of God's delights.**

One: For with God is the fountain of life;

**All: And in God's light we will see light.**

One: Let us worship God with joy and thanksgiving!

**All: We will bring God our prayers and our praise with hearts full of love.**

**UNISON PRAYER OF APPROACH** God of light and life, you shine into our lives in your Son, Jesus. Your Spirit strengthens us to face whatever this year will hold. And so we come to praise you for your love and grace, which transforms our days and our lives, and for your wisdom, which enlightens truth for our times. Shine through us, we pray, so that we may bear the light of Jesus in this world you love. Amen.

**HYMN #810** Now Greet the Swiftly Changing Year All Verses

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** God of all life and our lives, we gather in worship week by week, seeking your refreshing presence. But we confess sometimes we are discouraged by things happening around us. We don't expect your presence to make a difference for us. Forgive us when we give up on you and end up feeling unfulfilled. By your grace, refresh us when we are weary or worried, and renew our trust in you.

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON** Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Only Christ, and Christ died for us, Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us. No power in heaven or on earth can separate us from God's great love. Take heart, and know that you are forgiven.

**THE PEACE of CHRIST** Take a moment and greet each other.

**HYMN #682** Just As I Am, Without One Plea     Verses 1,2,4,6

**CHOIR ANTHEM**

**SCRIPTURE READING** Isaiah 43:1-19

**SERMON** "Positioned for Transition"

**HYMN #485** Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us All Verses

**OFFERING** 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.

**DOXOLOGY #830** Offering is brought forward.

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** God of grace and mercy, receive all our gifts, offered in thanksgiving. We share the fruit of our labours with you, asking that you will multiply their effects in and through the Church. And we share the fruit of our time and talent, seeking to know how you would have us serve in Jesus' name. Amen.

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**Intercession (all together)** O God in whom we live and move and have our being, thank you for giving us the courage and commitment we need to follow Christ in good times and in hard times. Thank you for the strength we find together as part of your church and the gifts you give us in each other, gifts we can rely on as we plan for our ministry and mission in these ever-changing times. Help us trust in the promise of your love for us and energize us with your Spirit so that we can recognize the opportunities you give us to live out the grace and mercy we know in Jesus Christ who taught us to pray together:

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

**HYMN #468** Lord, Dismiss Us with Your Blessing All Verses

**BENEDICTION AND POSTLUDE**

Join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service