

## PRELUDE

### WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Bolded together)

I will sing of your steadfast love, O Lord, forever;

**With my mouth I will proclaim your faithfulness to all generations.**

I declare that your steadfast love is established forever;

**Your faithfulness is as firm as the heavens.**

You said, "I have made a covenant with my chosen one, I have sworn to my servant David: 'I will establish your descendants forever, and build your throne for all generations.'"

**Praise the Lord!**

**PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together)** We praise you for creating this world in all beauty, for redeeming the world through Christ, our Lord, and for sending us the gift of your Spirit to encourage, instruct, and sustain us. We long for your Spirit to work among us now, to inspire our praise, to challenge us with your truth, and to equip us for service in your world. Amen.

**HYMN #314** God is Love: Come Heaven, Adoring All verses

#### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Bolded together)

Lord, you said, "If you love me, you will obey what I command."

**Forgive us our lukewarm love and our disobedience.**

Lord, you said, "You may ask for anything in my name."

**Forgive us when we think we need to solve our own problems.**

Lord, you said, "Do not let your hearts be troubled and do not be afraid."

**We confess that our lives are often consumed by worry and anxiety.**

Lord, you said, "If you remain in me and I in you, you will bear much fruit."

**Forgive us our barren lives, Lord.**

Lord, you said, "You must testify, for you have been with me."

**We confess, Lord, that we have been too often silent.**

Lord, you said, "Love each other as I have loved you."

**In this and in so many other ways, we confess our failures and shortcomings. Amen.**

#### ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)

Therefore, since we have been justified through faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ, through whom we have gained access by faith into this grace in which we now stand. And we boast in the hope of the glory of God.

#### THE PEACE OF CHRIST

Take a moment and greet each other

**HYMN #474** The Love of God Comes Close All Verses

#### CHOIR ANTHEM

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Romans 12:9-21

**SERMON** "For the Love of God"

**HYMN #763** To Show By Touch and Word All verses

**OFFERING** The offering can be placed on the offering plates at the back of the church before or during the service at the sound table, or at the front after the service.

**DOXOLOGY #79** Offering is brought forward.

#### PRAYER OF DEDICATION (Together)

Ever-present God, with this offering we present also ourselves, all that we have been, all that we are, all that we shall become, and our resolve to walk in your way. Accept us and our offering, we pray, for Jesus' sake. Amen.

#### PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

**(Together)** Lord God, when we stiffen against your grace, soften us. When we sag under the weight of our duty, stiffen us. O God, we did not make ourselves, cannot keep ourselves, and could never forgive ourselves. So we turn to you, our Maker, Provider, and Saviour through Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray:

#### LORD'S PRAYER

**HYMN #574** With the Lord as My Guide

All verses

**BENEDICTION**  
**POSTLUDE**

Join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service.

**FEBRUARY OUTREACH** – The Knox Sole Walkers participated in the **Coldest Night of the Year** walk on **February 22** in support of Stratford Connection Centre/United Way & Shelterlink Youth Services.

**SUNDAY, MARCH 2**

Sacrament of Holy Communion  
and Sunday School

**Shrove Tuesday Pancake Supper**

**TUESDAY, MARCH 4**

For the congregation and community.

We invite you to bring a friend or neighbour!

5:00pm-6:30pm Banquet Hall

**Congregational Annual Meeting**

**SUNDAY, MARCH 23**

Immediately following the worship service.

**OFFICE HOURS for Pastor Kelli**

**Tuesday, Wednesday, Thursday**

**10:00am-2:00pm**

Please call to let her know you would like to drop by.

For Pastoral Care – please email  
pastorkelli.knoxstratford@gmail.com

or leave a message at the office

519-271-0373 Press 3 to reach her office phone.

# KNOX CHURCH STRATFORD



February 23, 2025

**Minister:** Pastor Kelli Berkner

**Music Director:** Suzanne Strahan

**Treasurer:** Shannon Archer

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