KNOX STRATFORD – March 9, 2025 PRELUDE WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Bolded together)

Day by day, God leads us:

to the deep, deep pools of peace, to the green, lush lawns of grace.

Day by day, Jesus calls us:

to pour out ourselves in service, to anoint the stranger with hope.

Day by day, the Holy Spirit shows us:

the community we could be, the family we are called to become. — written by Thom Shuman on Lectionary Liturgies.

PRAYER OF APPROACH (All Together)

O most merciful Redeemer, friend, and shepherd, may we know you more clearly, love you more dearly, and follow you more nearly, day by day. Amen.

HYMN #691 My Shepherd is the King of Love Verses 1,2,6

SCRIPTURE READING: Psalm 23 (All Together - on screen)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (All Together):

Most merciful God whose Son, Jesus Christ, was tempted in every way, yet was without sin, we confess before you our own sinfulness; we have hungered after that which does not satisfy; we have compromised with evil; we have doubted your power to protect us. Forgive our lack of faith; have mercy on our weakness. Restore in us such trust and love that we may walk in your ways and delight in doing your will.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON (Minister)

Hear the good news: This saying is sure and worthy of full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners. He himself bore our sins in his body on the cross, that we might be dead to sin, and alive to all that is good. I declare to you in the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST-Take a moment to greet each other.

HYMN #485 Saviour, Like a Shepherd Lead Us All Verses

CHOIR ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING: Philippians 4:4-20

SERMON "The Lord is My Shepherd, I Shall Not Want"

HYMN #193 Out of My Bondage, Sorrow and Night Verses 1,3,4

<u>OFFERING</u> 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 #517 Verse 3 Offering is brought forward.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Compassionate God, we offer you these gifts as signs of our time and labour. Receive the offering of our lives and feed us with your grace, that in the midst of death all creation might feast on your unending life in Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

We also ask you to bless each of us. You are the great shepherd who loves us. Help us to know you will always give us everything we need, and help us to be happy with what we have. Continue to watch over us, and teach us to live for you all of the time. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

<u>HYMN</u> #198 I Hunger and I Thirst **BENEDICTION** and **POSTLUDE**

All Verses

Join us for fellowship and refreshments after the service.

Congregational Annual Meeting - <u>SUNDAY, MARCH 23</u> Immediately following the worship service.

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