WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

Let us worship God, who reconciled us to himself through Christ. We are new creations; the old has gone, the new has come! Let us worship God as Christ's ambassadors. Through us and through our worship may we announce the good news to all. Let us worship God in spirit and in truth. Praise God! We are reconciled, redeemed, renewed!

PRAYER OF APPROACH (All Together)

Holy and loving God, as we worship you today, we long for your Spirit to both comfort and challenge us, to help us become more holy and more loving. In a world that does not understand repentance, we pray for new understanding, humility, patience, and discipline that will help us die to sin and live for Jesus. Amen.

HYMN #106 Let All Creation Bless the Lord All Verses

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

God of grace, we confess that we have elevated the things of the world above you. We have made idols of possessions and people and used your name for causes that are not consistent with you and your purposes. We have permitted our schedules to come first and have not taken the time to worship you. We have not always honoured those who guided us in life. We have participated in systems that take life instead of give it. We have been unfaithful in our covenant relationships. We have yearned for, and sometimes taken, that which is not our, and have misrepresented others' intentions.

Forgive us, O God, for the many ways we fall short of your glory. Help us to learn to live together according to your ways through Jesus Christ, our Lord. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Righteousness from God comes through faith in Jesus Christ to all who believe. By faith we have a wholehearted trust, which the Holy Spirit creates in us by the gospel, that God has freely granted, not only to others, but to each of us also, forgiveness of sins, eternal righteousness, and salvation. These are gifts of sheer grace, granted solely by Christ's merit.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST Take a moment and greet each other

<u>HYMN</u> #1 How Blest Are They, Who Fearing God All Verses

CHOIR ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING: Romans 3:21-31

SERMON

"He guides me in paths of righteousness for his name's sake"

<u>HYMN</u> #349 My hope is built on nothing less 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 #517 Verse 3 Offering is brought forward.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Gracious God, we give our best, lest in gaining the world we lose life itself. As a covenant people, we seek to witness to your will and way. Help us to know more clearly what you would have us do with the wealthy entrusted to our care. As we contribute to the needs of your people, we present ourselves as living sacrifices. Through Christ, our Lord. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC - Nathan Schleicher

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord, may you shepherd all peoples and provide for their needs. May you bring healing and restoration, may you bring strength and endurance. Lord, care for those for whom death is near, and bring peace to those who are fearful. Guide and comfort us all. Thank you, lord, for all that you provide, may we proclaim the goodness of your kingdom all the days of our lives. A kingdom we pray for as our Lord Jesus taught us:

LORD'S PRAYER

HYMN #767 Lord, Speak to me

Verses 1,2,5

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

<u>TODAY - The Congregational Annual Meeting</u> Immediately following the worship service. Join us in the Banquet Hall for refreshments.

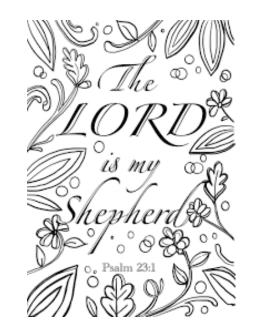
Friday, April 4 from 7-8pm Sign in at 6:30pm Come out for a fun night of trivia and fellowship at Knox. Light snacks will be provided. \$5/person with all proceeds going to the Cancer Care Mission.

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



March 23, 2025

Minister: Pastor Kelli Berkner Music Director: Suzanne Strahan Treasurer: Shannon Archer 142 Ontario Street, Stratford, Ontario N5A 3H2 519-271-0373 knoxs@wightman.ca CCLI #2405391