

KNOX STRATFORD
Sunday, April 13, 2025

Minister: Pastor Kelli Berkner

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

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PRELUDE – Blyth Festival Orchestra

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP (Bolded together)

The stone that the builders rejected
has become the cornerstone.

**Hosanna! Blessed is the One
who comes in the name of the Lord.**

Jesus humbled himself and became obedient
to the point of death – even death on a cross.

**Hosanna! Blessed is our King
who comes in the name of the Lord!**

Therefore, God has highly exalted him
and given him the name that is above every name.

**Blessed is Jesus, our Saviour and our friend! Glory to the
Creator and the Spirit, ever three and ever one!**

PRAYER OF APPROACH (Together)

Holy God, Source, Saviour and Spirit of all life, Holy Three and Holy One, in you, we confront the mystery of mercy and the courage of compassion. As we face the cross on which Christ gave himself, we confront your willingness to die for us so that we might find new life. As the Spirit speaks to us through the story of your amazing love, spilled out in the blood of Christ, our hearts are moved to praise you. Lead us in our praise this morning. Amen.

HYMN #218 Hosanna, loud hosanna All verses

PRAYER OF CONFESSION We confess it is easier for us to follow the crowd than follow Christ; we prefer to avoid conflict rather than stand up for your mercy and understanding. We allow strident voices in our times to drown out your wisdom and truth. Forgive us, O God. Fill us with the courage to take up our cross and follow Jesus, even when the cost to follow is high and reputations are at stake, for we pray in Jesus' holy name. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

The Apostle Paul wrote: "This saying is sure and worthy of our full acceptance, that Christ Jesus came into the world to save sinners". It doesn't matter how big or how small our sins; God's forgiving love in Jesus Christ can cover them all. Trust that, in Christ, we are forgiven. Be at peace with God, with yourself and with each other.

THE PEACE OF CHRIST Take a moment and greet each other

HYMN #217 Ride on, ride on in majesty Verses 1,2,5

CHOIR ANTHEM

SCRIPTURE READING: Mark 11:1-11

SERMON "You anoint my head with oil, my cup overflows"

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 In glad thanksgiving for all the blessings we know in this life, we give you our praise. We thank you for the gifts of music, art, poetry and science and for all the ways you reveal your wisdom to us. Accept our offerings and use them and us for the building of your kingdom in this world. In Jesus's name we pray, Amen.

ORCHESTRA SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE God of care and compassion, we pray for all those who have been humbled by life's unexpected turns. We remember before you those who face illness, pain or injury; those who have known death or disaster, fear or failure; and all who struggle with anxiety and uncertainty. We pray for victims of crime and those who suffer through the misjudgment or mistakes of others. And we pray for those who suffer because of the consequences of their own actions and choices. Embrace them in your mercy, and humble us, lest we imagine we can live lives untouched by trouble. And now we gather our prayers into one voice and pray as Jesus taught: **LORD'S PRAYER**

COMMUNION LITURGY - see insert

PALM PROCESSION #214 All Glory, Laud and Honour
(Nathan on guitar)

COMMUNION BY INTINCTION

BENEDICTION and POSTLUDE (Blyth Festival Orchestra)
Join us for refreshments in the west transept after worship

Special welcome to the Blyth Festival Orchestra.

Violin1-Dr. Thomas Drake, Jeannette Sears;

Violin2-Bill Miller, Dr. Erin Walker;

Viola-Sarah Drake, Dr. Martin Bokhout;

Cello-Bernard Goward, Henry Riedstra;

Double Bass-Dr. David Drake;

Flute1-Jan Searle; Flute2-Hannah Blackburn.

EASTER SERVICES

Everyone is welcome to join in these special services.

Maundy Thursday – Handwashing and Communion

7:00pm at St. Andrew's Presbyterian

Good Friday **10:30am** at Knox

Easter Sunday Morning **8:00am** near the Bandshell

Easter Tea Sunday **9:00am** Banquet Hall at Knox

Easter Sunday Worship **10:30am** at Knox