Please stand where ** is indicated

Gathering Song: MV 122 This Is the Day

Announcements:

Welcome:

The light of Christ shines within us. (Elder lights Christ candle).

We are worshipping on unceded Mi'kmak'i land;

acknowledging that we are all people of the Peace and Friendship Treaty.

(Elder lights Peace Candle)

The Holy Embrace encompasses us all. (*Elder lights Affirmation candle*) In this community of faith, we celebrate that all are welcome in this place.

All are welcome by God's grace.

**Call to Worship:

We give you all thanks and praise with shouts of joy, O God, for you have called us to a rich hope and a glorious inheritance among the saints. You fixed the world in place. You formed a people for yourself. Let us worship today the Christ who fills all in all.

**Opening Prayer:

(AII)

Risen and ascended Christ, you surround us with witnesses and send us the Counselor who opens our minds to understand your teaching.

Bless us with such grace that as we worship this Sunday morning, our lives may become a blessing for the world now, and in the age to come. Amen.

Opening Hymn: VU 158 Christ Is Alive

Prayer of Confession:

Holy Divine, help us not to dwell too much in the past, holding you to the Galilean hills and the streets of Jerusalem, but to know you more and more as our Saviour, ascended, present and always with us. Through the power of the Holy Spirit. We repent of our indifference and forgetfulness of the past and ask for forgiveness.

Words of Assurance:

As Jesus Christ instructed his followers, the forgiveness of sins is proclaimed in his name from the holy city to the ends of the earth.

Our sins are forgiven; be at peace.

Incidental Music:

Prayer of Illumination:

Precious Love, your ascended Son promised the gift of holy power.

Send your Spirit of revelation and wisdom, that as we hear the ancient words in the blessed freedom of hope, we may witness to the grace of forgiveness and sing songs of joy with the peoples of earth to the One who makes us one body. Amen.

Scripture:

Acts 1: 1-11

- offered by Heather Farrell

Psalm 47 (found at VU 771)

Luke 24:44 -53

Words of God that is still speaking. Thanks be to God.

Reflection:

- Reverend Judith Perry

Offering Invitation:

Let bring our gifts, our treasure and our talents for the work of the church in our community and in our world.

Ministry of Music During Offering: Praise to God found at VU 243 M+S in tarked.

**Offertory Response: VU 538 For the Gift of Creation

**Offering Dedication:

In the name and in the spirit of Jesus, we bring our gifts to you, O God. Help us to give with them a ready mind, a willing spirit, and a joyful heart. Amen.

Hymn: VU 310 God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty, vv. 1-5

Prayer Requests

Prayers of the People

We offer our prayers on behalf of our neighbours whose needs are known to us. We pray both for those we know and for those who are strangers.

Prayers of the People, concluding with:

Open our minds to understand the scriptures, O God, so that when sin cripples our hope, we may discover the freedom of your forgiveness; when suffering and death overtake our lives, we may know the joy of the risen Christ; and when we feel abandoned, we may comprehend the power of the promised Spirit, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

The Prayer of Jesus (as found at VU 916)

Our Father-Mother,
who is in the heavens,
may your name be made holy,
may your dominion come,
may your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts,

as we forgive our debtors; and do not put us to the test, but rescue us from evil. For yours is the dominion, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Hymn: VU 310 God, Who Touches Earth with Beauty, v. 6

**Hymn: VU 513 Give to Me, Lord, a Thankful Heart

**Blessing:

Go out into the world.
and in your words and in your lives
bear witness to the Christ who has ascended
to be everywhere present.
May God give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation,
may Christ Jesus lift up his hands and bless you,
and may the Spirit open to you all the riches of Christ's inheritance.
We go in peace to love and serve the Lord,
In the name of Christ. Amen.

**Parting Song: MV 221 I Am Walking a Path of Peace

OUR MISSION

TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE
BY LIVING THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS:
showing mercy,
promoting justice,
offering forgiveness,
acceptance, and hope.

Our Vision...

We, the congregation of Knox United Church, publicly proclaim our commitment to become an open and welcoming community of faith. We declare that we welcome everyone regardless of age, race, ability, sexual orientation, and gender identity. Everyone is welcome here.

Through the process of honouring diversity and challenging injustice with those who bear the weight