

Gathering Song: VU 415 God We Praise You vv.1-3

**Lighting of the Christ Candle and Peace Candle**

One: We gather for worship this day in the light of the Christ candle. The light of this candle reminds us of the light of Christ's life that lights up the skies, bathes the land, and brightens our life's path.

And we gather this day in the light of our Peace Candle for, through his life, Christ taught us to live in peace with all Creation. As the congregation of Knox United, we are grateful to live in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are all Treaty People committed to living together in peace and friendship with the lands, waters, and peoples of Mi'kma'ki.

**Lighting of the Affirmation Candle**

One: In Christ's presence, we have also lit the Affirmation Candle, and we give thanks for all the diversity in which God creates us and calls us good! In this community of faith, we celebrate that:

**Welcome**

All are welcome in this place.

All are welcome by God's grace.

**\*\*Call to Worship**

One: Through these winter months, we have been walking in the light of Christ.

**All: We are children of God and followers of Jesus, the Light of the World!**

One: Next week, the light of our faith will guide us into the gathering shadows of Lent.

**All: In thankfulness for the light and love of God this day, let us join our hearts together in prayer.**

**Opening Prayer**

**All: Wonderful God, your brilliance is witnessed in scripture, song, and story—in the wonder of nature and the wonder of human love. May our worship inspire us with hearts open to experience your presence, and with lives ready to proclaim and share your grace with all those we meet. Shine in us and through us this day, God, just as you shone through the life of your Son, Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.**

**\*\*Opening Hymn:** VU 402 We Are One vv.1-3

**Prayer of Confession:**



One: It isn't just praise that we bring to God—we bring with us all of our lives, the joys and sorrows, the hopes and fears. So, let us bring our prayers of confession to God, trusting that God hears our prayers and holds us always in love. Let us pray together:

**All: God of Transfiguration, you meet us in the ordinary as well as the extraordinary moments of life. We seek you in the valleys and on the mountaintops. Yet we admit that too often our eyes are closed to your presence, too often our ears are shut to your call. When you reach out to us through the beauty of the day or the suffering of those in need, too often our hearts shrink from your touch. Forgive us, God, when we close our hearts to you. (a time for silent prayer)**

### Words of Assurance:

One: The word “transfiguration” means to “transform” into something else. This day, as Jesus was transfigured before his friends into a dazzling love beyond the telling of it, may you know that God is working even now to transform your heart and life into a dazzling love beyond all telling. Know that you are loved, and know that you are forgiven. And may you know that because of this love and forgiveness, you are free to live into the person God truly calls you to be—this day, and always.

**All: Thanks be to God for this! Amen.**

Hymn: This Little Light of Mine vv.1-3

Time for All Ages This Little Light of Mine (vv.4 & 1)

### Announcements

#### Offering Invitation

\*\*Offertory Response- MV 191 What Can I Do?

#### \*\* Offering Dedication:

**All: Gracious God, thank you! You take the ordinary things of this world—our time, our talents, and treasures—and turn them into wonderful blessings. You take our hearts and inspire us to be giving and generous with all we meet. May you work on these gifts given by plate and PAR as you work in our lives, transforming this world into the place of love you would have it be. May this be so, God. Amen.**

Ministry of Music: **We Pray for Peace** - words written by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette, Feb 22, 2022

#### Scripture:

Luke 9:28-36

-read by Olive McIlldoon

The Word of God for the People of God



Hymn: VU 480 Let Us Break Bread Together

COMMUNION

**Invitation:** One: This table is for everyone, a table of generous welcome for all people, in all of our diversity and difference. Whether we are doubtful or certain, neighbour or stranger, no one is barred. All are welcomed to be nourished in Christ's name.

Greeting:

One: The Lord be with you.

**All: And also with you.**

One: Lift up your hearts.

**All: We lift them up to the Lord.**

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Blessed are you, gracious God,  
Creator of light, Giver of life, Source of love.  
You guide the sun, cradle the moon, and toss the stars.  
Through your inspiration, the earth was made  
and spun on its course among the planets.  
You breathe life into us  
and set us among all your creatures,  
in a covenant of love and service.  
Even when we turn away from you, you do not forsake us.  
You send your prophets to proclaim your justice,  
to remind us of your promise of peace,  
and to call us back to you.

Creator, Christ, and Spirit,  
we praise you for your love revealed to us in Jesus,  
who walks with us, our Wisdom and our Way,  
sharing our joy and sorrow,  
healing the sick,  
feeding the hungry,  
and setting the captive free.  
So it is that we join the song of all creation to  
proclaim your goodness:

**All: Holy, holy, holy Lord,**



God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.  
Hosanna in the highest.  
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.  
Hosanna in the highest.

Radiant God, in Jesus of Nazareth  
we recognize the fullness of your grace:  
light, life, and love, revealed  
in words that confront and comfort us,  
in teachings that challenge and change us,  
in compassion that heals and frees us.

**All: And now we gather at this table to remember  
and to be filled with such longing for your realm,  
that we may rise together  
to turn our worship into witness  
and to follow in your way.**

We remember that, on the night before he was executed, Jesus ate a meal with his friends.

During the meal, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it,  
he broke it and gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Each time you do this, remember me.”

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks,  
passed it to his friends, saying:

“Take, drink. This cup that is poured out for you  
is the promise of God’s everlasting love and forgiveness, made in my blood.  
Whenever you drink, remember me.”

And so, as we eat and drink together this day, God, we remember all those with  
whom you would have us share your feast.

We pray for all who are in sorrow or in pain . . .

all who are ill or alone . . .

all who live with fear, or hunger . . .

for all whom the world counts as last and least . . . .

We pray for the church and its varied ministries . . .

for nations as they strive for peace and justice . . .

for all our families and friends . . . .

*The Lord’s Prayer...*

One: Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts,  
that all who share in this loaf and cup  
may be the body of Christ:  
light, life, and love in the world.

In this hope and as your people, we praise you. Amen.

### *Sharing of Communion*

#### Prayer after Communion:

**All:** Life-giving God,  
may we, who share Christ's body, live his risen life;  
we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others;  
we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world.  
Amen.

#### Hymn after Communion: VU 227 For the Fruit of All Creation

#### \*\*Blessing:

One: In all your days, may God bless you and keep you, may God's face shine upon you and be gracious to you, and may God look upon you with kindness, and give you peace. Go from this time and place, carrying the light and radiance of Christ with you into all the world. Thanks be to God! Amen.

#### \*\*Parting Song: Go Now in Peace

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## OUR MISSION

TO SHARE GOD'S LOVE

BY LIVING THE TEACHINGS OF JESUS:

showing mercy,  
promoting justice,  
offering forgiveness,  
acceptance, and hope.

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## 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  
of discrimination, we commit ourselves to openness,  
growth, education, love, and acceptance.

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Christ's Disciples in Ministry: Everyone

Minister of Worship, Outreach and Faith Formation: Rev. Penny Nelson

Minister of Pastoral Care: Rev. Kym Burke

Minister of Music & Dramatic Arts: John Lindsay-Botten



Church School Superintendent: Lynne Stewart  
Youth Group: James O'Connell  
Pastoral Care: Olive McIlldoon & Judy Hayes

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+Call to Worship and Opening Prayer adapted from *The Gathering: A/C/E 2016-17*. Used with permission; Prayer of Confession and Communion Liturgy adapted from *Celebrate God's Presence*; Words of Assurance written by Rev. Penny Nelson, 2016 while at the Tatamagouche Pastoral Charge. Used with permission; Offering Prayer adapted from *The Gathering: Pentecost 1, 2018*. Used with permission.