

**Gathering Song as Ministry of Music:** Our Voices Have Been Silent

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## **Announcements**

### **Welcome**

One: In the Church calendar we are in the Season of Ordinary Time. (*Elder lights Christ Candle*) We light the Christ candle to remind us that Christ is with us always, even in the ordinary times of our lives.

One: And we light the Peace candle (*Elder lights Peace Candle*) as a reminder that Jesus taught us to live in peace with all Creation. As the congregation of Knox United, we acknowledge that we live, work, worship and play within the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. As those who follow Jesus' path of peace,

**All: we commit ourselves to upholding the Treaties of Peace and Friendship so that we will live in a good way with all peoples, the land, the waters, and all of Creation, for we are all treaty people.**

One: We light the Affirmation Candle (*Elder lights Affirmation candle*) as a celebration of all the wonderful diversity in which God creates us and calls us good! In this community of faith, we celebrate that all are welcome in this place.

**All: All are welcome by God's grace.**

### **Call to Worship**

**All: Today we have come to worship and offer our praise and thanksgiving to our God. Our creator has given us much to be thankful for, our earth, our families and friends, our church, and all that is. The maker of all nature beckons to us and offers us new growth in all things. Let us gather now to praise our maker.**

### **Opening Prayer**

One: Loving God, as we pause to reflect on the works of your hands and the making of our days, we offer you thanks. Often, O God, we forget your wonders and works of miracles and we rely on ourselves. Often, we abuse our earth, we pollute and plunder, and neglect those who need us most. Forgive us, O God, and help us to be ever mindful that You are God and remind us that You walk with us each step of our journey. As we look to the future as Your church, help us to find ways to better serve You and Your family on earth. Help us, O God, to stand for truth and justice and to never be afraid. We pray in Jesus name. Amen

**Hymn** VU 232 Joyful, Joyful

### **Time for All Ages**

**Children's Sending Hymn:** VU 958 Halle, Halle, Halle



### **Prayer of Illumination**

*Reader: Holy One, in this Season of Ordinary Time, we ask you to illuminate our days with your wisdom. During this season, help us learn from the songs and stories of scripture so that we might recognize your presence amongst us and follow in the ways of you son, Jesus, even in our most ordinary of days. This we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.*

### **Scripture Readings**

Ezekiel 37: 1-14, Revelation 21: 1-8  
Words of God that are still speaking.  
**Thanks be to God!**

### **Reflection – “In God We Trust” – Rev. Bob Chapman**

**Hymn** VU 713 I See a New Heaven

### **Offering Invitation**

One: God's gifts are all around us and live within each and every one of us. Therefore, let us respond in faith, love, and generosity throughout the course of our lives, for we remember that these gifts of time, talents, and finances come from a source *greater* than ourselves. So, let us give thanks to God for these blessings, and let us sing:

**Offertory Hymn:** VU 542 We Give You but Your Own

### **Offering Dedication**

**All: Giving God, we bring these offerings this day, as well as the offerings given by PAR and the work of our hearts and hands. We dedicate the cups of coffee and tea, the meals served at Freedom Kitchen, the drives to appointments, the work of Teams and Committees, the phone calls or texts we make, and all the other kindness we give in love. Bless these acts, and multiply our efforts so that the world can become more like you created it to be. Amen.**

**Hymn** VU 661 Come to My Heart vs 1,2

### **Prayers of the People**

**Hymn:** The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn** VU 884 You Shall Go Out with Joy

### **Blessing:**

**Parting Song:** Go Now in Peace - words by Don Besig and Nancy Price; music by Don Besig. Used by permission

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