

Gathering Song: VU 395 Come In, Come In and Sit Down (vv.1, 2, 4)

Announcements

Lighting of the Christ Candle and Peace Candle

Welcome to the season of Easter, to the season of resurrection promises and glimpses! We gather this morning in the presence of the risen Christ, whose love and peace gives light to our paths and hope to our days! In the light of our Christ candle, the joy of our hearts is rekindled this day.

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 acknowledge that the land on which we live, work, and play continues to be the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaw people.

As we celebrate renewal and resurrection this day, may we strive for reconciliation and renewal in our lives, for we are all Treaty People.

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: Let us gather together where our journeys overlap

All: Where our week's end finds rest,

One: Where the Temple opens to Sabbath's peace,

All: Where Christ greets us,

One: And we can hear afresh God's call to us.

All: Let us gather together and worship God in song and prayer!

Opening Prayer

All: Living, Life-giving God, we come here today with hope in our hearts—yearning for a word of strength, a touch of compassion, a sign of your presence among us. May your life and your love be revealed to us in the most obvious places of sunlight and smiles as much as it is revealed to us in living with the wounds and scars of our hearts and minds. Open our lives to you in this time, we pray. Amen.

**Hymn: VU 820 Make a Joyful Noise

Time for All Ages

Ministry of Music: In Old Galilee, When Sweet Breezes Blew (VU 354)

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: God of our living, our dying, and our rising again—be present to us as we tell and hear the stories of Easter. As we receive this story, may it so work in our hearts and minds that our lives will reflect resurrection wherever we go. All this we pray in the name of your Son, the Risen Christ. Amen.

Scripture:

Luke 24: 13-35

- read by Al Matheson

Words of God that are still speaking.

Thanks be to God.

Hymn: VU 184 As We Walked Home at Close of Day

Reflection:

- Rev. Penny Nelson

Hymn: VU 182 Stay with Us

Offering Invitation

Minute for Mission

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

** Offering Dedication:

All: Loving God, this morning, we give you the gifts of our life: our time and our talents, our wounds and our waiting. Take them and transform them, we pray, so that your healing work may be done here *in Sackville*, and around the world. This we pray, in the name of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 586 We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection vv.1

**Blessing:

One: May the opening of each new bud speak to you of beginning again.

May each song of the robin that you hear lift your heart in praise.

May each greening blade of grass bring you hope and renewal.

May Christ who rose from the dead rise in your heart so that life in all its fullness may be known in you and through you this day, this night, and forevermore.

Amen.

**Parting Song: VU 586 We Shall Go Out with Hope or Resurrection vv.2