

Gathering Song: VU 405 New Every Morning

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: Pay attention!

All: Where? What?

One: There! On the horizon before us. What do you notice?

All: A new heaven and a new earth.

One: Pay attention!

All: Where? What?

One: There! On the horizon behind us. What do you notice?

All: The old heaven and the old earth—passing away.

One: Pay attention!

All: Where? What?

One: Right here! With us. In us. Around us. What do you experience?

All: The communion of the Holy Spirit. The peace of God. The love of Christ.

One: And in God's presence, we are made new. Thanks be to God!

Opening Prayer

**All: Holy Mystery, Great Spirit, Wisdom Child,
may our hearts overflow with your praise like Mother Earth overflows with
her Spring abundance.**

**God of our lives, in Christ we find
the everyday and the sacred,
the death and resurrection,
the human and the divine.**

Help us, we pray, to notice you in this worship and in the world.

Help us, we pray, to follow you, wherever we may go. Amen.

Hymn: VU 333 Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

Time for All Ages

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.

Scriptures:

John 13:31-35

Revelation 21:1-6

-read by Dave Duggan

Words of God that are still speaking.

Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music: Heaven is a Place on Earth

Reflection:

- Rev. Penny Nelson

Hymn: VU 713 I see a New Heaven

Minute for Mission

Offering Invitation

****Offertory Response**- VU 372 Though I May Speak

**** 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 602 Blest Be the Tie that Binds

****Blessing:**

One: As you go forth this day, may you leave with these words of scripture on your heart: "Behold, I am making all things new."

May God's promise of new life work its way in your heart and mind these days; may God's promise of newness be a blessing to you in the week ahead, and may you offer the hope of God's promise to all you meet, for you are blessed to be a blessing. Thanks be to God for this! Amen.

****Parting Song: Go Now in 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 of discrimination, we commit ourselves to openness, growth, education, love, and acceptance.

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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