

Gathering Song: VU664 What a Friend We Have in Jesus

Announcements

Welcome:

One: As we move into the season of Autumn and the time in the Church known as the Season of Creation, we are thankful for the abundance of God's grace bestowed upon us, and in humbleness, we realize the depth of those blessings.

(Elder lights Christ Candle) We light the Christ candle to remind us that we are not to hide the light of Christ within the walls of a church building, but to take it out into the world so that everyone will know and experience God's love and justice.

One: 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

One: Come, let us praise our Wondrous God!

All: The God who gives us hope when all seems hopeless.

One: The God who brings us peace when our souls are restless.

All: The God who brings us joy when all seems lost.

One: The God who brings us love when we feel most alone.

All: The God who brings us Jesus when we need God's presence.

One: Come, let us worship our wondrous God!

Opening Prayer

All: Loving God, you call us to faithfulness, not to perfection. Seeking God, you call us to be open to one another, without trying to make the other person just like us. Persistent God, you continue to issue the call for justice in an unjust world. Rejoicing God, we seek to share in your happiness when any who feel unheard and wronged are no longer met with silence and find justice. Thanks be to God. Amen.

Opening Hymn: MV185 Ev'ry Day Is a Day of Thanksgiving

Children's Time

Children's Sending Hymn: VU958 Halle, Halle, Halle

Prayer of Illumination

Reader: Gracious God, Source of our beginnings and endings and beginnings again—as the scriptures are opened to us today, open our lives to the Word that comes through them. Help us not just to hear and tell these stories, but to live our lives from their wisdom and truth. All this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Reading:

Luke 18:1-8

- offered by Pat Nursey

Words of God that are still speaking.

Thanks be to God!

Reflection

Offering Invitation:

Ministry of Music as Offertory: God, Who Has Caused Us to Be Written (*found at VU498*)

Offertory Response: VU541 Praise God, from Whom All Blessings Flow

**** Offering Dedication:**

All: Loving God, may our gifts provide strength through your word shared; comfort and hope through your promises proclaimed; sustenance through needs met; justice through unending persistence; and the welcoming embrace of a supportive church community. Amen.

Hymn before Prayers: VU672 Take Time to Be Holy

Prayers of the People
The Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn: VU684 Make Me a Channel of Your Peace

****Blessing**

Let us never give up praying for justice,
or the oppressed in this world will one day ask us 'Why?'

Let us never give up praying for fairness,
or the hungry of this world will one day ask us 'Why?'

Let us never give up praying for healing,
or the sick in this world will one day ask us 'Why?'

Let us never give up praying, for to give up is to deny our faith
in a God who answers prayer.

Parting Song: 3-fold Amen

**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

567 Sackville Drive (PO Box 210) Lower Sackville, NS B4C 2S9
Office: 902.865.9216 Hall/Kitchen: 902.865.1603 Fax: 902.865.0599
In the case of pastoral emergency, please dial 902.865.2617
office: admin@knoxsackville.ca website: www.knoxsackville.ca [facebook.com/knoxunited](https://www.facebook.com/knoxunited)

+ Lighting of the Christ candle adapted from "In This Autumn Season of abundance" written by Fern Gibbard, Penticton U.C., Penticton, B.C., 2022 from <gatheringworship.ca>. Used with permission; Call to Worship written by Chery Henry, Sheirdan U.C. Mississauga, ON., 2022 from Gathering Worship resource; Opening Prayer written by Beth W. Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, SK from Gathering Worship Resource; Prayer of Illumination written by Rev. Penny Nelson while at Tatamagouche Pastoral Charge, Tatamagouche, NS, 2017. Used with permission; Offertory Invitation written by Frances Fook, Emo/Devlin P.C., Emo, ON from Gathering Worship resource; Offertory Prayer adapted from the prayer written by Karen Boivin, Bells Corners U.C., Ottawa, ON from the Gathering Worship resource; Prayers of the People have been adapted a prayer written by Ann Siddall, Spirituality Centre and Faith Community (<http://www.stillpointsa.org.au/prayer/prayers-and-liturgies/>); Blessing written by John Birch (<http://www.faithandworship.com/>).