

December 31, 2023 ORDER OF WORSHIP – Rev. Tom Woods

Please stand where ** is indicated

Gathering Song: VU 91 The First Noel

Announcements:

Welcome:

In this community of faith, we celebrate that all are welcome in this place.

All are welcome by God's grace.

****Call to Worship:**

As we pause at the door of a new year and prepare to cross its threshold, let us carry the peace of Christ's love in our hearts and our lives, so that we may make peace possible in our time.

Let this candlelight shine throughout our daily lives that all may know we follow in Christ's way.

May the light of peace shine through us to all of God's children.

May it be so.

****Opening Prayer:**

In our time together at the beginning of a new year,

keep alive in us the hope of the angels' song.

Help us notice the possibility of peace in the child's cries.

Push us to live out the love of the babe in the manger.

At this time of celebrating new beginnings, we enter the new year with faith.

At this time of looking ahead, we move into the unknown with hope.

At this time of new commitment to following in the footsteps of Jesus, we proceed forward together as God's family.

Loving God, as we turn the calendar page,

reveal to us the joy of new beginnings found in you. Amen.

****Opening Hymn: VU 74 What Child Is This?**

Scripture:

Isaiah 60: 1-6

- read by

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 2: 1-12

Hear the Witness of the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Message

Reverend Tom Woods

Hymn: VU 96 Will You Come and See the Light

Minute for Mission:

Ministry of Music:

Offering Invitation:

Hymn During Offering: VU 73 The Virgin Mary Had a Baby Boy

****Offertory Response: VU55 In the Bleak Midwinter (v.4)**

****Offering Dedication:**

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

****Hymn: VU 81 As with Gladness Men of Old**

****Blessing:**

****Parting Song: SA76 This Li'l Light of Mine**

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.
Tom Woods
Minister of Music & Dramatic Arts: John Lindsay-Botten
Church School Superintendent: Lynne Stewart
Pastoral Care: Olive McIlldoon & Judy Hayes

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