

July 23, 2023

ORDER OF WORSHIP

– Rev. Tom Woods

Please stand where ** is indicated

****Gathering Song:** VU 378 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart

Announcements:

Welcome:

The light of Christ shines within us. (*Elder lights Christ candle*).

We are worshipping on unceded Mi'kmak'i land;

acknowledging that we are all people of the Peace and Friendship Treaty.

(*Elder lights Peace Candle*)

The Holy Embrace encompasses us all. (*Elder lights Affirmation candle*)

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

All are welcome by God's grace.

****Call to Worship:**

In the good times, in the bad times, in the ups and downs,

When we are running away,

When we are doing well

When we are wracked with guilt and shame,

When we are struggling to make the right choices,

God is with us. Come, let us worship the God who is always with us as we live amongst the weeds and grow with the seeds.

****Opening Prayer:**

Meet us here, Holy One, in this sanctuary of time and space that we have set apart in our week as an opening for your Spirit into our hearts and homes. In a world that is aching and divided, may our prayers be a gentle and soothing gift, offered in your name and in the spirit of your gathered ones across time and space. Amen.

****Opening Hymn:** VU 516 Come, You Thankful People, Come

Scripture:

Genesis 28:10-19a

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.

Thanks be to God.

Matthew 13:24-30, 36-43

Hear the Witness of the Gospel.

Thanks be to God.

Message

- Reverend Tom Woods

Ministry of Music as Offering Invitation: MV 172 God Says

****Offertory Response: VU 538 For the Gift of Creation**

****Offering Dedication:**
Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

****Hymn: VU 436 Abide with Me**

****Blessing:**

****Parting Song: MV 215 Peace Be with You**

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

Youth Group: James O'Connell

Pastoral Care: Olive McIldoon & Judy Hayes

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