Please stand where ** is indicated

**Gathering Song: Where Two or Three Are Gathered

<u>Announcements</u>:

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:

(One)

God invites us to venture into unknown places.

(AII)

We can do that, for we know that God goes with us.

We trust, we dare, we follow.

(One)

Jesus calls us to take his yoke upon us, and to learn from him.

(AII)

We can do that, for Jesus also says, "if you are tired, come to me, and I will refresh you."

(One)

We trust, we dare, we follow.

(All)

Let us worship God, Who challenges us, and who comforts us as we trust, we dare, and we follow.

**Opening Prayer:

God, you have called all kinds of people together to be your presence of goodness in the world. Thank you for calling us together here. Let your diverse spirit fill each of us in the way you know is best for each. Amen

**Opening Hymn: VU 330 Jesus Shall Reign

Prayer of Confession:

(All)

Your Spirit calls us to new relationships, Gracious God, relationships of peace and equality. The old ways of inequality, power, and privilege lead only to distress and despair. Only the mind of Christ within us can lead us to new

understandings of life for ourselves and our world. May we be open to the mind of Christ transforming and renewing both us and our world.

(A time of Silent Prayer)

Words of Assurance:

(AII)

With Christ in us, we are raised to new life, and new possibilities. Thanks be to God

Scripture:

Genesis 24: 34-38, 42-49, 58-67

Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30

- offered by Pat Nursey

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church. **Thanks be to God.**

Ministry of Music: "We Played the Flute!" the Children Said

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Reflection: - Reverend Tom Woods

Offering Invitation:

**Hymn During Offering: VU 344 How Sweet the Name of Jesus Sounds

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

**Offering Dedication: Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

**Hymn: VU 681 Where Cross the Crowded Ways of Life

**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 Pastoral Care:

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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