

July 24 2022 Knox Order of Worship... Max Martin

Prelude: Sheep May Safely Graze (*Handel*)

- with Elaine Allan, trombone

Gathering Song: MV 28 God of the Bible (Fresh as the Morning)

Welcome

Announcements

Lighting of Candles

One: We light the Christ candle (Elder lights Christ Candle) as a reminder of the presence of Jesus Christ, who is the Light of the World, and of our own call to be beacons of that light in all we do.

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, with the lands, the waters, and all of Creation, for we are all treaty people.

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:

All are welcome in this place.

All: All are welcome by God's grace.

Call to Worship:

We come, bringing our souls to God.

God delights in us, just as God has found wonder in every generation.

We come, bringing our hands to Jesus.

Jesus challenges us to see each person as the neighbor we are to serve.

We come, bringing our hearts to the Spirit.

The Spirit teaches all we need to know so that we may be faithful in our lives.

Opening Prayer:

Our hope is in you, Lord, our hearts belong to heaven.
Our hope comes from the gospel, the word of the truth that you brought to us. May it bear abundant fruit in our lives. Let the whole world be filled with your hope! As we grow in faith,

help us truly comprehend your grace, O God;
help us understand this amazing grace,
as we seek to lead lives worthy of you, O Lord.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: VU 271 There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

Celebration Time: *(JLB will handle wireless mic)*

Prayer of Illumination:

Scripture:

- offered by John Lindsay-Botten

Amos 7:7-17

Colossians 1:1-14

Words of God that are still speaking.

Thanks be to God.

Reflection:

- Max Martin

Offering Invitation

Offering Hymn: VU 582 There's a Spirit in the Air *(tune at VU234)* / **VU 542** We Give You but Your Own

Offering Dedication:

Prayers of the People:

Let us pray to God saying:

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

We pray for those who are incarcerated - both justly and unjustly.

Scripture tells us that you come to proclaim release to the captives.

May we be vehicles of that freedom for those behind bars.

We pray for improved social services and that all prisoners may be treated with kindness and dignity.

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

We pray for those who suffer from domestic violence of all kinds,
especially that women and girls may be free from abuse and neglect.

Marriage is a gift and responsibility, and we pray that those within its covenant might conduct themselves with compassion and empathy.

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

We pray for refugees and immigrants -

both those with documentation and those without.

Scripture tells us to treat the foreigner with kindness and respect,

for how we treat the least of these is how we treat you, O Lord.

May this nation be a nation of compassion and inclusivity.

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

We pray for those who are torn apart by grief;
grief at the loss of a loved one;
grief at the loss of employment;
grief at the loss of relationship;
grief at the loss of health.

May all those who grieve know your peace, and may your Spirit intercede with sighs too deep for words.

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

For all those prayers upon our hearts,
we lift up to you now in silence...

God of steadfast love, **may righteousness and peace kiss one another.**

We commend these prayers to you, Gracious God,
for we trust your steadfast love and faithfulness.

May we be vehicles of your peace this day and forever more. **Amen.**

Lord's Prayer:

Let us continue praying with the prayer that has been part of the Heartbeat of Creation since Jesus taught it to his followers:

Our Father, who art in heaven hallowed be thy name thy kingdom come, thy will be done on earth, as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever.

Amen

Hymn: VU 705 For All the Saints (*vv. 1, 2, 4, 5*)

Blessing

Ministry of Music: May Love Fulfill Our Days *- offered by JLB and Elaine Allan*
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Parting Song: Go Now in Peace