

Penny Nelson

Gathering Song: VU 646 Siyahamba (We Are Marching)

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: In our lives,

All: We are surrounded by stories.

One: In our worship,

All: We bring our stories to God.

One: In this time, our stories are framed—

All: Our story is God's story, and God's story is ours.

One: Through scripture and singing,

All: God shines through our lives.

One: Through stained glass and stitching,

All: God shines through our lives.

One: From the beginning of life to the end, we proclaim:

All: We are not alone, we live in God's world!

One: So, come. Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

All: Loving Creator, we gather here today in awe of all your wonders of this world. Your grace is endless and touches every corner of this universe. You are an amazing God. You nurture our bodies and souls. You create life and call us back to dust where we came from. It is in you and through you that we are granted life. Fill us with your love and guide us to live harmoniously with one another and with all of your creation on this beautiful planet. Amen.

Hymn: Sacred Stories
Children's Time

Children's Sending Hymn:

Prayer of Illumination

Prayer of Illumination: Creating and Creative God, as light shines through a stained-glass window, we pray that you will illuminate the wisdom of this scripture reading for our day and age. Enlarge our vision and stretch our imagination, God, so we might see ourselves within your story, too. All of this we pray, in Jesus' name. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Jeremiah 4:11-12, 22-28

Luke 15:1-10 (read by _____)

Words of God that are still speaking.

Thanks be to God!

Reflection:

Offering Invitation:

One: Just as each piece of coloured glass is added together to create one whole, beautiful window that portrays a story of Christ's life, we each offer our own unique gifts of time, talents, and finances to create the ministry of Knox United Church. Thank you for all the ways you add beauty, depth, and meaning to this ministry by following God's call in your life.

Ministry of Music at Offering Time: VU360 A Woman and a Coin

Offertory Response: VU542 We Give You but Your Own

**** Offering Dedication:**

All: Multiply our efforts by your grace, Creator God, so that the needs of a hurting planet may be met and all will know that they are cared for; each creature, each ocean, the sky, and the land, and people everywhere will know that they are a valued and a beloved part of your creation.

Strengthen us as we give and receive within your community of love and hope. All of this we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Hymn: VU 291 All Things Bright and Beautiful

****Blessing:**

One: [TBD]

Parting Song: Go Now in Peace

**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

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+ 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 Rev. Penny Nelson and John Lindsay-Botten while at Knox United Church, Lower Sackville, 2022. Used with permission; Opening Prayer adapted from prayer written by Anita Ouellette, Ebenezer U.C., Campbellville, Ont. From <gatheringworship.ca>. Used with permission; Prayer of Illumination written by Rev. Penny Nelson while at Knox United Church, Lower Sackville, 2022. Used with permission (with inspiration from David Sparks' "Broaden Our Horizon" prayer: <<https://gatheringworship.ca/prayer/broaden-our-horizon>>.) ; Offertory Prayer "Multiply Our Efforts by Your Grace, God of Love" adapted from prayer written by Beth W Johnston, Bridging Waters P.C., Nipawin, Sask., 2022 from <gatheringworship.ca>. Used with permission ; Offering Invitation, and Blessing written by Rev. Penny Nelson while at Knox United, Lower Sackville, 2022. Used with permission.