

**Ministry of Music as Gathering Song: All Belong Here**

- offered by Tony Mombourquette, Pat Galbraith and JLB

**Lighting of the Christ Candle and Peace Candle**

On this third Sunday of Lent, we gather together in the light of Christ, who walks with us through all our joys and all our sorrows.

And we gather this day in the light of our Peace Candle for, through his life, Christ taught us to live in peace with all Creation. As the congregation of Knox United, we are grateful to live in Mi'kma'ki, the ancestral and unceded territory of the Mi'kmaq people. We are all Treaty People committed to living together in peace and friendship with the lands, waters, and peoples of Mi'kma'ki.

**Lighting of the 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:

**Welcome**      All are welcome in this place.  
All are welcome by God's grace.

**Call to Worship:**

One: If God has only given us this precious moment of life,

**All: it would have been enough.**

One: If God had only given us the rain and the sunshine of this good Earth,

**All: it would have been enough.**

One: If God had only given us the love we share among family and friends,

**All: it would have been enough.**

One: But God, most Wonderful, has given us all these gifts and so much more,

**All: and so we come to this time, thankful for the love of God that is more than enough to see us through.**

One: Come, let us worship God.

**Opening Prayer:**

All: Holy One, Our Balm, Our Feast  
we lift our hands and call your name,  
in need of healing—thirsting and hungry.

Your steadfast love is better than life.

Open us this day to your nourishment  
in the songs of the land, in the beauty of the sky—  
in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days.

Thank you, God. Amen.

**Hymn:** VU 222 Come, Let Us Sing

### **Prayer of Confession:**

One: The Prayer of Confession isn't a time in our worship service that is supposed to make us feel *guilty*, its purpose is to help us look clearly at ourselves and our place in the world, and to make space in our lives for God to make changes for the better. The Prayer of Confession isn't a time for guilt, it's a time for *transformation*.

So, let us bring our prayers of confession to God, trusting that God hears our prayers and holds us always in love. Let us pray together for ourselves, our neighbours and our community:

All:

Loving God, you know us so well. You know our strengths and weaknesses, our joys and our sorrows—sometimes better than we know ourselves. And so, this day, God, we offer up to you all the times when we have rushed through our joys without pausing in gratitude. We offer up to you all the times we have tried to push through our sorrows, as though sheer force of will could stop our hearts from breaking. We offer to you all the times we have lost patience with ourselves and others, and all the times we have sought to rely on our strength alone to get us through. Gracious God, we are sorry. Hear the prayers of our hearts this day, and hold us in your love. Amen.

### **Words of Assurance**

One: People of God, hear the Good News of Jesus Christ: From before you were born, God's love was with you, and long after you die, God's love will still remain with you. So, despite our sometimes faltering steps, let us trust in God's love and forgiveness, and live our lives from this moment in gratitude, saying:

**All: Thanks be to God! Amen.**

**Hymn:**

Good Enough

What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?  
Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?  
Sometimes we get what we get,  
life disappoints us and yet,  
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.

### **Time for All Ages**

**Hymn:** MV 92 Like a Rock

### **Announcements**

### **Prayer of Illumination:**

*Reader: Help us, O God, to receive these age-old, prophetic words as if they were being spoken for the first time. Let them seep into us and may new shoots of faith spring forth. Amen.*

**Scripture:**

Luke 13:1-9

- read by Deanna Chute

Words of God that are still speaking.

**Thanks be to God.**

**Reflection:**

- Rev. Penny Nelson

**Offering Invitation**

**\*\*Offertory Response:**

That's Enough For Me

When food and raiment are not ever sure,  
and simple fare is hard to get for some,  
we work to share our goods with one and all,  
and that is enough, enough for me.  
Oh, that's enough for me,  
God's truth has set me free;  
a love like Christ's is meant for ev'ry soul,  
and that is enough for me.

**\*\* Offering Dedication:**

**All: Generous God,  
in light of your extravagant blessings—  
no matter what the state of the world or our imperfect lives—  
we offer our gifts and ourselves,  
and know that you transform what we plant  
into the produce of love.  
Amen.**

**Prayers of the People**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**\*\*Hymn: VU 703 In the Bulb There Is a Flower**

**\*\*Blessing:**

**One: And now, may the God who loves all of creation, and you—without price,  
and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life,  
and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways,  
go with you, dwell among you, and give you joy. Amen.**

**\*\*Parting Song: Go Now in Peace**