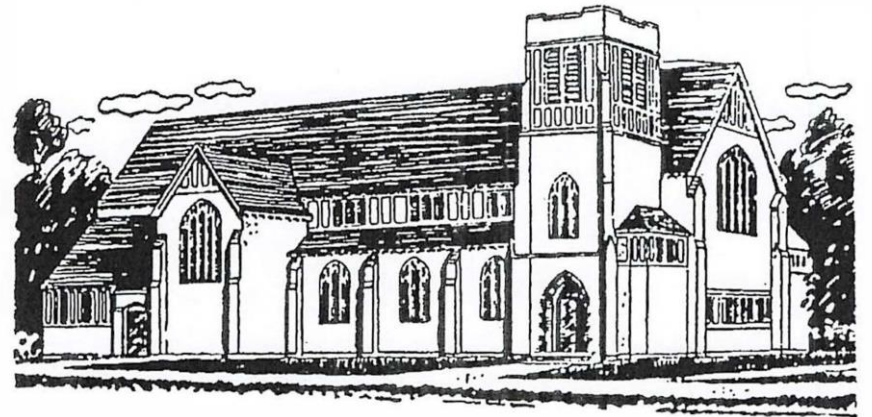


# KNOX UNITED CHURCH



December 31, 2023

**NEW YEAR'S EVE**  
**December 31, 2023 (10:00 am)**

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

**Prelude:** "The First Nowell" John Leavitt

**Welcome and Call to Worship**

**Minister:** As we stand at the threshold of a new year, we gather to worship, reflecting on God's faithfulness and looking forward with hope.

**People:** In God's grace, we find our strength and our joy.

**Prayer**

♪↑ **Hymn:** "Angels We Have Heard on High" VU 38

**Scripture Reading:** Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3  
Isaiah proclaims God's salvation and the joy of renewal.

♪+ **Hymn:** "Good Christian Friends, Rejoice!" VU 35

**Sermon:** Clothed in Joy: Embracing God's Promises

**Meditative Music:** "What Child is This?" David Lasky

♪↑ **Offering Song:** "As with Gladness Men of Old" (verse 3) VU 81

As they offered gifts most rare  
at that manger crude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy,  
pure and free from sin's alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring,  
Christ, to you, our heavenly King.

**Dedication of Offering**

**Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer**

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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

♪↑ **Hymn:** "Once in Royal David's City" VU 62

**Commissioning and Benediction**

♪↑ **Benediction Response:** "Go, Tell It on the Mountain" VU 43  
*(Refrain only)*

Go, tell it on the mountain,  
Over the hills and everywhere.  
Go, tell it on the mountain  
that Jesus Christ is born.

**Postlude:** "Joy to the Word, the Lord is Come" Fred Bock

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**Worship Leaders:**

Minister: Rev. Richard Chung  
Scripture Reader: John Carr  
Organist: Madelene Klassen  
Usher/Greeters: Dave Cass  
Webminder: Debra Danny

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**December 31, 2023**

**Text:** Isaiah 61:10 - 62:3

**Title:** Clothed in Joy: Embracing God's Promises

**Synopsis:** This sermon will explore the themes of renewal and hope found in Isaiah 61:10-62:3. It will reflect on how we, as God's people, are clothed in the garments of salvation and joy as we step into the new year. The sermon will encourage listeners to embrace God's promises for renewal and transformation, both personally and communally.



**KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

Mission: "We exist to love God and love our neighbours" (Matthew 22: 36-40)

Vision: "We aspire to engage our neighbours through the arts, building a community without loneliness.

**KNOX UNITED CHURCH**

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Land Acknowledgment:

We acknowledge we worship on the unceded territories of the x\_wm\_əθk\_wəy\_əmə\_(Musqueam), S\_kw\_x\_wú7mesh (Squamish), and Sel'il\_witlh (Tsleil-Waututh) Nations. We thank them for having cared for this land and look forward to relating with them as covenant people of God as we continue to care for this land together.

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**"Good Christian Friends, Rejoice"**, Words: 14 Century, trans. John Mason Neale 1853. Music: German melody, IN DULCI JUBILO, **Public Domain**

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**"The First Nowell"** (The First Nowell) arr. John Leavitt, Laudate! Vol. 5, ed. James W. Kosnik, Concordia Publishing 1996

**"Meditation on "What Child is This"**, arr. David Lasky, Nine Meditations on Christmas Hymns for organ, by David Lasky, H.W. Gray, 1997, Jubilate Group

**"Joy to the World"**, tune G.F. Handel, arr. Fred Bock, The Organ Music of Fred Bock, Vol 2, Ten Christmas Melodies, Fred Bock Music Company, 1972

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