

KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

FIFTH SUNDAY AFTER EASTER

May 14, 2023 (10:30 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

Prelude: “Be Thou My Vision”

Paul Manz

Welcoming

Christ Candle Lighting

As we light the Christ candle, let it remind us of God's enduring presence in our lives, illuminating the path before us, and shining love into every corner of our hearts.

Responsive Call to Worship

Leader: In the midst of life's trials and tribulations, we gather to worship the God who loves us unconditionally.

People: We come, grateful for the hope that sustains us, even in times of affliction.

Leader: As we celebrate mothers and those who have nurtured us, we recognize God's nurturing love that holds us close.

People: We come, eager to experience God's grace that knows no bounds.

♪↑ **Hymn:** “Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

VU 559

Prayer of Adoration

Leader: Loving God, we stand in awe of your infinite love and grace, which permeate every aspect of our lives. You are our rock, our comforter, and our redeemer. As we gather to worship, help us to experience your presence in a deep and powerful way. We praise you for your tender care and constant support.

People: Amen.

Prayer of Confession (*together*)

Leader: Let us take a moment to reflect on our lives and acknowledge our need for God's forgiveness and grace.

(Pause for silent confession)

♪↑ **Hymn:** “Lord, Have Mercy (Kyrie Eleison)”

VU 945

Kyrie, Kyrie, eleison. (*repeat 3 times*)

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: Friends, hear the good news: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new. God's love is greater than any sin or failure we may have. In the name of Jesus Christ, our sins are forgiven.

People: Thanks be to God!

♪+ **Hymn:** “Love Is the Touch”

MV 89

Scripture: Romans 5:1-11

Quartet: The 23rd Psalm (dedicated to my mother)

By Bobby McFerrin

Transcribed by Dan Stolper

Sermon: “Boast in Affliction”: Embracing God's Unconditional Love

♪↑ **Communion Hymn:** “One Bread, One Body”

VU 467

Dedication of Offering (*together*)

People: Generous God, we give You these gifts with grateful hearts.

Please use them to share Your love and grace with those who need it, both near and far, and to continue Your work in our world. Amen.

Communion

Invitation to the Table

Leader: Friends, this is the table of grace, where all are welcome, and all are nourished by the love of God. Let us come together, leaving behind our doubts and fears, to share in the mystery of Christ's presence with us.

People: We come with open hearts, ready to be transformed by the power of God's love.

Great Thanksgiving

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is truly right and just, our duty and our salvation, always and everywhere to give you thanks, almighty and eternal God. You created all things in love and called us to share in your divine life. When we turned away from you, you did not abandon us but continued to seek us out, offering us forgiveness and new life in your Son, Jesus Christ.

And so, with all the angels and saints, with the whole company of heaven, we join our voices to proclaim your glory, saying:

People: Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might, heaven and earth are full of your glory. Hosanna in the highest. Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

Words of Institution

Leader: On the night he was betrayed, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and said, "This is my body, which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, after supper, he took the cup, saying, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Leader: As we share this bread and cup, we proclaim the mystery of faith:

People: Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Prayer of Consecration

Leader: Pour out your Holy Spirit on these gifts of bread and wine, and on all of us gathered here. As we share in this sacred meal, may we be united with one another and with Christ, our Lord. Make us one body in him, a living sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving, dedicated to serving you in the world.

Remember, Lord, your church throughout the world, and strengthen us in our witness to your love and grace. Guide our leaders, and help us to grow in faith and love, that we may be a light to the nations.

Bring us, with all your saints, to the fullness of your kingdom, where every tear will be wiped away, and we will be one with you in the new creation.

People: Through Christ, with Christ, in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory and honour are yours, almighty God, now and forever. Amen.

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

The Lord's Prayer (*together*)

VU 914

**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.

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup

Leader: The Body of Christ broken for you.
The Blood of Christ shed for you.

People: We who are many are one body, for we all partake of the one bread and one cup.

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Leader: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

(Please remain seated and wait for the communion helpers to give you the bread and cup. We will celebrate together when everyone receives the gifts.)

Meditative Music: “What Wondrous Love is This” Anna Laura Page

Prayer after Communion (together)

Gracious God, we thank you for this sacred meal, which reminds us of your love for us and the gift of grace we receive through Jesus Christ. As we go forth from this table, may we be strengthened by your Spirit to live as your people in the world, sharing your love and grace with all we meet. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

🎵↑ **Hymn:** “Let Us with a Gladsome Mind” VU 234

Commissioning and Benediction

Leader: As we go from here, let's remember God's unconditional love and the power of God's grace to change our lives. Let's share this love and hope with others, even when we face challenges. And now, may the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with us all, now, and forevermore.

People: Amen.

🎵↑ **Benediction Anthem:** “Be the Love of Christ”

Words and Arr.: Roger Thornhill

Music: Michael E. Showalter

Postlude: “Caprice”

Louis-Nicolas Clerambault

Worship Leaders:

Presider & Preacher: Rev. Richard Chung

Scripture Reader: Sandra Trueman

Music Director and Pianist: Colleen Coulter

Organist: Madelene Klassen

Quartet: Kimberley Cheong, Lana Whyte, Victor Burke, Patrick Zhu

Ministry of Music: Knox Choir

Ushers/Greeters: Mardi Read, Ed Williams

Communion Servers: Sandra Trueman, Phil King,

Sharon Kim, Michelle McMaster

Livestreaming Recording: Kevin Wong

Webminder: Debra Danny

May 14, 2023: Fifth Sunday after Easter

Title: “Boast in Affliction”: Embracing God's Unconditional Love

Text: Romans 5:1-11

Synopsis: Paul's letter to the Romans reminds us of the incredible power of God's grace to transform us and bring us peace. We can find hope in the knowledge that God's love is freely given, regardless of our own worthiness, and even helps us to boast in times of affliction.

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Land Acknowledgment:

We acknowledge we worship on the unceded territories of the x̱w̱m̱əθḵw̱əy̱'əm̱ (Musqueam), S̱kw̱x̱w̱ú7mesh (Squamish), and Seḻíḻ'witulh (Tseil-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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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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