

# KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

## September 24, 2023 (10:00 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

### WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

**Prelude:** “If You Will Trust in God to Guide You” Robert Graham

### Welcoming

### Introit Music, Lighting the Christ Candle and Opening the Bible

### Call to Worship

Great is the Lord, and greatly to be praised. Whether we embrace God’s call in our lives or try to avoid it, whether we are long timers or latecomers to a life of faith, and whether our lives in Christ are comfortable or difficult, God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love. Come and hear how generations of believers have learned that ‘God has done mighty things. God is awesome and God is great!!’ Come and celebrate God’s abundant goodness.

♪↑ **Hymn:** “Come, We That Love”

VU 714

### Prayer of Approach (Adoration and Confession) *(together)*

**Holy and Generous One, you come to us again and again freely offering us mercy beyond our deserving and grace beyond our ability to earn. We ask that you open our heart, our minds and our lives so that we may better share your grace and hope with others. Help us to live in unity and equity in creation; without judgement, exclusion, competition and envy. We humbly ask that you reveal yourself and enlighten us to your grace and power for all of creation. Transform us into avenues of grace as we journey with you. Create in us your generous spirit that shares kindness, tenderness and hope. Help us to be grateful to you for the immeasurable blessings you bestow upon us each day. Holy One, align us with your ways and help us to receive your gifts of justice, mercy, and hope as good news always! Amen**

### Time of Silent Reflection and Confession

### Words of Assurance

♪↑ **Hymn of Response:** “I’m Gonna Live So God Can Use Me” VU 575

### WE ENGAGE THE STORY

♪+ **Hymn of Illumination:** “Open Our Hearts” MV 21

**Open our hearts, open our minds,  
open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts, open our minds,  
open our lives to you O loving God.  
Open our hearts.**

**Anthem:** “Ubi Caritas” (Where Charity and Love Are, God Is There)

Words: Early Christian Hymn

Music: John Purifoy

**Scripture Readings:** OT – Jonah 3:10-4:11

One: Hear what the Scriptures are saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God**

**Reflection** ‘The Jonah Syndrome’

**Scripture Readings:** Epistle – Philippians 1: 21-30

Gospel – Matthew 20: 1-16

One: Hear what the Scriptures are saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God**

**Reflection:** ‘Choose Life and Hope with a Grateful Heart’

**Meditative Music:** “Prière”

Denis Bédard

### WE RESPOND IN FAITH

♪↑ **Offering Hymn:** “Your Work, O God, Needs Many Hands” VU 537

### Dedication

### Prayers for Ourselves and Others

♪+ **The Lord's Prayer** (*sung*) VU 960

**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 them  
that 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,  
forever and ever. Amen.**

♪↑ **Hymn:** "Your Hand, O God, Has Guided" VU 274  
(Organ Interlude after verse 3)

*WE GO FORTH*

**Commissioning and Benediction**

♪↑ **Benediction Response:** "Walk with Me" (Chorus) VU 649  
Walk with me, I will walk with you  
and build the land that God has planned  
where love shines through. (*repeat*)

♪↑ **Closing:** "Threefold Amen" VU 967  
Amen, amen, amen.

**Postlude:** "Processional in C" Hal Hopson

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Land Acknowledgment:

We acknowledge we worship on the unceded territories of the  
x\_wm\_əθk\_wəy\_əm\_\_ (Musqueam), S\_kw\_x\_wú7mesh (Squamish),  
and Sel'il\_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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**Worship Leaders:**

Presider & Preacher: Rev. Diane Halkett  
Scripture Reader: Sandra Trueman  
Music Director: Colleen Coulter  
Organist: Madelene Klassen  
Pianist: Patrick Zhu  
Ministry of Music: Knox Choir  
Ushers/Greeters: Marg Derksen, Dave Cass  
Service Recording: Anne Mackenna  
Webminder: Debra Danny

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**September 24, 2023**

**Title:** 'The Jonah Syndrome' and 'Choose Life and Hope with  
a Grateful Heart'

**Text:** Jonah 3: 10-4:11; Philippians 1: 21-30; Matthew 20: 1-16

**Synopsis:** The Jonah Syndrome exists in us whenever we are unable to  
embrace the belief that the grace of God is for all people.  
Our mission is to share a message of love, new life, and hope  
eternal with everyone we meet. Jonah's story is an excellent  
example of negative hope, unacceptance of the life that God  
freely gives everyone. Choosing Life and Hope with a  
Grateful Heart are wonderful words to being a message  
with. Scripture is challenging us to find joy, hope, and new  
life in the good, bad, and ugly times of life. God offers us life  
and hope with grace at all times.



**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.

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**“Ubi Caritas”**, Words: adapted by John Purifoy; Music: John Purifoy; Copyright © 2018 Hal Leonard LLC; All Rights Reserved

**“If Thou But Suffer”**, tune Georg Neumark, arr. Robert Graham, The Organist’s Companion for the Church Year, Advent/Lent, compiled Lee Gwozdz, Unity Music Press, Lorenz Publishing 1995

**“Prière”**, Denis Bédard, Quatre Pieces en forme de Messe, Editions Cheldar 1992, used with permission of the composer

**“Processional in C for Organ and Optional Trumpet”**, Hal Hopson, Hope Publishing Company, 1992

**“Thornbury”**, (Your Hand, O God, Has Guided) Interlude © M. Klassen 2017

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