

KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

October 1, 2023 (10:00 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

Prelude: “Holy God, We Praise Your Name” David Cherwien

Welcoming

Introit Music, Lighting the Christ Candle and Opening the Bible

Call to Worship

Light, love and liberty are the gifts of God, so come in peace. Bread, wine and friendship are the gifts of Christ, so come in joy. Wisdom, compassion and grace are the gifts of the Spirit, so come in hope. Come and worship our Triune God; our Triune God of all.

♪↑ **Hymn:** “Seek Ye First the Kingdom” VU 356

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

Great and Loving One, we humbly come before you with gratitude for all the blessings, new life and true riches that you freely bestow upon us each day. We ask that you help us to follow your lead: to create, to bless and to give without counting. Grant us radical faith - the kind that moves mountains and sees, hears and responds to the needs of our neighbours near and far. Help us to authentically respond to all of our neighbours in love; those who are rich and poor and those who are weak and strong. Holy One, we know that we are among these ‘neighbours’ too. Use our faith to heal and to bring hope. Ground our attitudes and actions in you. Support us as we seek to be your witness in our world. In Jesus name we plea. Amen

Time of Silent Reflection and Confession

Words of Assurance

♪↑ **Hymn of Response:** “When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides”

MV 169

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: “Neighbors” Words: Tom Colvin, from Ghana Melody
Music Arr.: Austin Lovelace

Scripture Readings: Gospel – Matthew 21: 23-32

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection ‘I Changed My Mind and Heart’

Scripture Readings: Epistle – Philippians 2: 1-13

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

ALL: **Thanks be to God**

Reflection: ‘Impersonators and Imitators’

WE RESPOND IN FAITH

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

Prayer of Dedication

Service of the Holy Table

Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation to the Table

Here is the table of Christ – open, inviting and welcoming. And here we are gathered before it. There is a place at the table for each of us. There is food at the table for us whether we are wonderers, wanderers or believers: food to fill an inner hunger, food to satisfy a longing or yearning, food that will help us to know the love and care of God which knows no bounds. Here is the table of Christ. Come one and come all, for we are all welcome.

Call to Give Thanks:

ONE: The Lord be with you.

ALL: **And also with you.**

ONE: Lift up your hearts.

ALL: **We lift them to the Lord.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God

ALL: **It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

Thanksgiving:

Eternal God, Maker of heaven and earth, we join with all your people to give you thanks and praise. You formed the universe in your wisdom and created all things by your grace. We praise you for all your good gifts: the witness of saints and prophets; the work of faithful children, women and men; this earth in all its blessings and promise. In the hope that your people may be brought together from the ends of the earth into your reign of justice and compassion, we gather with those of every time and place in singing your praise and glory...

♫+ **Song of Creation: "Holy, Holy, Holy"**

MV 203

Remembering Jesus at Table and Prayer of Self-Giving:

Let us remember together the vision of God's reign shown to the world in Jesus at table. He shared food with followers and friends, with saints and sinners, with crowds of thousands on the hillside, and with a few friends in an upper room. On the night before he died... Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us and our brothers and sisters throughout the world.

Holy One, remembering your boundless love for us, we offer you our praise as we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

♫+ **Affirmation "Acclamation"**

MV 204

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.**

Prayer of Transformation

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and upon these gifts, that all who share in this loaf and cup may be the body of Christ: forgiving, renewing and healing in the world. Unite us at this table and strengthen us to live in harmony with all of creation. In this hope, and as your people, we offer our lives to you forever.

Through Christ, with Christ and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all glory is yours, God most Holy, now and forever.

Amen. #205 (MV) Great Amen

Sharing the Bread and the Cup:

ONE: The gifts of God for the people of God

ALL: **Amen**

Distribution:

Servers' Words: The Bread of Life; The Cup of Love

Response: Amen or Thanks be to God.

Meditative Music: "They'll Know We Are Christians by our Love"

Lyndell Leatherman

Prayer after Communion: *(together)*

Holy One, may we, who have shared in Christ's body and blood live in you and you in us forever. As we gathered at this table, it was especially strengthening to know that your people throughout the world have also offered you praise and thanksgiving as bread and wine were shared this day. May all who have been nourished with bread and cup follow in your ways, live in harmony and unity in creation, trust in you and bring love and healing to our broken

world. Holy One, may the mystery of your presence bind us together as one worldwide community of love until all of your beloved children and all of creation lives forever in fullness and wholeness according to the promise of your covenant that was given to us in Jesus Christ and through the Holy Spirit. Amen

♪↑ **Hymn:** "Be Thou My Vision" ** VU 642

WE GO FORTH

Commissioning and Benediction

♪↑ **Benediction Response:** "Walk with Me" (Chorus x2) 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: "Fuga in C" Johann Pachelbel

** from Hymn Survey favourites list

+++

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_ʼíl_wituh (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: Mike Flynn

Music Director: Colleen Coulter

Organist: Madelene Klassen

Pianist: Patrick Zhu

Ministry of Music: Knox Choir

Usher/Greeters: Dave Cass, Cynthia and Charles Hou

Communion Elders: Phil King, Sandra Trueman, Mary Graham

Catherine Shen, Helena Ho

Livestream Recording: Kevin Wong

Webminder: Debra Danny

October 1, 2023

Title: 'I Changed My Mind and Heart' and
'Impersonators and Imitators'

Text: Matthew 21: 23-32; Philippians 2: 1-13

Synopsis: In 'I Changed my Mind and Heart' an outcast widow tells of her encounter with Jesus in the temple when he was being asked by chief priests about his authority to do the things that he did. His response was talking about changes to the religious establishment and a story of two sons. Jesus asks us to be transformed and tells us we belong to God's kingdom as followers of the Word. As disciples of Christ, we are called to be 'Imitators' of Christ, and to live in a way that allows other people to SEE Christ in us. 'Impersonators' make people believe they are who they are not. Imitators strive to reflect the person they look up to, in this case Jesus. Paul invites us to adopt Christ-like attitudes in all aspects of our life.



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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“When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides”, Words: Keri K. Wehlander, 2005. Music: Composer Unknown, from Southern Harmony, 1854 edition. Arr. Melva Treffinger Graham, 2006. Words: Copyright ©2005 Keri K. Wehlander.

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“When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides”, Music: Composer Unknown, from Southern Harmony, 1854 edition. Arr. Melva Treffinger Graham, 2006. Used with written permission from Melva Treffinger Graham, June 2022

“Be Thou My Vision”, Words: Irish ca. 8th century, trans. Mary Elizabeth Byrne 1905; Vers. Eleanor H. Hull 1912, alt. Music: Irish traditional melody. **PUBLIC DOMAIN**

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“Walk with Me”, Words and music: John S. Rice; Arr.: John Fluker; Words and music copyright © 1988 Estate of John S. Rice. Used by permission.

“Amen”, (Danish), **Public Domain**

“Neighbors”, Melody Arr.: Austin C. Lovelace; Words: Tom Colvin, Arr.: from a Ghana Melody. Copyright © 1975 Belwin Mills Publishing Corp. All Rights Reserved.

“Holy God, We Praise Thy Name”, (Grosser Gott) arr. Donald Busarow, Laudate! Vol. 1, ed. James W. Kosnik, Concordia 1994

“They’ll Know We Are Christians”, Tune St. Brenden’s by Peter Scholes, arr. Lyndell Leatherman, Easy Organ Library, vol 58, Lorenz 2015

“Fuga in C”, Johann Pachelbel, **Public Domain**

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