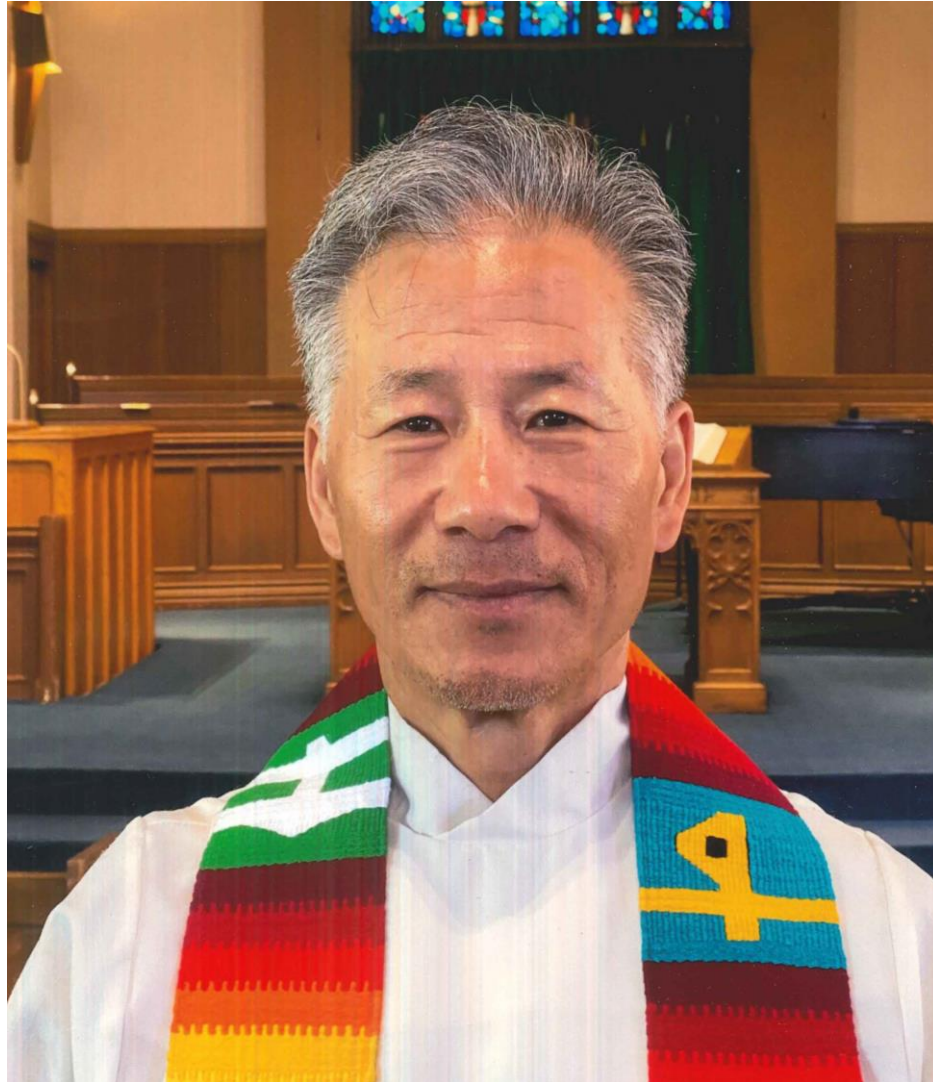




Advent I Hope
December 3, 2023

WELCOME HOME RICHARD



KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

ADVENT I

December 3, 2023 (10:00 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

Prelude: "Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel"

John Behnke

Welcome and Call to Worship

♪↑ **Hymn:** "All Earth Is Waiting"

VU 5

Advent Candle Lighting:

Minister: Today, we light the first candle of Advent, the candle of hope. This candle symbolizes the hope we have in Christ's coming, the hope that dawned with His birth in a humble manger.

Reader: Isaiah 64:1-9

Minister: In this season of Advent, we eagerly await the fulfillment of God's promises and the dawn of a new era.

Reader: Psalm 80:1-7, 17-19

Minister: We look to God to restore us, to bring hope to our weary hearts.

Light the first candle

Together: May the light of this candle remind us that in Christ, our hope is secure. Through Him, we find hope for the future and the strength to endure.

♪+ **Hymn:** "Hope is a Star" (verse 1) **

VU 7

Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.

When God is a child
there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first
and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.

Prayer of Hope

♪↑ **Hymn:** “Lo, He Comes with Clouds Descending” VU 25

Scripture Reading: **Mark 13:24-37**
The unexpected coming of Christ.

Anthem: “In Silence We Wait” Words: John Parker
Music: Lloyd Larson

Sermon: Hope in the Wilderness

Communion Hymn: “Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence” VU 473

Offering Prayer**COMMUNION****Invitation**

Minister: Dear people of God, having heard on the theme of hope in the wilderness, we now come to the Lord's Table to celebrate the sacrament of Holy Communion. This table is a place of hope, a reminder of Christ's unexpected arrival and His promise of renewal. All who seek hope and are drawn by faith are welcome here.

Confession of Sin

Minister: Let us confess our sins before God, seeking forgiveness and renewal.

Congregation: (Silent confession)

Minister: Merciful God, we humbly come before you, acknowledging our failings and our need for your grace. Forgive us, we pray, and renew us with the hope that only you can provide.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Minister: Hear the good news: In Christ, we find hope and forgiveness. Through His unexpected coming, our sins are washed away, and we are made new. Thanks be to God!

Congregation: Amen.

Great Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Minister: It is truly right and our greatest joy to give you thanks and praise, O Lord our God, Creator of the universe. In every season of life, in times of wilderness and uncertainty, your steadfast love and grace sustain us. You sent your Son, Jesus Christ, into our world unexpectedly, bringing hope, peace, joy, and love. As we remember His birth and look forward to His return, we gather around this table of hope.

Words of Institution

Minister: On the night He was betrayed, our Lord Jesus took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to His disciples, saying, "Take, eat; this is my body, 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, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

Consecration of Elements

Minister: O Lord, we ask you to consecrate these elements, the bread and the cup, by the power of your Holy Spirit. May they become for us the body and blood of Christ, that we may be nourished in faith, filled with hope, and renewed in love.

Distribution of Elements

Minister: The body of Christ, broken for you.

Minister: The blood of Christ, shed for you.

Devotional Music: “Of the Father’s Love Begotten” Charles Callahan

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Minister: Let us pray.

Together: Loving God, we give you thanks for this holy meal, where we have encountered your presence and found hope in the midst of life's uncertainties. Renew us, we pray, with the hope of Christ, and empower us to be bearers of hope in the world. In the name of Jesus Christ, our Hope and Redeemer, we pray. Amen.

Prayers of the People and the Lord's Prayer

♫↑ **Hymn:** "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel" VU 1
(verses 1, 3, 5 and 7 only)

Commissioning and Benediction

♫↑ **Benediction Response:** "Hope Shines as the Solitary Star" MV 220
Hope shines as the solitary star,
faith is the inner light.
You and I together
mirror the Light of Lights,
and illumine the pathway home.

Postlude: "Presto from Sonata in C Minor" Giovanni Battista Pescetti

** Favourite Hymn Survey request

Worship Leaders:

Minister: Rev. Richard Chung

Scripture Reader: Frances Herzer

Music Director: Colleen Coulter

Organist: Madelene Klassen

Pianist: Colleen Coulter

Ministry of Music: Knox Choir

Usher/Greeters: Dave Cass, John Carr

Communion Elders: Phil King, Sandra Truman, Catherine Shen,
Helena Ho, Mary-Ellen Flynn

Live Stream Recording: Kevin Wong

Webminder: Debra Danny

Advent 1: December 3, 2023 (Communion)

Text: Mark 13:24-37

Title: Hope in the Wilderness

Synopsis: Mark 13:24-37 reminds us of the unexpected nature of Christ's coming. Richard's Homeward Bound journey, much like the wilderness, is filled with unexpected twists and turns. We will explore the theme of hope in the midst of uncertainty and how Christ's coming brings light to our spiritual wilderness.



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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“As With Gladness Men of Old”, Words: William Chatterton Dix, ca. 1858. Music: Conrad Kocher, 1838, adapt. William H. Monk, 1861. **Public Domain.**

“Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence”, Words: from the Liturgy of St. James, trans. Gerard Moultrie 1864; Music: French traditional carol, harm. The English Hymnal 1906; Tune: PICARDY **Public Domain.**

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“Oh, Come, Oh, Come, Emmanuel” (Veni Emmanuel 15th Century) arr. John Behnke, Concordia Publishing 2001

“Of the Father’s Love Begotten”, Charles Callahan, A Christmas Triptych, Concordia Publishing, 1996

“Presto from Sonata in C Minor”, Giovanni Battista Pescetti, Oxford Service Music for Organ, Compiles by Anne Marden Thomas, Manuals Only Book 1, Oxford University Press, 2010

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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’íl_witulh (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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