

Worship Leaders:

Presider: Chris Clark

Scripture Reader: Richard Dunsterville

Organist: Ben Dobyms

Head Usher: Dave Cass

Live-Streaming: Kevin Wong

Webminder: Debra Danny

Aug 3, 2025

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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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**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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KNOX UNITED CHURCH

Pride Sunday Service (10:00 a.m.)

Prelude

Welcome and Introductions

Land Acknowledgement

Opening Poem: "Blessing of the Body" Jan Richardson

Opening Hymn: "Holy, Holy, Holy (*Sanctus and Benedictus*)" VU 942

Call to Worship

Opening Prayer and Christ Candle Lighting

Jewish Scriptures Reading: Isaiah 43: 1-7

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 27 Nan C. Merrill
from Psalms for Praying

Love is my light and my salvation, who shall I fear?

Love is the strength of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

When fears assail me, rising to accuse me,
Each one in turn shall be seen in Love's light.

Though a multitude of demons rise within me, my heart shall not fear.

Though doubts and guilt do battle, yet shall I remain confident

One thing have I asked of Love, that I shall ever seek:
That I might dwell in the Heart of Love all the days of my life,
To behold the Beauty of my Beloved, and to know Love's Plan.

**For I shall hide in Love's heart in the day of trouble,
As in a tent in the desert, away from the noise of my fears.**

And I shall rise above my struggles, my pain, shouting blessings of
gratitude in Love's Heart.

And singing melodies of praise to my Beloved.

Hear, O my Beloved, when I cry aloud, be gracious and answer me!

You have said, "Seek my face." My heart responds,

"Your face, my Beloved, do I seek; hide not your face from me."

Do not turn from me, You who have been my refuge.

Enfold me in your strong arms, O Blessed One.

Though my father and mother may not understand me,

You, my Beloved, know me and love me.

Holy One, our Light and our Shelter, when fear presses close and doubts crowd in, draw us deeper into the heart of your Love. Let us seek your face with trust, rest in your mercy with hope, and rise each day with the courage to sing. In your embrace, may we remember who we are and whose we are. Amen

Gospel Hymn: "O Love That Wilt Not Let Me Go" VU 658
(verses 1-3)

Gospel Reading: John 15: 9 -17

Sermon: Who You Are and Whose You Are

Reflective Music

The Prayers of the People *All Saints Episcopal Church, Pasadena*

God, who made us in your infinite creativity, you have chosen the spectrum of the rainbow to be the sign of your blessing and protection.

We pray for your children in the rains of inequality and oppression, that they would see your blessing.

On this Pride Sunday, we remember those who have blazed the trail for LGBTQ+ equality and justice.

We pray for those who continue to fight for full equality under the law.

We pray for those who continue to live under the threat of intimidation, oppression, or violence in our communities because of their sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, or the color of their skin.

God of life, help us to see you in all forms of identity and expression.

We pray for LGBTQ+ children and youth who struggle with isolation and shame, who have no safe space to retreat to, or mentors who can teach and guide them through their journey of self-discovery.

Empower us to walk in the way of love, to welcome the excluded and care for the vulnerable, to work for justice, and rejoice in the spirit of life.

The Passing of the Peace

Invitation to Offering

Offering Hymn: “We Are a Rainbow”

(see Yellow Insert)

Blessing over the Offering

Lord’s Prayer *(said together)*

Heavenly Father, heavenly Mother,
holy and blessed is your true name.
We pray for your reign of peace to come,
we pray that your good will be done,
let heaven and earth become one.
Give us this day the bread we need,
give it to those who have none.
Let forgiveness flow like a river between us,
from each one to each one.
Lead us to holy innocence
beyond the evil of our days —
come swiftly Mother, Father, come.
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy:
forever your name is All in One.

Pride Sunday Benediction

Closing Hymn: “Fearfully, Wonderfully Made”

(see Blue Insert)

Postlude

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Parker J. Palmer, Peace Prayers; ed. by Carrie Leadingham, Joann E. Moschella and Hilary M. Vartanian; Spirituality & Practice (CIStems, Inc.), accessed August 1, 2025 from

<https://www.spiritualityandpractice.com/practices/practices/view/28243/all-in-one> .