

# KNOX SUNDAY WORSHIP

## September 17, 2023 (10:00 am)

♪↑ Rise to sing, as you are able

♪+ Remain seated to sing

### WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

**Prelude:** “God of the Sparrow”

J. Wayne Kerr

### Welcoming

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

### Call to Worship

Come and experience the blessings of God. Come to this sacred place where all peoples are welcomed by God in and through us. Come, all who are broken and all who are seeking freedom from sin and new life in and through the Risen Christ. Come one and all and experience, to overflowing, God’s gifts of forgiveness, grace and love that are steadfast, unconditional, and freely ours forever. Let’s come in humble gratitude and worship our Triune God.

♪+ **Hymn:** “Come All You People”

MV 2

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

**Holy One of Love and Forgiveness, you are our source and our salvation. In love you made us and by love you redeem us. We know that we fail to live in harmony with all of creation. We struggle to follow your ways of love, forgiveness, and unconditional acceptance of others. Following your call is especially difficult when we have been hurt by words or deeds and when we are living with anger and judgmental resentments. You know that feelings of injustice and deep wounds that never seem to heal can keep us stuck on our path of healing and new life in you. We have times when we become self-righteous in our attitudes, closed minded in our beliefs, judgmental in our opinions, and rejecting of those whose convictions we do not understand or agree with. Grant us freedom and peace. Help us to forgive those who have trespassed against us as freely as you forgive us. Guide us and support us as we seek to follow in your ways. In Jesus name we plea this day. Amen**

### Time of Silent Reflection

♪+ **Words and Hymn of Assurance:** “Listen, God is Calling” MV 97

♪↑ **Hymn of Response:** “Great Is Thy Faithfulness” \*\* VU 288

### 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.**

**Scripture Readings:** Epistle – Romans 14: 1-12  
Gospel – Matthew 18: 21-35

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

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Solo:** “Help Us Accept Each Other”

Words: Fred Kaan  
Music: Doreen Potter

**Reflection:** ‘Letting Go’

**Meditative Music:** “Air”

Gordon Young

### 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:** "Forgive Our Sins as We Forgive" VU 364

### *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:** "Postludium" Flor Peeters

\*\* from Hymn Survey favourites list

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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 (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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#### **Worship Leaders:**

Presider & Preacher: Rev. Diane Halkett  
Scripture Reader: Gloria Candido  
Music Director: Colleen Coulter  
Organist: Madelene Klassen  
Pianist: Patrick Zhu  
Soloist: Lana Whyte  
Ministry of Music: Knox Choir  
Ushers/Greeters: Marnie Thompson, Dave Cass  
Livestreaming Recording: Kevin Wong  
Webminder: Debra Danny

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### **September 17, 2023**

**Title:** 'Letting Go'

**Text:** Romans 14: 1-12; Matthew 18: 21-35

**Synopsis:** Letting go means forgiving, getting over it at our core and moving on. Letting go is often easier said than done. Jesus' response to Peter's question speaks to our relationships with ourselves and others. Forgiveness is one of the virtues that weighs heavily on people of faith. It is one of the most difficult aspects of our faith to live into. Letting go is key to living ever more deeply into the freedom, grace, and love of God.



#### **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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**“God of the Sparrow”**, tune Roeder, arr. J. Wayne Kerr, Christ is Alive! Hymn Preludes for Organ J. Wayne Kerr, Augsburg Fortress 1998

**“Air”**, Gordon Young, Fifteen Organ Pieces for Church or Recital, Harold Flammer/Shawnee Press, 1962

**“Postludium”**, Flor Peeters, For Manuals Only, Eight Short Pieces Old and New, Oxford University Press, 1960

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