



506 4 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 1S7 [kxcalgary.com](http://kxcalgary.com)

**February 19, 2023 – 7<sup>th</sup> Sunday After Epiphany**

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**Worship Leader:** William Brook

**Music Director:** Chellan Hoffman **Knox United Church Choir**

**Cantors:** Pete Dennis, Pat Place

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***We extend a warm welcome to our Knox community – to those who are tuning in to the livestream service from home or away, and to those who are gathered in our sanctuary.***

***You are all an integral part of this community. Thank you for being here.***

We acknowledge that we live, work, play and worship on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, and Piikani), the TsuuT'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations (Bears paw, Chiniki, and Wesley), the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

All are welcome in our faith community, regardless of age, colour, ethnic, religious or linguistic background, gender, gender identity, social or economic circumstances, sexual orientation and physical or mental capabilities. Knox has been a proud member of Affirm United since 2007.

### **Welcome William Brook, guest preacher**

William Brook knows a thing or two about getting lost and finding new a way. He spent most of his life as a geneticist, most recently as a professor at the University of Calgary. But after following a midlife call, he is candidate for ordained ministry in the United Church of Canada and a Master of Divinity student at the Vancouver School of Theology. William is interested in how spiritual practises can transform lives and communities and leads the Contemplative Ministry at Hillhurst United Church. He lives in West Hillhurst with his partner Darolyn and Hudson the dog. They have three grown children and three grandchildren.

We welcome to the service this morning musicians from **Knox Presbyterian Church, Calgary** – our 'sister' church in a way, since we were once one congregation in this building pre-1925. In 1925, many Presbyterian, Congregational, and Methodist congregations amalgamated to form the United Church of Canada. Others, including Knox Presbyterian, wanted to preserve their denomination, and built new new church buildings and new communities. We are grateful for the Knox "P" choir, **director Paul Grindlay, organist Jim Picken, and organ scholar Sohrab Anwary**. We hope that this exciting collaboration today will lead to more musical partnerships in the future.

*\*Please stand in body or spirit.*

**PRELUDE** “Reverie (*for Celestes*)” from *Suite Sebastian* Thomas H. Kerr♥

♥ Note: The word “Celestes” refers to a type of organ pipe that mimics the sounds of strings (violins). Enjoy the gentle, shimmering ‘surround sound’ coming from the front and back organ chambers.

♥ Please see Music Notes: Black History Month to learn more about today’s composers.

**WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**\*HYMN** “I Feel the Winds of God Today” VU 625

- played by Sohrab Anwary, Knox Presbyterian organ scholar

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We are people who wander, who get lost, who search for meaning.

**All: We are people who long to be grounded, to find centre, to be at home.**

One: Sometimes getting lost helps us see clearly.

**All: Sometimes getting lost leads us home. May we feel your presence always.**

Let us pray.

**God of mystery and direction, in our comings and goings, in our journeys and adventures, we give thanks for your centering presence. As we wander, as we find our way, may we find the centre, may we find peace, may we find your loving presence. Amen.**

**\*PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ, be with you.

**And also with you. Amen.**

**\*GATHERING SONG** “Open Our Hearts” MV 21

**SCRIPTURE READING** 1 Kings 19:1-15a NRSV

**REFLECTION** “An Altar in the World: The Practice of Getting Lost”

William Brook

*This sermon series is based on the book “An Altar in the World” by Barbara Brown Taylor*

**HYMN** ““My Love Colours Outside the Lines” (see song sheet)

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**LORD'S PRAYER - sung** (*purple music sheets available in pews*)

**Cantor:** *Heavenly Father*, **All:** **Heavenly Father**,  
**Cantor:** *Heavenly Mother*, **All:** **Heavenly Mother**,

**(ALL)** Holy and blest 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,  
Let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none.  
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.  
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 quickly, Mother, Father, come;  
Come quickly, Mother, Father come.  
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy,  
For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy.  
Forever your name is all in one;  
Forever your name is all in one.  
A — men; A — men; A — men.

**CANDLELIGHTING / OFFERING**

*You are invited to light a candle at the front of the Sanctuary. Candles are lit as a symbol of remembrance, celebration, gratitude, prayer. Please take this opportunity to make an offering online or in person at the candle table. Your financial support makes a huge difference in the future of Knox.*

**Music:**            *"Gather at the River"*                    *Brian Tate (Canadian)*  
                          – *Sung by the choirs of Knox Presbyterian and Knox United*

*Gather at the river, everybody. Everybody gather at the river.  
Clear my mind. Clear my soul. Wash my sins away. Wash my sins away now.  
Set my spirit free. Set my spirit free. Set my spirit free.  
Cause the river always returns to the sea.  
Take my hand, walk with me. Take your troubles to the healing water.*

**\*CLOSING HYMN “One More Step Along the World I Go” VU 639**

**\*BLESSING**

**POSTLUDE Fantasy on “Walk Together, Children” arr. André J. Thomas♥**

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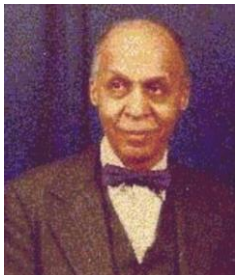
***Thank you for spending time in community worship at Knox United Church, Calgary.  
May you feel God’s peace, care, energy, and blessing  
within you and around you this coming week.***

***Please stay for coffee, tea, and conversation!***

## **MUSIC NOTES: ♥February is Black History Month**

<https://www.canada.ca/en/canadian-heritage/campaigns/black-history-month.html>

Every February, people across Canada participate in Black History Month events and festivities that honour the legacy of Black people in North America, in Canada, and in their communities. The 2023 theme for Black History Month is: “Ours to tell”. Through music in our worship services at Knox, we celebrate and learn about African American and African Canadian musicians and artists, and the stories behind the music.



### **♥ PRELUDE: “Reverie (for Celestes)” is composed by Thomas H. Kerr (1915-1988).**

From a young age, Kerr played the piano and was a self-taught organist. Following high school, Kerr dreamed of attending the Peabody Conservatory in Baltimore, but African American students were not admitted during that period of time. Instead, he attended Howard University for one year before continuing his musical studies at the Eastman School of Music in Rochester. At Eastman, he completed his Bachelor of Music degree in piano and theory, as well as his Master’s degree in theory.

Kerr began composing music while he was a member of the music faculty at Knoxville College in Tennessee. In 1943, he returned to Howard University as a Professor of Piano and the Chairman of the Piano Department, where he taught for over 30 years. At the time of his death, Kerr had composed more than one hundred pieces, including works for piano, voice, organ, choir, and chamber ensembles. He was the recipient of the Rosenwald Fellowship for Composition in 1942 as well as the first-place prize of the Composers and Authors of America Contest in 1944.

### **♥ POSTLUDE: Fantasy on “Walk Together, Children” is arranged by André**

**J. Thomas (b. 1952).** Thomas is an American composer and conductor whose work focuses on writing and performing spirituals and gospels with integrity. Thomas earned degrees from Friends University (B.M. 1973), Northwestern University (M.M. in Piano Performance 1976), and University of Illinois (D.M.A. 1983). He served as a professor of music at the College of Music at Florida State University and the artistic director for the Tallahassee Community Chorus. In addition to his conducting and composition credits, Thomas is a published author, having written *Way Over in Beulah Lan’: Understanding and Performing the Negro Spiritual*, and numerous journal articles.



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### Thank You to Knox staff & volunteers:

Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis (minister)	Chellan Hoffman (director of music)
Sue Forsyth (office administrator)	Gerald Love (greeter & usher)
Jampa Tseten, Stephen Wallace (caretakers)	Bob Benner (sanctuary preparation)
Carey Barrett/Frank Lam (video operators)	Murray, Vi, Chuck (coffee crew)
Tenzin Dawa/Steve Miller (sound operators)	Roman Sizer (social media; IT support)

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## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **CALENDAR AT A GLANCE**

Please see below for a longer description of some of these events.

February 21-24	JUST ACTS PLAY FEST	Theatre
Wednesday, February 22 @ 12:30	WEDNESDAY WORSHIP	Labyrinth Room
Wednesday, February 22 @ 5:45pm	ASH WEDNESDAY WORSHIP SERVICE	Sanctuary
<i>*with Rev. Sheena &amp; Rev. Tony Snow</i>		
Thursday, February 23 @ 7:30 pm	CHOIR REHEARSAL	Choir Room
Sunday, February 26 @ 11:45 pm	AGM - KNOX CONGREGATIONAL MEETING	Sanctuary
Saturday, March 4 @ 1:00 pm	BLANKET EXERCISE	Sanctuary

- **Rev. Sheena's email address was hacked. Please be careful if you get a suspicious email from her.**

### **Knox Governance**

**KNOX ANNUAL CONGREGATIONAL MEETING (AGM)** - Sunday, February 26 following worship. We will meet in the gym for a light lunch (donation basket) to:

- Adopt the 2022 Annual Report,
- Receive the unaudited 2022 Financial Statements,
- Adopt the 2023 Budget,
- Elect Governance Leaders,
- Consider the "Knox Mission, Vision & Values" and Knox Trustees Model Deed proposals and any other upcoming agenda items.

All are welcome and encouraged to attend this very important session in our Governance calendar.

## MISSION AND VISION - Statements of Values & Initiatives – Final Consultations

The Congregation will be asked to vote to approve new statement of values and 2021-2023 initiatives on February 26<sup>th</sup>.

The final draft of the proposed Statement of Values & Initiatives is:

### Draft Knox United Church Calgary Values and Initiatives January 11, 2023

#### Values

- As part of the United Church of Canada in a largely secular society, we recognize the need to respond to the spiritual hunger of our time. Our understanding of God is rooted in the Bible and the evolution of Christian theology, but we recognize and value the opportunity to improve our understanding through new language and ideas from other theological traditions.
- We are an Affirming Church. We believe that all people are created in the image of God. We welcome the ministry and participation of all persons regardless of age, gender identity, health, race, sexual orientation, differing abilities, religious or ethnic background or economic circumstance.
- Knox is a place and a community to learn and practice skills to serve others – to be the hands and feet of Christ.
- As a church, we are complicit in injustice and yet we are still called to witness the love and justice of the liberating, healing Christ. We strive towards right relations.
- We value music as the language of the soul. It inspires, enlivens and calms us.
- Our historic church building will be a safe place all people can enter to calm their spirits, rediscover hope and inspiration, and be welcomed and affirmed as they are.
- We want to offer our resources to our community. This includes promoting and supporting the work of others for a particular cause with skills, passion and resources that exceed ours.

#### Initiatives for 2023-2025

- We will rebuild our presence as a church in downtown Calgary by opening the sanctuary and labyrinth during business hours as a refuge from the world outside. We will train volunteer hosts in hospitality, personal safety, emergency mental health, and our values.
- We will build our capacity for lay leadership to increase worship opportunities, e.g. Wednesday worship (planning, music, praying, speaking, facilitating)
- We will rebuild pastoral care for our community. We will create new opportunities and new ways to meet, build relationships, and stay in touch.
- We will improve our internet-based engagement with our community and the public within and beyond Calgary. Social media and [www.kxcalgary.com](http://www.kxcalgary.com) can offer a wealth of information about our church and its activities and can provide many opportunities to connect.
- We will participate with the **United Church of Canada**, the **Calgary Alliance for the Common Good** and others on the road to reconciliation with our indigenous neighbours. We will listen and learn about their stories, perspectives and needs.
- We will seek out partners who share our values to serve downtown Calgary.

## Suggestion for a catchphrase

### ***Making Sacred Connections***

*through hospitality*

*through right relations*

*through music*

*through partnerships*

*through exploring faith*

## **Worship at Knox**

### **Just Acts Play Fest: Examining Confrontation**

Urban Stories Theatre and Knox Theatre Collective are holding auditions for this year's Just Acts Play Fest: Examining Confrontation. There are 3 shorts plays.

The Plays:

**And How Was *Your Week*?** Written and Directed Wendy Froberg

Featuring: Hayley Feigs, Milton Joseph, Hannah Yurub, Jeff Gottfredsen, Bryan McHale

It seems that Maria has to deal with toxic masculinity every day. But these guys don't know who they're dealing with! Come and see Maria confront and put them in their place with her razor-sharp focus, wit and cleverness.

**Louise Bridge** by Marilyn Russell

Directed by: Helen Young

Natalie- Finley Hytonen. Lesley- Willow Martens

Two teenage girls in the 1970's form an unlikely friendship over a mutual admiration of Princess Louise, Queen Victoria's maverick daughter. Will their friendship survive the obstacles which disparate backgrounds and family expectations have placed in their path?

**Purg City** by Milton Joseph

Director: Mary Bogucka

Cato: Gudrun Schulze Ebbinghoff Ezekiel: Austyn Van De Kamp

Ezekiel "Zeke" Herrelson is an ordinary college student who works a part-time job at a fast food restaurant-or rather, that's what he was until he died suddenly. Zeke, now in purgatory, wants to learn

more about his current circumstances and seeks to gain an understanding and acceptance of his life through his discussion with Cato the Latest.

Performance dates: February 21-24 /2023@Lower Theatre at Knox United Church

### **Realise your Potential Youth Society of Alberta (RYP)**

Please mark your diaries for **Wednesday March 15<sup>th</sup> at 12:00 noon!** That's when Knox is hosting the Martin Orchestra & Chorale for an hour-long concert of uplifting and inspiring music. Admission is free, but a donation is requested. The Martin Orchestra & Chorale hail from Texas and are performing at Knox as part of the Mountain Spring Festival, also supported by MCM Arts and Arts Canada. It is set to be a fun and joyful mid-week event. We hope you can join us.

As we begin Black History Month, we are pleased to share a link to a family Black Heritage event organized by **Realise your Potential Youth Society of Alberta (RYP)**. RYP is a black-founded and black-led, privately funded, registered non-profit organisation, who list the Calgary Foundation among their partners. The day is a celebration of the black diaspora and will highlight the talents and businesses of our local Black community. This is a paid event and is a major fund-raiser for this charity. The link is here: <https://rypcanada.com/black-heritage-family-day/>

### **Aboriginal Friendship Centre**

We are collecting warm winter clothes to be taken to the Aboriginal Friendship Centre later in February. Please leave any donations in the office.

### **Wednesday Worship**

#### **Wednesdays @ 12:30-1:30 pm, Labyrinth Room**

Join us for a time of reflection and conversation. Held in the beautiful Labyrinth Room, framed with music, a reading, and a time for silence and quiet reflection, we will come together to listen, to talk and to be in community together. All are welcome.

### **40 Days of Truth and Reconciliation: living into our commitments**

During the 40 days of Lent (starting February 22), we will focus on our commitment to the ongoing work of truth and reconciliation and right relations.

#### **Ash Wednesday**

**Wednesday, February 22**

**12:30 pm - Knox United, Labyrinth Room**

Enter into Lent with contemplation, conversation and music and the opportunity to receive the imposition of ashes.



**5:45 pm - Knox United, Sanctuary**

Rev. Tony Snow (Chinook Winds Region Indigenous Minister) and Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis will lead a service inviting us into a time of Truth and Reconciliation. Imposition of ashes and smudging will be included.

**Blanket Exercise**

**Saturday, March 4**

**1:00 - 3:00 pm - Knox United, Sanctuary**

The Blanket Exercise is a faith-based cultural awareness tool that presents information about the Residential School Experience in Canada and its impacts on Indigenous communities. This Regional Blanket Exercise is focused on Treaty 7 history and experiences. Rev. Tony Snow will lead this exercise. All are invited.

**Maundy Thursday Dinner at Stoney Nakoda (Mni Thni)**

**Thursday, April 6**

3:45 pm - Meet at Knox to carpool to Morley

5:00 - 7:00 pm Morley Gym

We are invited to join our Iyarhe Nakoda relations in this observance and expression of faith on our journey toward reconciliation. All are invited to join in the observance and feast. Please bring a salad or dessert to share.

**Affirming**

National Affirming/PIE (Public Intentional Explicit) sunDAY

March 12, 2023

Join us as we celebrate National Affirming Day in worship. Bring pie to share!

National Affirming/PIE (Public Intentional Explicit) Day

March 14, 2023

12:00 - 1:00 pm

We will be celebrating National Affirming Day with PIE! Come join us in the Knox Garden to hand out pie to pedestrians walking by. Wear rainbow colours!

Affirming Coffee

Sunday, March 19

Library, 11:45 am

LGBTQ2IA+ and Allies are invited for a time of community. Coffee and treats will be served.

For information, contact Bob Benner

## Community News

### **MISKANAWAH'S ANNUAL ROUND DANCE TRADITION - Saturday, February 25, 2023**

For the past **16 years**, Miskanawah has hosted an annual Round Dance and it has since become the largest Round Dance in Southern Alberta! A Round Dance is an Indigenous social gathering that extends a welcoming invitation to everyone in a celebration of friendship, diversity, and inclusivity. Traditionally held during the colder months, this event encourages both our Indigenous and non-Indigenous relatives within Treaty 7 territory and beyond to learn, connect, and engage with Elders, traditional Knowledge Keepers, and community members in an evening of singing, drumming, and dancing.

Join us in-person for our **17th Annual Friendship Round Dance!**

Saturday, February 25, 2023 | 5:00-10:00 PM

Genesis Centre: 7555 Falconridge Blvd NE #10, Calgary, AB

Emcee: Hal Eagletail, Tsuu T'ina & Daniel "Moss" Wildman

Stickman: Lyle Tootoosis, Poundmaker, SK & Albert Goulet, Calgary, AB

Singing & Drumming: TBA

Special Pre-recorded Guest: War Paint Lead Singer, Kaya Littleturtle, North Carolina, USA

### **HELPING OUR NEIGHBOURS**

**We are accepting donations to help people impacted by the earthquake in Türkiye (Turkey) and Northern Syria.**

**Further details will be available once partners have finished assessing how they can best respond.**

When emergencies strike, people need help right away. First with the basics—shelter, food, clothing—and then with rebuilding. United Church partners and ecumenical relationships in over 120 countries are on the ground and able to assess what's needed. Partners respond to those in need, and the United Church can help support their efforts. Time and time again, the people of the United Church give generously to support those affected by emergencies.

With alarming frequency and increasing duration, people around the world are facing a variety of disasters. From climate change and climate-related emergencies to health crises, from violent conflicts that forcibly displace thousands to food insecurity and loss of livelihood, catastrophes affect millions every day. The United Church is part of a worldwide network that can make a difference in the lives of those most at risk.

Please make a donation to support our worldwide network of Mission & Service partners and their critical and lifesaving work. Global partners are among the first to respond in the hardest-hit communities, supporting them through crisis response and rebuilding. Your gift will make a difference in the lives of those most at risk by providing food, essential items such as those needed to protect against COVID-19, safe drinking water, and shelter. Further, your gift will help partners restore livelihoods and offer comfort when emergencies occur.

**Donations can be made at:**

**<https://united-church.ca/social-action/act-now/global-emergency-response>**