

506 4 Street SW, Calgary, Alberta T2P 1S7 kxcalgary.com

March 5, 2023 - Second Sunday of Lent

Worship Leader: Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis

Music Director: Chellan Hoffman Knox United Church Choir

Cantors: Pete Dennis, Elissa Cundy, Pat Place Reader: Pat Place

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 (Bearspaw, 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.

*Please stand in body or spirit.

PRELUDE "Be Thou My Vision" arr. Franklin Ashdown

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

*HYMN "This Path We Walk"

Words: S. Curtis Tufts / music: Ron Klusmeier / setting: Chellan Hoffman For the story behind these lyrics, please see "Music Notes" on page 7.

1. This path we walk, through joy and tears, a living Way of faith and fears, through each step's risk, each sorrow's pain, when walked in love, we'll rise again.

Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison. (Kee-ree-ay-lay-sohn)

(Verse 2, next page)

2. When life is shared, together, free

We'll grow to be all we can be:

A circle wide will call us home,

When wrapped in love, we're not alone.

Kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison, kyrie eleison.

(Kee-ree-ay-lay-sohn)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We come seeking truth.

All: Truth about one another, truth about ourselves.

One: Truth is a challenging idea.

All: Walk with us on this journey.

One: We are here to explore meaningful but difficult things.

All: Let us continue, trusting God's presence.

Let us pray.

God of love and hope, of peace and encouragement, some of us come this morning wondering what we might learn. Some of us come concerned with the word, truth. Some of us are uncomfortable with this theme. No matter how we have shown up today, help us see and know the truth of your love this day. 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 Matthew 22:36-40

REFLECTION "Living into Truth" Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis

ANTHEM "If We're Honest" Francesca Battistelli; arr. for choir, Chellan Hoffman Soloists: Elissa Cundy and Pat Place

- 1. Truth is harder than a lie, the dark seems safer than the light. And everyone has a heart that loves to hide.
- 2. I'm a mess and so are you; We've built walls nobody can get through Yeah, it may be hard, but the best thing we could ever do, ever do:

REFRAIN Bring your brokenness, and I'll bring mine: 'cause love can heal what hurt divides.

And mercy's waiting on the other side –

If we're honest, if we're honest.

3. Don't pretend to be something that you're not; Living life afraid of getting caught.

There is freedom found when we lay our secrets down at the cross, at the cross (R)

BRIDGE It would change our lives; it would set us free. It's what we need to be (R)

HOLY COMMUNION (music sheets available from usher for sung Mass Setting by Mark A. Miller)

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.

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth.

And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.

Holy are you, and blessed is your child, Jesus Christ.

We remember that it was around a table that Jesus gathered his disciples during his last week of life. Jesus reminded them of the work that he had done – how he had fed the hungry, included the outcast, challenged the status quo. He reminded them that God's vision was about forgiveness and loving our neighbours as ourselves – encountering each person as God's very own.

And, as they sat and ate and remembered, Jesus took the bread that they were eating – and he gave thanks, he broke the bread, gave it to everyone gathered around the Table, and said, "take and eat – this is my body, broken for you. Whenever you eat of this bread, remember me."

And then he took the wine that they were drinking – and he gave thanks for the wine, gave it to those gathered around the Table and said, "this is my cup – poured out for you - whenever you drink this, remember that you are loved and you are forgiven."

As we remember and give thanks, we pray we might also join God's work of reconciliation and forgiveness, as we proclaim the mystery of faith.

Christ has died, Christ is risen, Christ will come again.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on us gathered here today, and on these gifts of bread and wine. Make them be for us signs of God's love and forgiveness. Transform our lives that we may also be a sign of that love and forgiveness in our homes, in our neighbourhoods, and in the world. Amen.

And now, with the confidence of children of God, we are bold to pray...

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 swiftly, Mother, Father, come;
Come swiftly, 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.

The body of Christ, given for you. **Amen.** The cup of Christ, given for you. **Amen.**

Holy Communion, Candlelighting, and Offering

All are invited to come forward to receive the bread and juice. Bread will be offered and then you are invited to dip the bread into the cup, and receive the elements together. Individual packets of juice and wafer are also available as a gluten-free option.

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: Heaven Within music by Paul Halley

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray.

For the bread we have eaten.

For the cup we have shared.

For the prayers we have prayed.

For the strength we have received.

We give thanks.

May we go into the world in the strength of these gifts. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN "Spirit of Gentleness" VU 375

*BLESSING

You are invited to take your prayer ribbon and tie it along the garden fence or along the stair railing as a public prayer for truth and reconciliation.

POSTLUDE "Pavane" and "Basse-Danse," from Capriol Suite Peter Warlock

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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!

Thank You to Knox staff & volunteers:

Sheena Trotter-Dennis (minister)
Sue Forsyth (office administrator)
Jampa Tseten, Stephen Wallace (caretaker)
Carey Barrett/Frank Lam (video operator)
Tenzin Dawa/Steve Miller (sound operator)

Chellan Hoffman (director of music)
Gerald Love (greeter & usher)
Bob Benner (sanctuary preparation)
Murray, Vi, Chuck (coffee crew)
Roman Sizer (social media; IT support)

MUSIC NOTES

♥ LENTEN HYMN "This Path We Walk"Journeying from Apology towards Reconciliation

In 2016, Rev. S. Curtis Tufts was moved to write hymn lyrics that acknowledged the 30th Anniversary of the United Church's Apology to First Nations Peoples (1986). **Rev. Curtis Tufts says:** "I was a commissioner from Saskatchewan Conference at the 1986 General Council in Sudbury and have a vivid memory of the evening when the Apology was brought on our behalf by the Moderator to the waiting Elders. The whole council was gathered in an amazing circle dance around a bonfire as the Moderator and Elders met in a tipi nearby. I remember clearly, the strong feeling that we were in the midst of a historic turning point kind of moment. I hope that, as a part of our acknowledging the anniversary of that moment, this hymn will remind us of the need to continue faithfully on the journey that was begun then."

"This Path We Walk" has 5 verses. As Knox journeys through the five Sundays of Lent, we will sing an additional verse each week.

.ANNOUNCEMENTS

Easter Opportunity

This Easter, we would like to bring back our flower cross - a cross that comes "alive" as people place flowers on it. The cost of the flowers is about \$200. If you would like to sponsor this in a small or big way, please email the church office at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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

TODAY after the service Potluck Gymnaium Wednesday, March 8 @ 12:30 pm Wednesday Worship Labyrinth Room Thursday, March 9 @ 7:30 pm Choir Rehearsal Choir Room Sunday, March 12, @ 10:30 am PIE Sunday Sanctuary Tuesday, March 14 @ 12:00 pm PIE Dav Knox Garden Wednesday, March 15 @ 12:00 pm Martin Orchestra & Chorale Sanctuary Sunday, March 19 @ 11:45 am Affirming Coffee Library

Worship at Knox

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 or call the church 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.

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 lyarhe 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.

Potluck

We invite you to stay after worship for our monthly potluck. Please join us in the gymnasium to share and enjoy conversation and community with others after the service.

Community News

Martin Orchestra & Chorale

Please mark your diaries for **Wednesday March 15th 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.

Aboriginal Friendship Centre

To support the Aboriginal Friendship Centre, we are collecting men's and woman's jackets, boots, and jeans. Blankets and gift cards are also needed. Please leave any donations in the box provided at the back of the Sanctuary or the office.

Bringing Children Home

This information may be traumatic for residential school survivors, families, and community. If you are feeling pain or distress, please call the free 24-hour crisis line: 1-866-925-4419. You can also call the First Nations and Inuit Hope for Wellness Help Line at 1-855-242-3310. It's toll-free and open 24 hours a day, 7 days a week.

Upon hearing the preliminary research findings on deaths and unmarked graves at the Alberni residential institution, The Rt. Rev. Dr. Carmen Lansdowne, Moderator of The United Church of Canada, said: "The church will not look away from the truth that continues to be uncovered. The United Church of Canada continues our commitment to live into our Apologies, to be accountable, and to further the work of truth and reconciliation in concrete acts of justice and reparation." With deep remorse and grief, The United Church of Canada acknowledges the truth at the Alberni residential institution, which was run by the United Church. This is not new information for Indigenous communities; Indigenous people have been telling the world about deaths and unmarked gravesites for a very long time. We have not always listened to or heard you.

The United Church of Canada offers our deepest sympathies for the children who died at the institution, including those who did not make it home; survivors; the families; communities; and all those impacted by Canada's residential institution system that tore Indigenous children from their families and communities.

The United Church of Canada was an active and willing participant in the operation of residential institutions. We were wrong to participate in this colonial, racist, and oppressive system.

In an effort to better live into our faith, we are taking steps to reconcile our legacy as perpetrators in this system. We know that our actions have directly contributed to trauma and death, loss of language and culture, breakdowns of the family unit, and intergenerational trauma.

The United Church of Canada, both regionally and nationally, hears the Tseshaht First Nation's specific Calls for Truth and Justice directed to us, and commits to continued conversation with them about specific actions in response.

Every Child Matters.

For other communities impacted by United Church residential institutions, please contact bringingchildrenhome@united-church.ca to learn more about our support for research, identifying graves, knowledge gathering, commemoration, ceremony, and direct provision of archival records and support.

Follow Knox on Social Media

Check out our refreshed website at www.kxcalgary.com

Follow us on Facebook at https://www.facebook.com/KnoxYYC

Follow us on Instagram at https://instagram.com/knoxunitedcalgary

<u>Please follow us on Twitter</u> at <u>www.Twitter.com/KnoxYYC</u>.