



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

December 17, 2023 - Third Sunday in Advent

Worship Leaders: Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis and Keith Murray

Music Director: Chellan Hoffman **Reader:** Rod Orman

Musicians: Knox Choir

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.

Wifi password - KnoxGuest\$2021

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 Goodstoney), 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 **Sussex Carol** (trad. English carol)

Angels We Have Heard on High

Chellan Hoffman, piano

Hark! The Herald Angels Sing

ReBell Ringers: *Kat Hammer, Chris Morrison, Rosalee Morrison,*

Pat Place, David Westwick, Janet Zatka

arr. Matt Hyzer

arr. Phillip Keveren

arr. Douglas Wagner

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

***OPENING HYMN**

“Joy to the World”

Voices United 59

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Tell it from the mountains to the sea,

All: The awe and wonder of God.

One: God is doing wonderful things:

All: Comforting those who grieve,

One: Giving many a great length of day,

All: Filling children’s hearts with shepherd’s songs,

One: Blessing us with tender babies and new families.

All: Bringing reconciliation in the midst of past troubles.

One: Causing healing in our bodies and souls,

All: Sending songs of joy to awaken life.

One: Tell out, people of God,

All: The awe and wonder of God!

(adapted from Larry Peacock, “Sourcebook of Worship Resources,” Communication Resources, Inc. Canton, OH: 1994).

LIGHTING THE ADVENT CANDLE

Elizabeth and Earl Campbell

Candle Lighters: We light the third candle in Advent, a time of preparation and waiting. We kindle the candle of joy as we wait expectantly.

ALL: O Come, O Come Emmanuel.

ADVENT SONG “Come, Come Emmanuel”

More Voices 11

(sung seated while the candle is lit)

Come, Come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel!

Come, Come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel!

Come, Come Emmanuel, Come Emmanuel!

Let us pray.

God of Joy and Wonder, we come today with Christmas just a week away. Some of us have much to do. Others are longing for the company, for activities, for energy for the season. In whatever way we come today, may we feel your beauty, may we feel the joy in this place, may we sense the awe and wonder of the season. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ, be with you.
And also with you. Amen.

***GATHERING SONG** “O Come, O Come Emmanuel” **Voices United 1**

Refrain: Rejoice, rejoice, Emmanuel
Shall come to thee, O Israel. *(sung twice)*

SCRIPTURE **Luke 1:46-55**

REFLECTION “Awestruck” **Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis**

SPECIAL MUSIC “What Child is This?” **arr. Douglas Wagner**
ReBell Ringers

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

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 AND OFFERING

During this time you are invited into a time of personal reflection and prayer. You are invited to come forward to light a candle, place an offering, write a prayer or just to sit and listen to the music. Your financial support makes a huge difference in the future of Knox.

Music: Laudation

Brenda E. Austin

ReBell Ringers

***CLOSING HYMN “Go, Tell it on the Mountain”**

Voices United 43

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE “Alleluia, Alleluia” Amy F. Bernon

Knox Choir

Ricardo Moraes-Pinto, percussion

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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)	Chellan Hoffman (director of music)
Sue Forsyth (office administrator)	Bob Benner (sanctuary preparation)
Jampa Tseten, Justin Cross (caretakers)	Murray Songer and Vi Smith (coffee crew)
Roman Sizer (social media; IT support)	Tony Snow (Indigenous Minister, Chinook Winds Region)
Tenzin Dawa/Steve Miller (sound operator)	Keith Murray (VST student, seminary intern)
William Brook (VST student, seminary intern)	
Carey Barrett/Frank Lam/Mirko Zatka/Richard Hand/Christopher Denman/Vladimir Bodrug (video operators)	

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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

Wednesday, December 20 @ 12:30 pm	Connection and Reflection	Labyrinth
Thursday, December 21 @ 7:00 pm	Darkest Night Lights	Garden
Sunday, December 24: 10:30 am, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm	Christmas Eve Services	Sanctuary
Monday, December 25 - Monday, January 1, Church office & building Closed - no events		

Welcome and Information Table

A welcome table is set up in the back of the sanctuary. This is the place to find information about events, sign up to volunteer and find friendly people to answer questions about Knox. Thank you to Karen Harrison and Michael Malolos for hosting.

THIS WEEK

Connection and Reflection - Contemplation and Community

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, readings, 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.

Longest Night - Light the Night

Thursday, December 21, 7:00 pm, Garden

Join us on the longest night as we gather in the Knox Garden to light candles and add light to our corner of the world as we await the Light coming. We will have time to write down things we wish to let go and things we wish to birth in this season. Dress warmly. We will gather for about 30 minutes.

COMING UP AND ONGOING

Keith Murray and Rev. Tony Snow

Through a grant from the Community Services Recovery Fund from the Government of Canada, we are pleased to announce that Keith Murray will continue their work at Knox through June 2024. Keith will be providing general ministerial support as well as working with volunteers to enhance our online engagement. Rev. Tony Snow will also be in our community through June 2024. Tony will be working to create opportunities for Knox to be a place of welcome and reconciliation for the urban Indigenous community as well as help us live into our work of reconciliation with all of our neighbours.

Special Children's Time

On the first Sunday of the month, there is a special time for children during our Sunday worship service. Children, ages 3 and older, are invited for a time of story, craft and recreation. The Children will start in the Sanctuary and move to the library. We are deeply grateful for Christine Sizer who is volunteering to lead this program. If you have any questions, please contact sundayschool@kxcalgary.com.

Coloring packets are available every Sunday in the back of the sanctuary. Please feel free to help yourself.

Knox Weekly Email

Sign up to receive Knox's weekly email newsletter. The email is sent out on Friday and includes information about the Sunday service and other events. Email office@kxcalgary.com to get on the distribution list. Or, use this QR code.



Christmas Eve Services

Sunday, December 24, 10:30 am, 7:00 pm, 11:00 pm, Sanctuary

Celebrate the Awe and Wonder of Christmas! Three services will be held on Christmas Eve. There will be a 10:30 am service of lessons and carols, followed by two evening services at 7:00 pm and 11:00 pm which will feature special music, candlelight and star. The 11:00 pm service will also include Communion. Postcards with this information are available on the Welcome and Information table. Please take as many as you would like to give to family and friends to invite them to Christmas Eve services at Knox.

Knox on Amazon

You may begin to notice links to books and products for sale on Amazon on the Knox website or in our weekly emails. These are affiliate marketing links. This means if you click on the link and purchase the

item, we will receive an affiliate commission at no extra cost to you. We only recommend products or services that we believe honour the values of the church and congregation, and carefully vet each product we mention. Thank you for supporting Knox!

Discover Knox Tour

Last Sunday of the Month, 11:45 am, Sanctuary

*** No tours in December**

All are invited to take a behind-the-scenes tour of parts of the building and hear more about the Knox community.

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