



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

January 14, 2024

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

Interim Music Director: Ethan Hill

Musicians: Knox Choir **Reader:** Susan Wood

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.*

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE

“Prelude on Rhosymedre”

Ralph Vaughan Williams

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

***OPENING HYMN**

“All Creatures of our God and King”

Voices United 217

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: God's reassuring presence surrounds us.

All: A hint of light on a dismal day.

One: A chorus of reassurance and encouragement.

All: A whisper in an early morning fog,

One: A surge of hope in the face of despair.

All: The words of a song that float in when our minds are anxious.

One: Call it mystery; name it grace.

All: For God is present in all of life,

One: And often in simple and surprising ways.

All: Let us sing our praises together.

(adapted from Larry Peacock, *Sourcebook of Worship Resources*, Canton, Ohio: 1994)

Let us pray.

God of light and song, we are warmed by your sun, encircled by your love, blessed by your melody, sustained by your Spirit. You gather us into this sacred circle of life and give us a song in our hearts, laughter on our lips and kindness on our touch. With praise and gratitude, we walk together. Amen.

(adapted from Larry Peacock, *Sourcebook of Worship Resources*, Canton, Ohio: 1994)

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ, be with you.

And also with you. Amen.

***GATHERING SONG "A Light is Gleaming"**

Voices United 82

Refrain:

**A light is gleaming, spreading its arms
throughout the night, living in the light.**

**Come share its gladness, God's radiant love
is burning bright, living in the light.**

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 40:1-11

ANTHEM

"Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song"

Alan Smith

REFLECTION

“Playlists”

***HYMN**

“It’s a Song of Praise to the Maker”

More Voices 30

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 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.

CANDLE LIGHTING 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, receive a special blessing with oil, write a prayer or just to sit and listen to the music.

Thank you for your financial support which makes a huge difference in the life and ministry of this congregation.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”

Voices United 559

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

“Cantique”

Edward Elgar

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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:

Minister: Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis

Office Administrator: Sue Forsyth

Interim Director of Music: Ethan Hill

Sanctuary Preparation: Bob Benner

Social Media: Roman Sizer

Coffee Crew: Murray Songer/Vi Smith

Indigenous Minister, Chinook Winds Region: Rev. Tony Snow

Seminary Intern, VST Student: Keith Murray

Caretakers: Jampa Tseten, Justin Cross

Sound Operators: Tenzin Dawa/Steve Miller

Livestream/Video Operators: Carey Barrett/Rick Hand/

Christopher Denman/Mirko Zatka/Vladimir Bodrug/Frank Lam

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.

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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

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|----------------------------------|---------------------------|--------------|
| Today @ 9:30 am | Bible Study/Conversation | Library |
| Tuesday, January 16 @ 6:15 pm | Book Club | Bd Rm & zoom |
| Wednesday, January 17 @ 12:30 pm | Connection and Reflection | Labyrinth |
| Wednesday, January 17 @ 7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal | Labyrinth |
| Friday, January 19 @ 6:30 pm | Naked Faith | TBA |
| Sunday, January 21 @ 9:30 am | Bible Study/Conversation | Library |
| Tuesday, January 23 @ 6:30 pm | Book Club | Bd Rm & zoom |
| Wednesday, January 24 @ 12:30 pm | Connection and Reflection | Labyrinth |
| Wednesday, January 24 @ 7:00 pm | Choir Rehearsal | Labyrinth |
| Sunday, January 28 @ 9:30 am | Bible Study/Conversation | Library |
| Sunday, January 28 @ 11:45 am | Discover Knox Tour | Sanctuary |

TODAY

Pre-Service Bible Study/Conversation

Sundays, 9:30 am, Library

Join a small group for a conversation on the Sunday theme and scripture reading. The time will be interactive and conversational. All are welcome. Please feel free to join one Sunday or all Sundays.

Would You Like to Volunteer at Knox?

We are so grateful for the many volunteers who serve on administrative and programmatic committees, sing in the choir, replenish candles, serve as sanctuary hosts, make coffee and so much more! If you are looking for ways to plug-into the Knox community, there is a place for you! Please fill out a volunteer inventory sheet that you can find at the Welcome Table. This will let us know your interests and skills. You can leave your completed form at the table or place it in the offering plate.

THIS WEEK

Book Club

Tuesdays, 6:15 pm - 7:30 pm, Board Room and Online (starting January 9)

We will be reading "Holy Chaos: Creating Connections in Divisive Times: How to Love Each Other Amid our Religious and Political Differences" by pastor, activist and Interfaith leader, Amanda Henderson. Please contact Sue at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com if you would like to join the group. Meetings are held online via Zoom and in person. All are welcome.

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.

COMING UP AND ONGOING

January Sermon Series - More Light

Sometimes the weeks after Christmas are a bit of a let-down. How many of us are just barely getting through our days? Prolonged stress, uncertainty, full schedules, the dark days of January - there's a lot keeping us from a light-filled month. What's a faithful response? What if everyday life activities could become spiritual practices - deepening our experience of a meaningful life and help us add more light to our life and the lives of others. On Sundays in January, join us as we explore the ways music, food, humour and small acts of kindness can be meaningful spiritual practices.

Children's Handbells

Sunday, January 21 during the service, Labyrinth

All children are invited to come and begin learning the art of handbell ringing, using our very own Knox handbells. The sessions are led by Janet Zarka, a ringer with our Knox Re-Bell ringers, and include handbell ringing basic skills and techniques. No previous experience necessary. We will meet in the Labyrinth during the worship service. Questions? Please email Christine at csizer@kxcalgary.com.

Choristers Wanted!

Rehearsals Wednesdays 7-9pm, Labyrinth

The Knox Choir is searching for new members to sing in weekly rehearsals and Sunday services. Our choir is an inclusive ensemble who enjoys singing many styles of music ranging from sacred classical to gospel, rock and pop. We meet Wednesdays from 7-9 pm and Sunday mornings at 9:45 am. Musical literacy is preferred but not required. Please email our Interim Music Director at ehill@kxcalgary.com to ask questions or express interest. We would love to have you!

An Exciting Heads Up

It was a busy week this week in the Knox office. The database has been moved onto a new system that allows us to move into the next century with donations, activity registration, small groups, and more. As we move forward, you may receive an email or two from Church Center. This is the company that hosts our database. We did not want you to worry that it is spam. You will not be required to do anything. One piece of exciting news is that your 2023 tax receipts will be issued via secure email. Don't worry, if you are not able to download them, Sue will be happy to get one to you. We will continue to update you as we roll out more features, including our church app and registrations. If you have any questions,, please do not hesitate to contact Sue Forsyth: sforsyth@kxcalgary.com.

A Note of Thanks

The Knox Choral Fest, held in early December, brings the Calgary community together with seasonal music and supports the Calgary Food Bank. Together, we collected 2730 pounds of food, and raised \$14,191.65 for the Calgary Food Bank! Thank you to all who participated in some way!

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.

Naked Faith for Youth (Grades 6-12) and Young Adults

Third Friday of the month, 6:30 pm, Location TBA

Naked Faith is a United Church Regional Event which means it brings together youth and young adults from all over Calgary. The evening begins with dinner, followed by an hour-long service. Afterwards, youth from grades 6 through 12 are invited to stay for games and activities until 10:30. Young adults are invited to head to a nearby pub to engage in further discussion about the theme, or to simply enjoy the community. Naked Faith is facilitated and made possible by Regional Youth and Young Adult Ministries, funded by St. Andrew's United Church in Calgary.

Epiphany Explorations

Saturdays in January, 9 am - 12 pm, Hillhurst United Church, Calgary

Hillhurst United Church extends an invitation on Saturdays (9 AM-12 PM) in January for a chance to hear from and be in conversation with professors from the Vancouver School of Theology. Over the four weeks, we'll be taking a fresh look at our biblical stories thanks to Dr. Harry Maier (01/06), Rev. Dr Ross Lockhart (01/13), Rabbi Laura Duhan-Kaplan (01/20), and Dr. Mari Joerstad (01/27). For more details and to register visit:

<https://hillhurstunited.churchcenter.com/registrations/events/2067192>

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.



Discover Knox Tour

January 28, 11:45 am, Sanctuary

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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