



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

May 7, 2023 – Easter 5

Worship Leader: Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis
Music Director: Chellan Hoffman **Knox United Choir**
Cantors: Pete Dennis, Karen Harrison **Reader:** Dennis Ruf

*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 - Knox Guest\$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 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 **Eternal Father, Strong to Save (Naval Hymn)** ♥ Whiting/Dyke
Praise My Soul, the King of Heaven ♥ music: John Goss / arr. R.B.Farlee

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

***HYMN** **“Come and Find the Quiet Centre”** VU 374

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In this place, come and find the quiet centre.

All: We come seeking hope and community.

One: Here, in this community, find hope.

All: We come seeking a taste of something better.

One: Join in the feast of forgiveness and love.

All: We come seeking a place to call home.

One: You are home – be at peace.

CHOIR ANTHEM Pussy Willows, Cat-tails ♥ Gordon Lightfoot; arr. Larry Nickel

*Pussywillows, cat-tails, soft winds and roses, rain pools in the woodland, water to my knees
Shivering, quivering, the warm breath of spring, pussywillows, cat-tails, soft winds and roses.*

*Catbirds and cornfields, daydreams together, riding on the roadside the dust gets in your eyes.
Reveling, disheveling, the summer nights can bring pussywillows, cat-tails, soft winds and roses.*

*Slanted rays & coloured days, stark blue horizons naked limbs & wheat bins, hazy afternoons.
Voicing, rejoicing, the wine cups do bring pussywillows, cat-tails, soft winds and roses.*

*Harsh nights and candlelights, woodfires a-blazin'; soft lips and fingertips resting in my soul.
Treasuring, remembering, the promise of spring: pussywillows, cat-tails, soft winds and roses.*

Let us pray.

**God of tastes and smells, sights and sounds, we give thanks for all the ways we
experience your love and hope. We give thanks for this community, for this
place, for this new day. Help us to taste and see what is good. Amen.**

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of Christ, be with you.

And also with you. Amen.

*GATHERING SONG

Celtic Alleluia Music: Christopher Walker / Fintan O'Carroll

The musical score is written on two staves in G major (one sharp) and 6/8 time. The melody is simple and repetitive, consisting of eighth and quarter notes. The lyrics 'Al - le - lu - ia!' are written below the notes. The first staff ends with a double bar line. The second staff begins with a measure rest (marked '5') and continues the melody. The score concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.

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SCRIPTURE READING John 21:1–25

REFLECTION “Sensing Easter: Tasting Hope” Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis

***HYMN** “All Who Hunger” VU 460

HOLY COMMUNION (communion 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, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest, 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. Amen. Amen.
Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.**

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: Evening Song by Paul Halley
John Thomas, piano; Chellan Hoffman, organ

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 “Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” VU 481**

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE I Was Glad (Psalm 122) - Coronation Anthem ♥ organ solo Hubert Parry

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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, Justin Cross (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 ♥

TODAY’S GUEST MUSICIAN: We welcome John Thomas to the service today. Both John and his mother Agatha joined the choir this Easter to boost our sound, and we are thrilled to have John return to play piano this morning. John has lived in Calgary since 2019, when he came to study and work as an instrumentation technician (based in engineering rather than music!). John is originally from the Plateau state in Nigeria, which is known for its higher altitude and rocky topology. John was classically trained by his father at a young age. He has played for a few churches and also taught music fundamentals in his dad’s music school called St. Thomas’ Music Place. We extend a warm welcome and thank John for sharing his gifts today - both in singing and playing piano.

ABOUT TODAY’S MUSIC Much of the instrumental and choral music chosen for today’s service pays tribute to the significant events of this week: The Coronation, The Battle of the Atlantic Sunday, and the passing of Canadian singer-songwriter legend Gordon Lightfoot. The following notes provide the “Wherefore and Why” (to borrow a song title from Gordon Lightfoot) for each piece of music.

PRELUDE MUSIC:

1) **“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”** is played today to commemorate **The Battle of Atlantic Sunday**. The hymn is popular in the naval tradition and is sung as the **“The Navy Hymn”** by members of the U.S., Canadian, British and French Navies. The hymn was written by Rev. William Whiting (lyrics) and Rev. John B. Dykes (music) during the years 1860 and 1861, respectively. Reverend Whiting's ode "Eternal Father" drew inspiration from both the Old and New Testaments. His verses referenced familiar texts such as Matthew 8:26 ("He was asleep... Then he rose and rebuked the seas, and there was a great calm") and Psalm 65, ("who stilled the roaring of the seas, the roaring of their waves, and the turmoil of the nations"). The words to this hymn are found in Voices United #659.

THE BATTLE OF THE ATLANTIC is observed the first Sunday in May, and is when Canada recognizes those who served and died in the Battle of the Atlantic, which was fought from September 1939 to May of 1945. Canada, along with its allies struggled to keep the trade routes of the Atlantic open to supply Europe during the second world war. In all, over 1600 Canadian Merchant Navy sailors and 2000 Royal Canadian Navy personnel were lost during the battle. Many of the sailors in the Canadian Navy came from the prairie provinces. Allied victory would have been difficult without the efforts of those who served at sea.

2) **“Praise My Soul, the King [God] of Heaven”** was sung as a hymn during **The Coronation Service of King Charles III** on May 6, 2023; it was also a favourite of Her Late Majesty, sung at her wedding. This particular organ arrangement by R.B.Farlee is a gentle version of this powerful hymn. For reference, the words to this hymn of praise are in Voices United #240.

CHOIR ANTHEM:

“Pussy Willows, Cat-tails” was written/released by Gordon Lightfoot in 1968. So many Lightfoot songs found their way into singers’ set lists the world over, including Elvis Presley, Harry Belafonte, Barabara Streisand, and Bob Dylan. Some say “Pussy Willows, Cat-tails” is the most beautiful Canadian folksong ever written. The words evoke the sights, sounds, and feels of spring - a fitting song for our Easter theme that explores the five senses. The choir sings a special choral arrangement by Canadian teacher/composer/musician Larry Nickel.

GORDON LIGHTFOOT (1938-2023) On May 1, the world lost a beloved and legendary Canadian singer-songwriter, Gordon Lightfoot. He loved performing (Massey Hall in Toronto was his stage home) and he loved touring. Over the past 50+ years, he entertained generations of audiences across North America through radio, records, live shows, and Spotify! No matter people’s ages or musical tastes, his music somehow wriggled its way into our lives. As musician Damhnait Doyle put it, Lightfoot’s music “painted Canada.”

In 2013, Lightfoot was interviewed for *Broadview Magazine*. Here is an excerpt about his musical beginnings:

"As a youth, he sang in the choir of Orillia's St. Paul's United Church under the direction of choirmaster Ray Williams. According to Lightfoot, Williams taught him how to sing with emotion and how to have confidence in his voice.[24] Lightfoot was a boy soprano; he appeared periodically on local Orillia radio, performed in local operettas and oratorios, and gained exposure through various Kiwanis music festivals. At the age of twelve, after winning a competition for boys whose voices had not yet changed, he made his first appearance at Massey Hall in Toronto."

Finally, here's a story shared by The United Church of Canada on Facebook, that tells of a young minister, Rev. Norm Seli, who began his ministry at Rosedale United Church in Toronto where Gordon Lightfoot was an occasional attendee and supporter. Lightfoot would often sing for their Christmas Eve services, provided they did not "advertise" it. One year he sang "Ring Those Bells" and offered to sing it the next year, too. The minister asked if he might sing something different. In Seli's words: *Lightfoot said, "How about 'Knotty Pine'?" And I, being a big fan, said, "Oh, I don't know that one." Gord got up...walked around behind me to a wall, took from it a framed gold record titled "Knotty Pine", handed it to me and said, "It's this one," and just stared at me in my abject embarrassment. And then he laughed . . . a lot. I never forgot the day that I told Gordon Lightfoot that I didn't recognize one of his gold records. He sang it that Christmas Eve and smiled at me as he did."*

POSTLUDE:

The Coronation Anthem "I Was Glad" is a version of Psalm 122 (words below). It has been sung at the Entrance of the Monarch since at least 1626. The celebrated setting by **C.H.Hubert Parry** has been used since 1902, when he composed it for the coronation of Edward VII. It was revised for the coronation of George V in 1911. It was sung at Queen Elizabeth's Coronation in 1953, as she entered the West Doors of Westminster Abbey. The same was done yesterday for HRH King Charles III. This piece is not reserved for royal occasions. It is sung world wide for great occasions including church dedications and weddings. Although written for a large choir with organ or orchestral accompaniment, today's version is paired down for organ solo, but hopefully captures the grandness of this historic occasion.

I was glad when they said unto me,
We will go into the house of the Lord.
Our feet shall stand in thy gates, O Jerusalem
Jerusalem is builded as a city that is at unity in itself.

O pray for the peace of Jerusalem, they shall prosper that love thee.
Peace be within thy walls, and plenteousness within thy palaces.

Book of Common Prayer, 1662, Psalm 122, vv 1-3, 6, 7

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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

Monday, May 8, @ 7:00 pm	Living into our Commitments	On Zoom
Today @ 11:45 am	Potluck	Gymnasium
Wednesday, May 10 @ 12:30 pm	Wednesday Worship	Labyrinth

Wednesday Worship: 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.

First Sunday Potluck: TODAY, 11:45 am, Knox Gym

It's that time again – our monthly potluck gathering of food and fellowship. All are invited and welcome!

Truth and Reconciliation...Living into our Commitments

Indigenous Canada Course: As part of our continuation of the work of living into truth and reconciliation action, we invite you to take the **free Indigenous Canada course** through the University of Alberta. This is offered as an **on-line 12-lesson course** that you do at your own pace. It is taught from an Indigenous perspective and explores complex experiences Indigenous peoples face today from a historical and critical perspective highlighting national and local Indigenous-settler relations.

<https://www.ualberta.ca/admissions-programs/online-courses/indigenous-canada/index.html>

Plus - Weekly Zoom Discussions: Beginning May 8, we will offer a weekly Zoom gathering to discuss issues raised by the course. Conversations will take place weekly from 7 pm - 8 pm. You do not need to attend every session. If you would like to receive the zoom link, email strotterdennis@kxcalgary.com.

Upcoming Sundays: Guest Musicians

May 14 Chamber Flutes - a dynamic community flute choir led by Lucie Jones provides music on Mother's Day Sunday.

May 21 - Knox Presbyterian and Knox United Choirs join forces for this long-weekend Sunday.

June 11 - The St. Andrew-Caledonian Pipers come to Knox to celebrate "Kirkin' of the Tartans" - which is a North American tradition of **blessing the tartans** (a tartan is a plaid cloth of distinct colours and

patterns that denote a particular Scottish clan). This service will include a blessing and celebration of all families, cultures and histories.

June 18 - Knox ReBell Ringers - celebrating Neighbour Day (June 17)

Congregational Meeting, Sunday, May 28, 11:45 am

A Congregational Meeting will be held to celebrate all we have accomplished this year, and to vote on the continuation of Rev. Sheena Trotter-Dennis' appointment to Knox. All are invited to attend this special meeting.

Commemorating MMIWG2S with Red Ribbons

Red ribbons are placed on our garden fence to commemorate Red Dress Day - Red Dress Day, also known as the National Day of Awareness for Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls and Two-Spirit People. It is observed on May 5th. The day honours and brings awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women, girls and two-spirit people who have been subject to disproportionate violence in Canada.

Neighbour Day - Looking for Volunteers

Are you someone who likes to plan events? **Are you someone who wants to celebrate kindness and community?** We are looking for a team of people to plan Neighbour Day, June 17. Neighbour Day started in June 2014 to recognize the incredible outpouring of support and generosity of neighbours following the 2013 floods. Each year on the third Saturday in June, the city celebrates the kindness and community of Calgary. If you would like to be a part of the celebration, **contact Sue** at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com.

Healing Touch - Resurrecting our Healing Ministry

Knox Healing Ministry had been active here for over 20 years but was stopped by the pandemic. Our team offered healing sessions to the congregation and others. We have had more than 10 members at times in the past, but no one is giving treatments now. There has been interest in resurrecting our healing ministry.

What happens during a healing session? In theory, a healing practitioner uses various techniques to clear or otherwise affect the energy field of the recipient. A description which reflects the spiritual experience, voiced many years ago by Gladys Lane, is that it is like "being inside a prayer".

In order to begin again, **we need to know the answer to these two questions:**

(a) Would you like to receive a healing session?

(b) Would you be interested in attending a weekend course to learn the basics of energetic healing, the point of entry to being a member of our healing team

Please contact Elizabeth Campbell or Ricardo Moraes-Pinto through Sue at sforsyth@kxcalgary.com.

Scripture Readers and Land Acknowledgement

We are looking for a cross-section of people from across our congregation to read scripture on Sunday mornings and to do our land acknowledgement. No previous experience is necessary - all readings are assigned ahead of time.

Follow Knox on Social Media

Check out our refreshed website at www.kxcalgary.com

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

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