



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

September 3, 2023

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

Music Director: Chellan Hoffman

Cantors: Members of the Knox Choir **Reader:** Karen Harrison

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 Piano arrangements of favourite hymns

WELCOME & ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

***OPENING HYMN** “All the Colours of the Rainbow” (see insert)

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: You are a gift to the world!

All: All of us, in our great diversity!

One: Sometimes we forget that our diversity is to be celebrated.

All: Let us celebrate, remember and give thanks!

Let us pray.

God, who is broader and wider and more expansive than anything we can imagine, we come today seeking to remember your endless and limitless love. We come today hoping to remember that all are created in your image. Fill us with your love and assurance once again. Amen.

***PASSING OF THE PEACE**

The peace of Christ, be with you.

And also with you. Amen.

***GATHERING SONG**

“Draw the Circle Wide” MV 145 (refrain, sung twice)

*Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song, no one stands alone,
standing side by side, draw the circle wide.*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 Corinthians 12:12-27

REFLECTION

Keith Murray

HYMN

“My Love Colours Outside the Lines”

MV 138

HOLY COMMUNION

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the One who is boundless in hospitality and who invites us to the Table.

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, Infinite and Boundless God, who created all things and called them good. 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 one, God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory and creativity, your loving embrace. Blest is the one who comes in the name of the Source of Love and Light.

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 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, we are bold to pray God's vision for the world.....

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 or write a prayer 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: *Piano arrangements of communion hymns*

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,
For the assurance we have been given.**

We give thanks.

May we go into the world, strengthened by these gifts. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN “Sing a New World Into Being” (see insert)**

***BLESSING**

POSTLUDE

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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)	Gerald Love (greeter & usher)
Jampa Tseten, Justin Cross (caretaker)	Bob Benner (sanctuary preparation)
Carey Barrett/Frank Lam (video operator)	Murray, Vi, Chuck (coffee crew)
Tenzin Dawa/Steve Miller (sound operator)	Roman Sizer (social media; IT support)
Keith Murray (VST student, seminary intern)	William Brook (VST student, seminary intern)

CALENDAR AT A GLANCE

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

Today during service	Special Children's Time	Sanctuary
<i>*Children will start in the Sanctuary and move to the library</i>		
Today @ 12:00 pm	Knox Booth at Pride	Prince's Island Park
Wednesday, September 6 @ 12:30 pm	Worship: Connection & Reflection	Labyrinth
Monday, September 11 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre
Monday, September 11 @ 5:15 pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary	Sanctuary
Tuesday, September 12 @ 6:00 pm	Book Club (in person and on-line)	Boardroom
Wednesday, September 13 @ 12:30 pm	Worship: Connection & Reflection	Labyrinth
Thursday, September 14 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre
Sunday, September 17 @ 1 pm	Engaging Vulnerable People	Sanctuary
Monday, September 18 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre
Monday, September 18 @ 5:15 pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary	Sanctuary
Tuesday, September 19 @ 6:00 pm	Book Club (in person and on-line)	Boardroom
Wednesday, September 20 @ 12:30 pm	Worship: Connection & Reflection	Labyrinth
Thursday, September 21 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre
Sunday, September 24 @ 11:30 am	Discover Knox Tour	Sanctuary
Sunday, September 24 @ 11:30 am	Stewardship Giving program	Boardroom
Monday, September 25 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre
Monday, September 25 @ 5:15 pm	Yoga in the Sanctuary	Sanctuary
Tuesday, September 26 @ 6:00 pm	Book Club (in person and on-line)	Boardroom
Wednesday, September 27 @ 12:30 pm	Worship: Connection & Reflection	Labyrinth
Thursday, September 28 @ 1:30 pm	English Language Learning	Theatre

Welcome Colin Redekop!

Today we welcome Colin Redekop as our guest organist. Colin is an active member of Calgary's music scene. He is the collaborative pianist for both the Spiritus Chamber Choir and the Calgary Renaissance Singers and Players, and an assistant organist at Christ Church Elbow Park. Colin completed his Master of Music degree in organ performance at the University of Calgary in 2011. By day, he is the Office Administrator at Parkdale United Church.

BACKGROUND TO TODAY'S MUSIC

The opening and closing hymns for this year's Pride service are taken from a Hymn Society resource called *Songs for the Holy Other*. Today's society continues to build walls of in/out, us/them, and normal/other. *Songs for the Holy Other* offers congregations working to dismantle these walls a collection of hymns by and for those who identify as members of the LGBTQIA2S+ community, and their allies. The title is a self-conscious claiming of otherness as holy and beloved of God. Hymn writer and theologian Rev. Dr. Carl P. Daw Jr., FHS writes: "Human otherness (of whatever kind) provides a sacramental reminder of the ultimate otherness of God, and openness to human otherness has the potential to enlarge our perception of and receptivity to divine otherness." May the words we sing today enlarge our receptivity to both divine and human otherness, and inspire us as we strive to "sing a new world into being." (Taken from www.thehymnsociety.org)

Making Sacred Connections: Worship

Sermon series - Remembering Who We Are

Our culture is really good at telling (in implicit and explicit ways) us who we are and how we should relate to others. We hear these narratives through social media, friends and family, politicians and many other sources. Sometimes we hear "we're not good enough," "there isn't enough for everyone," "some are better than others." What is the narrative God invites us into? What do our sacred texts tell us? For the next 6 weeks, drawing mostly from Paul's Letters to the Corinthians, we will reflect and remember who we are as God's beloved people.

Connection and Reflection- Contemplation and Community:

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.

Special Children's Time:

Beginning today, we will be offering a monthly 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.

Making Sacred Connections: Building Community

Potluck Lunch

Our monthly potluck lunch will return, Sunday, October 1. Mark your calendars for a time of fellowship and delicious food following the worship service.

Welcome Table

A new welcome table is set up in the back of the sanctuary. This will be where you can 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.

Welcome, Edgar Fernando as Affirming Team Lead

We are pleased to announce Edgar Fernando (he/him) as Knox's new Affirming Team leader. Edgar joined Knox in 2017 after moving to Calgary with his partner, Ralph, in 2014. Edgar comes with an extensive background in social service, most recently serving as Volunteer Coordinator at the Centre for Newcomers. Edgar serves as a board member of Gender and Sexual Diversity Advisory Board with Calgary Police Services, which supports LGBTQ issues and Rainbow Elders Calgary which educates people about Senior LGBTQ issues. Edgar enjoys walking, dancing, talking with people, travelling, visiting museums, theatre, watching old movies, reading about history, environment, and lately learning French. His motto, from his mom: "Be strong in the face of adversity."

Yoga In the Sanctuary, Starting September 11th

Join us, Mondays, 5:15 - 6:15 pm in the sanctuary for an hour of Yoga with instructor Melanie Batycky. Bring your own mats and blocks. \$20/session - \$45/monthly (3 sessions each month)

Melanie Batycky began teaching yoga after dancing professionally with The San Francisco Ballet, Lines Ballet of San Francisco, and The Alberta Ballet. She currently holds her Level 1 Iyengar yoga certification. It is the depth of yoga that keeps her constantly searching and learning. She is truly grateful to have found yoga and loves sharing what she has learned, and continues to learn with her students. "The physical practice is really only part of truly knowing yoga. The philosophy of yoga can be practiced in each interaction in our lives, and actually lived. When we see ourselves and others as kind, loving, honest, authentic, and constantly turn our lives over to the higher power that is within each of us, that is when our lives change."

Autumn Book Club, September 12

This fall, a small group, including friends from Central UCC on 7th Avenue SW, have already decided to read and discuss "Holy Envy: Finding God in the Faith of Others" by Barbara Brown Taylor.

We welcome anyone who would like to join us.

We plan to meet weekly for 7 weeks on Tuesday evening from 6pm – 7pm in the Knox Boardroom and will also have zoom availability. Our first meeting is on September 12th. A few copies of the book are available from the Knox Office for a donation of \$5. We will aim to read 2 chapters per week and discuss at the meetings. Our first meeting will be an introduction to the author and each other.

Please contact Sue at the office on sforsyth@kxcalgary.com if you would like to join the group, you will be very welcome.

Engaging Vulnerable People Training, September 17, 1 pm

On September 17, @ 1: pm we have arranged for Alpha House to come in and hold a seminar on Engaging Vulnerable People.

The topics will be:

- Develop Understanding around Homelessness and Addiction.
- Confront Personal Biases
- Improve Interactions
- Confidence in Action: Understanding Role & Purpose.

You will be able to sign up at our new Welcome Table or on Eventbrite, or through the office.

Annual Fall Gathering at Mînh Thnî, (former McDougall Memorial United Church site, Hwy 1a, September 10, 2 pm

Mînh Thnî is a place where the story of two cultures come together. A place where we are connected by time, nature, history, experience, and humanity. Indigenous peoples flourished here for thousands of years. Settlers and missionaries began arriving at Mînh Thnî in the 1870s, beginning with the McDougall family. The history of these people and cultures are intertwined and were brought together under Treaty 7 in 1877.

As part of our annual Fall Gathering, we are planning an afternoon event to share these two cultures that first came together almost 150 years ago by highlighting indigenous drumming and dancing, as well as Scottish (highland) dancers. Participants will learn about the history and stories behind each of the dances and the significance of the regalia and costumes worn by the dancers, and then maybe give it a try and join in! Refreshments will be provided for all participants.

MONTHLY Discover Knox Our monthly informational tour will be on September 24 following the Sunday morning worship service. All are invited to take a behind-the-scenes tour of some of the building and hear more about the Knox community.

Opening up the Sanctuary - Volunteers Needed We want to rebuild our presence as a church in downtown Calgary by opening the sanctuary and labyrinth for those seeking a quiet space during the week. We're looking for volunteer hosts who can open the 6th Avenue doors and stay to greet visitors for a couple of hours (schedule TBD). We're initially targeting Tuesday at lunchtime but would appreciate volunteer hosts any weekday between 10 am and 2 pm. This is an important and rewarding way to engage in the life and work of our church.

If you would like to inquire about this project, contact Doug Chandler (dchandler1@shaw.ca) or the church office (office@kxcalgary.com).

MAKING SACRED CONNECTIONS - OFFERING OUR GIFTS

THANK YOU From the Knox Treasurer The days are getting shorter, and our summer is beginning to wind towards fall. Thank you to all who financially supported Knox over the past couple of months, while taking time away to enjoy summer adventures and downtime. Our online services continue to offer the opportunity to be spiritually present from wherever you are. As our work at Knox continues, planning has begun for programming in the fall with so much more to look forward to. Your gifts are received with gratitude, and we thank you for supporting the vibrant ministry at Knox. May the remaining days of summer be safe and restful.

Donating to Knox over the summer:

- Through the website: kxcalgary.com. Click the "Donate" button to donate online through ChurchCenter.com and PayPal
- The QR code during the online services links to the Donate page on the website
- Interac e-Transfer (email address: donate@kxcalgary.com)
- PAR (pre-authorized remittance), post-dated cheques or to request a set of personal donation envelopes to use throughout the year, please contact the church office at 403-269-8382.
- Mail a cheque payable to: ***Knox United Church,***

506, 4th Avenue SW, Calgary AB T2P 1S7

** Income Tax Receipts for the total of all donations during 2023 will be issued before the end of February 2024.

CRA Charity Registration No. 11898 6603 RR0001

The 2024 Stewardship Giving Program: Sept. 24 & Oct 8, 2023

This year, the 2024 Stewardship Giving Program will run from Oct 22-Nov. 17, 2023. In anticipation of this event, all interested Congregation members are welcome to attend the 2024 Stewardship Giving Program after Church in the Boardroom on September, 24, 2023. The meeting will be an hour in length. Knox's financial needs for 2024 will be introduced and you are invited to bring ideas, humor, and conversations to the meeting! A follow-up meeting will be held October 8, 2023 in the Boardroom on Thanksgiving Sunday- a very appropriate day to discuss Thanksgiving to Knox! This will be a short meeting. See you then!

Tuning Up our Finances: Sunday, October 1

Jo-Anne Willment and Janet Zarka invite the Congregation to a conversation on Oct 1, 2023 to discuss the development of a Knox Giving Program extending over a 12-mth period. Stewardship would be one of the Programs lasting 4 weeks but other programs would also be developed. To do this requires a two-step process and your participation in this discussion is very much needed. This does *not* involve extra costs for Knox. The Knox after-church potluck luncheon will also be held on Oct 1, 2023 so the meeting will be held over good food! We welcome your attendance and discussion.

Follow Knox on Social Media!

Check out our refreshed WEBSITE at www.kxcalgary.com

FACEBOOK <https://www.facebook.com/KnoxYYC>

INSTAGRAM <https://instagram.com/knoxunitedcalgary>

TWITTER www.Twitter.com/KnoxYYC