



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

## **November 11, 2023 - Remembrance Day**

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

**Music Director:** Chellan Hoffman    **Reader:** Bob Benner

**Musicians:** Knox Choir; Chris Morrison, trumpet

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*We extend a warm welcome to all those who are gathered in our sanctuary.*

*We thank you for being here today.*

*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 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.**

**Gathering in Quiet Reflection**

**The Act of Remembrance**

**Last Post**

**Silence**

**The Rouse**

## Opening Words and Land Acknowledgment

**Music**      **“Veni Sancte Spiritus”**      music: Taizé Community

### Reading

When you lose someone you love,  
Your life becomes strange,  
The ground beneath you gets fragile,  
Your thoughts make your eyes unsure;  
And some dead echo drags your voice down  
Where words have no confidence.  
Your heart has grown heavy with loss;  
And though this loss has wounded others too,  
No one knows what has been taken from you  
When the silence of absence deepens.  
Flickers of guilt kindle regret  
For all that was left unsaid or undone.  
There are days when you wake up happy;  
Again inside the fullness of life,  
Until the moment breaks  
And you are thrown back  
Onto the black tide of loss.  
Days when you have your heart back,  
You are able to function well  
Until in the middle of work or encounter,  
Suddenly with no warning,  
You are ambushed by grief.  
It becomes hard to trust yourself.  
All you can depend on now is that  
Sorrow will remain faithful to itself.  
More than you, it knows its way  
And will find the right time  
To pull and pull the rope of grief  
Until that coiled hill of tears  
Has reduced to its last drop.  
Gradually, you will learn acquaintance  
With the invisible form of your departed;  
And, when the work of grief is done,  
The wound of loss will heal

And you will have learned  
To wean your eyes  
From that gap in the air  
And be able to enter the hearth  
In your soul where your loved one  
Has awaited your return  
All the time.

“For Grief” by John O’Donohue, from *To Bless the Space Between Us: A Book of Blessings* (Doubleday, 2008).

## Quiet Reflection

**Music**      **“O Lord, Hear My Prayer”**      music: Taizé Community

## Reading

From our very first breath, we are in relationship. With that indrawn draft of air, we become joined to everything that ever was, is and ever will be. When we exhale, we forge that relationship by virtue of the act of living. Our breath commingles with all breath, and we are a part of everything. That’s the simple fact of things. We are born into a state of relationship, and our ceremonies and rituals are guides to lead us deeper into that relationship with all things. Big lesson? Relationships never end: they just change. In believing that lies the freedom to carry compassion, empathy, love, kindness and respect into and through whatever changes. We are made more by that practice.

Richard Wagamese, *Embers* (Douglas and McIntyre, 2016)

## Silent Reflection

**Music**      **“Dona Nobis Pacem”**      music: Iona Community

## Candlelighting and Remembering

*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.*

Music: “Elegy”      Michael Baker  
Chris Morrison, trumpet; Chellan Hoffman, organ

## **Blessing**

Where pain  
does not touch you.

Where hurt  
does not make its home.

Where despair  
does not haunt you.

Where sorrow  
does not dwell.

Where disease  
does not possess you.

Where death  
does not abide.

Where horror  
does not hold you.

Where fear  
does not raise its head.

Where your wounds become doorways.

Where your scars become sacred maps.

Where tears become pools of gladness.

Where delight attends your way.

Where every kindness you have offered returns to you.

Where each blessing you have given makes its way back to you.

Where every grace gathers around you.

Where the face of love mirrors your gaze.

Where you are what the light shines through.

“What the Light Shines Through” by Jan Richardson from *The Cure for Sorrow: A Book of Blessings for Times of Grief* (Wanton Gospeller Press, 2016).

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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.***

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### **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)

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