

KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BAYFIELD

2022 06 12

May the grace of Jesus Christ be with you ... **and also with you.** Welcome to worship at Knox Presbyterian Bayfield on the 12th of June.

Announcements

MISSION MOMENT: Presbyterian World Service & Development {PWS&D} responded through the ACT Alliance to the devastating earthquake in Haiti last summer. The emergency response supported 400 families in rebuilding their homes and in providing shelter and hygiene kits for 1,500 families, nutritious food for 1,300 families and agricultural support for 500 farmers. Community leaders and volunteers learned about community-based humanitarian action when confronting a crisis. This knowledge sharing will assist when future disasters happen. Communities will know how to implement an effective response. Your donations to PWS&D through this church assist with these efforts. There are still some **Knox Bayfield Cookbooks left. They are** excellent gifts. Speak with Deb Cosford to purchase.

In just a few weeks we will begin the book **Wholehearted Faith for the Tuesday book discussion. We will also begin** the Alpha program on Zoom that week. Be sure to speak with me if you have any questions or concerns

The people of Knox Bayfield acknowledge with gratitude the territory upon which we live, work, play and worship. Knox is on the traditional lands of the Anishinabewaki, Attiwonderonk (Neutral), and Mississauga peoples within Treaty 29, of 1827. We are all treaty people. We acknowledge that The Presbyterian Church in Canada was a part of the residential school system. We seek a new relationship with the First Nations of this land, one based in truth, respect, and reconciliation.

HYMN Let There be Light

#727

CALL TO WORSHIP [responsive]

One: Come and worship God

All: Holy God, majestic is your name!

One: To the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit

All: be all honour and glory, now and forever.

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON¹

Holy God, who is One in Three and Three in One, we praise you as the Source of all life, Maker of all that is. Jesus Christ, we praise you. You entered into this world to teach humanity the way of goodness, mercy and grace. Holy Spirit, we praise your gifts of awareness and insight. You help us to encounter each day as a gift that allows us to serve in the world. Holy God, Three in One and One in Three, reveal how we may live more fully as your people. God of mercy, you are slow to anger and swift to forgive. You reach out to us with the depth of your love, yet we are reluctant to love others who differ from us. You show compassion and forgiveness, yet we dismiss the concerns of others. Forgive us, O God. Help us to trust in the power of your abundant love. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and given a ministry of reconciliation. May the peace of Jesus the Christ, which surpasses all understanding, be with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn O Master let me walk with thee #642

To Hear The Word Of God**Prayer For Illumination**

God of Word and wisdom, reveal the mysteries of faith to us this day by the power of your Holy Spirit. Through the Scriptures, show us how to witness to the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Tanakh* **Proverbs 8:1–4, 22–31 [B#590/W#654]²**

Tanakh **Psalm 8 [B#492/W#542]**

Epistle **Romans 5:1–5 [B#155/W#162]**

Gospel **John 16:1–15 [B#110/W#114]**

May God bless our understanding of this, God's holy word. **The word of the Lord.**

¹ PCC Worship Planner Advent December 2021 Year C

² Page #'s for pew bibles with Blue or White edged pages

Message

O holy One, by the power of your Holy Spirit at work in the word read and proclaimed, may the words of our mouths and the meditations of our hearts be acceptable to you. Amen.

Theologian John of Damascus (675-750 AD) may have been the first to describe the Trinity relationship as perichoresis, derived from Greek, which means moving or dancing around. For John, perichoresis meant that God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit are inter-dwelling; each separate from the other and within the other. John of Damascus, in his description of perichoresis, illustrates the dynamic unity of the Trinity. In this Triune relationship of love and self-giving community space is created. The Trinity helps us to understand the importance of relationship as the heart of the church.

C. S. Lewis wrote, "the whole dance of this three-person life is to be played out in each one of us". The dance metaphor may help us to understand faithful living. When we think in terms of dancing with a partner there is an invitation, then initial steps become a flow of movement around a dance floor. There is a leader and a follower working to create harmonized movement. The partners enhance each other's efforts and the movement becomes unified. In a similar way, God invites us to join in perichoresis. This dance of faith draws us together with God, our relationships are harmonized, and all works toward the glory and peace of God.

Paul wrote of peace with God, a peace that develops through our faith in God and our belief in God's promises. He goes on to describe how this peace provides resilience and strength in our deepest vulnerability with an intentional connection with God. This connection need not be complicated. It can be setting time aside to pray each day. Pausing to acknowledge God's presence in your life and taking that moment to breathe in your heightened awareness of the divine. Many in this congregation intentionally include being of service as part of their connection with God. Relationship building with family and friends illustrates one of our deepest connections with the divine.

In writing of peace, Paul acknowledged the many challenges the reader would face and encouraged them to develop this abiding sense of the presence of God. The more God is deeply connected within our lives, especially during times of trouble, the stronger our

hope and faith become. Even in the midst of chaos we will sense the presence of the Spirit. We will be held within the strength and nurture of the triune God who gave us the Holy Spirit to fill our hearts with love.

In writing to the Romans, Paul described their relationship to God in contrast to the oppression they lived within. He encouraged the reader to see their lives in a different way. Paul tells them to throw off the shame they endured around their faith and circumstance ... and to take a stand, to boast of their hope and of their suffering. They are to hold tight to the honour of faith in God and God's love for them. You may hear the words of Isaiah, "Do not fear, for you will not be ashamed; do not be discouraged, for you will not suffer disgrace" (Isa. 54:4). Paul reframed the social dishonor experienced by the church. They are to embrace the resilient hope that emerges out of suffering.

Peter L. Steinke wrote, "We 'waste' suffering if we gloss over, deny, avoid, or neglect its message. ... If, however, we can learn from pain it is not wasted but a source of life and health." Paul's letters are written through his experience of faith, hope, suffering, and love. He developed deep insight into his suffering with the realization that denial and avoidance are a waste.

Hope can be found and shared in the midst of pain and suffering. We see evidence of hope held in the journeys of all who have struggled. There are significant people throughout history who have held hope as they struggled in the journey to fight oppression, fear, poverty, and discrimination. The work of Mother Teresa as she worked among the poor and gathered resources from the wealthy. A former president of India wrote, "In our present-day troubled world, incessantly plagued by conflict and hatred, the life that is lived and the work that is carried out by people like Mother Teresa bring new hope for the future of mankind." In the second world war, Winston Churchill provided hope to a nation by identifying the grim reality they faced and his hope to build on their strengths to reach their goals. Franklin D. Roosevelt rallied the nation by sustaining hope as the country moved through the depression. And, each of us knows of the importance of hope. The deep hope of faith developed through endurance in living with pain and suffering, our own or that of others. Hope is something we take in. "And hope does not disappoint us, because God's love has been poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit that has been given to us" (5:5). Our faith, our resiliency, and God's love are the

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substance of hope. Paul wrote, "Faith, hope, and love abide, these three; and the greatest of these is love" (1 Cor. 13:13). We do not earn God's love for it is freely given to all who will accept it. Paul encourages the reader to be faithful knowing that God is faithful. The love of God lives among us through the Spirit.

Praise be to God for visions and the movement of the Spirit among us.

Hymn Immortal invisible God only wise #290

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOUR TO THE LORD

QUOTE We only have what we give. Isabel Allende, author

We live in the abundance of God's creation, God's word, and God's love. Why, then, should we live as though we are threatened with scarcity? We gratefully return to God a portion of all that we have been given, with joyful praise.

BLESSING OF GIFTS & PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Prov. 8; Rom. 5

Let us join in prayer:

Holy God, you are more than we can know or name. We call on you again and again for you alone are God. We cannot live apart from you, for you have called us into your triune life. Your steadfast love surrounds us wherever we may be— on a mountain or a path in a valley or at a crossroad on our journey ... you call to us. We come before you in thanksgiving for all the gifts you have provided. We are grateful for the beauty of this season; for the efforts of those who bless us beyond their knowing; for this community of faith by which we are nurtured and challenged; for opportunities to serve you by serving others; and for the gift of life granted yet again today. We give you thanks for the many gifts you provided. We thank you for the abundant, faithful love poured into our hearts through the Holy Spirit. Through our offerings of time, talent, and financial resources may your gifts bring relief, renewal, and hope to those in need.

We come before you, God, for those who are suffering with the many forms of illness that affect body, mind, and spirit. We lift up all who live with grief of death and loss.

We pray for healing and strength in the broken places of our lives. We yearn for the hope you alone can give—hope that rolls away the boulders of death and despair.

We pray for those whose livelihood is precarious, for those who live with poverty and unstable housing and employment. We come before you God seeking your help for this chaotic world in the midst of extreme turmoil. Help us to end bigotry and hatred. Stir us from apathy. Help us to delight in you by living and playing in life-giving ways.

Loving God, we pray for those who know sickness, pain, grief, loneliness, and anxiety. By your Spirit, surround each one with strength and love. Equip us to offer support for those who are near to us. We ask your Spirit to linger with Adam & Christina, Grace, Rudy,

Audrey, Betty Lou, and Rob. We lift up all those who are on our hearts as they face immense challenges. Before we call, you answer, God. Before we speak, you know our words. Hear our prayers. We join our voices together across space and time to speak the words that Christ taught his disciples ... **Our Father who art in heaven, hallow'ed be thy name. Thy Kingdom come, Thy will be done, on earth as it is in Heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.**

Hymn

O Lord my God, how great thou art #332

To Go Forth In God's Name

Commissioning and Benediction

Go out this day to participate in the life of the triune God—actively seek equality and justice. Celebrate the amazing diversity of God's creation. May the grace of Christ Jesus grant you peace; may the Holy Spirit guide you into all truth; and may the love of God fill your heart so that you may find hope in every circumstance of this life. Amen.

Postlude Holy, Holy, Holy

623

#727 Let there be light

Let there be light; let there be understanding; Let all the nations gather; let them be face to face. Open our lips; open our minds to ponder; Open the door of concord, opening into grace.

Perish the sword; perish the angry judgement; Perish the bombs and hunger; perish the fight for gain. Hallow our love; hallow the deaths of martyrs; Hallow their holy freedom; hallowed be your name.

Your kingdom come; your spirit turn to language; Your people speak together; your spirit never fade. Let there be light; open our hearts to wonder; Perish the way of terror; hallow the world God made.

623 Holy, holy, holy

Words: traditional Music: F Schubert

Refrain: Holy, holy, holy, God almighty Lord!

Holy, holy, holy, everywhere adored!

God without beginning, God eternal One reigns and rules forever all beneath the sun

Refrain

Power and love and wonder, circling round God's throne, Praise our God most holy, Lord of Life alone **Refrain**

O Master let me walk with thee

#642

O Master, let me walk with thee in lowly paths of service free; tell me thy secret; help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care. Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear winning word of love; teach me the wayward feet to stay, and guide them in the homeward way.

Teach me thy patience; still with thee in closer, dearer company, in work that keeps faith sweet and strong, in trust that triumphs over wrong, in hope that sends a shining ray far down the future's broadening way, in peace that only thou canst give, with thee, O Master, let me live.

Lord my God, how great thou art #332

O Lord my God! when I in awesome wonder consider all the worlds thy hands have made, I see the stars, I hear the rolling thunder, thy power throughout the universe displayed,

Refrain then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, How great thou art! how great thou art! Then sings my soul, my Saviour God, to thee, How great thou art! how great thou art!

When through the woods and forest glades I wander and hear the birds sing sweetly in the trees, when I look down from lofty mountain grandeur and hear the brook, and feel the gentle breeze, **Refrain**

And when I think that God, his Son not sparing, sent him to die, I scarce can take it in, that on the cross, my burden gladly bearing, he bled and died to take away my sin,

Refrain

When Christ shall come with shout of acclamation and take me home, what joy shall fill my heart! Then I shall bow in humble adoration, and there proclaim, my God, how great thou art! **Refrain**