

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

Announcements

Mission Moment

In many small rural communities in Ghana, lay preachers, evangelists and catechists play a crucial role. Under the direction of a district minister, who has many congregations under their care, lay leaders provide much-needed spiritual leadership. While they share a deep commitment to their call to ministry and service in the church, many have not received formal theological training. To equip these lay leaders with helpful tools for effective ministry, the Presbyterian Church of Ghana established three Lay Training Centres (Tamale, Ramseyer and Nsaba), which receive support through Presbyterians Sharing.

Foodbank focus will be on canned fruit.

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. There is much for us to learn as we seek a new relationship with the First Nations of this land, one based in truth, respect, and reconciliation.

HYMN Praise God #306

CALL TO WORSHIP [responsive]

One O come let us sing to the Lord; let us make a joyful
noise to the rock of my salvation

All Let us come into his presence with thanksgiving. Let us make a joyful noise to him with songs of praise

One For the Lord is a great God and a great King above all Gods

All In his hands are the depths of the earth, the heights of the mountains are his also

One The sea is his for he made it, and the dry land, which his hands have formed

All O come let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before our maker

One For He is our God and we are the people of his pasture and the sheep of his hand

Prepared for Knox Presbyterian Church, Box 565, Bayfield, ON N0M 1G0

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Minister: Rev. Lisa Dolson 519-955-2158 revlisa dot knoxbayfield@icloud dot com

Resources include: PCC Worship Planner, <https://www.workingpreacher.org/> Feasting on the Word: Preaching the Revised Common Lectionary, and Feasting on the Word Companion, NRSV Bible

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND ASSURANCE OF PARDON¹

God of all life and each life, you are the light of minds that seek to know you. You are strength for those who seek to serve you. You reveal truth to those who search for you. In worship, we pause in your presence, resting from our work and responsibilities, from our worries and distractions. We come to enjoy your presence and praise you for the gift of life in Christ and in creation. Receive our prayers and praise this day, for we open our hearts in love and loyalty to you, O God.

God who is all in all, you call us to choose life and walk in your ways, but we are tempted by short cuts and easy solutions. You ask us to turn from anger and settle our differences, but we cling to grievances and point fingers at others. You ask us to be true to our word, but we prefer to keep everyone happy. Forgive us, O God; and give us courage to follow the paths you set for your people.

Assurance of Pardon

God invites us to choose life and find the blessing that comes from following God's ways. Accept God's gift of forgiveness and choose new life. Forgive one another and discover the peace of Christ. Amen.

May the peace of Jesus the Christ, which surpasses all understanding, be with you. **And also with you.**

Hymn O WORSHIP THE KING #313

To Hear The Word Of God

Prayer For Illumination and Scripture²

Your Word, O God, comes to us in the translation of ancient scripture. Send your Holy Spirit to open our minds with understanding and our hearts with wisdom in the name of Jesus Christ, your Living Word. Amen.

Scripture³

Tanakh*	Exodus 14:19-31	[B#61/W#67]
Tanakh	Psalms 8	[B#492/W#542]
Tanakh	Psalms 33:1-7; 20-22	[B#507/W#559]

¹ PCC Worship Planner Advent December 2021 Year C

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

³ Page #'s for pew bibles with Blue or White edged pages

History

Acts 2:42-47

[B#119/W#124]

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

How Great thou Art!

Marten Dykstra

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.

Have you ever heard the song (Sing) He's got the whole world, in his hands, He's got the whole wide world in his hands, He's got the whole world in his hands He's got the whole world in his hands. And the tiny little baby, you and me brother and you and me sister in His hands.

The Whole World! When facing the sun 93 million miles away giving us warmth and light. The Galaxie, the Hundred of Galaxies Billions of miles into trillions of miles in Universe. There is no beginning or end. I remember a hymn I learned years ago. In Christ there is no east or west in Him no south or north. But one great fellowship of love through out the whole wide earth.

God is not bound by space and time. We are. We live in this moment. We cannot get into time 3 minutes ago. We can look forward, but cannot be in time ahead. Where scripture says that 1000 years is like a blink of a eyelash. God is not bound by space and time. God is so great. Proclaimed by Elvis, in all his musical strength and tenacity How Great thou Art. Even Carrie Underwood, you can bring up on U tube a few years ago at the country music awards, singing with all her spirituality then Sings my soul my Saviour God to thee How Great thou Art.

This greatness of God has inspired the hymn writers of old. God of Grace and God of Glory, I sing the mighty power of God, How Great thou Art. Even a song that hit the radio waves a few years back by Bet Midler God is watching us (but) from a distance?

This greatness of God is also demonstrated in so many Bible stories. Creation, the walls of Jericho crumbing, Daniel in the lion's den and the 3 men in the fiery furnace. Not to mention all the miracles by Jesus. That reminds me, when teaching Sunday School years ago, and we used to make it interesting for the kids. Well when learning the story of Shedrach Meshak and Obedngo thrown into the furnace because they would not bow down to other than our God, The kids did a play and wanted to change the names to My

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Shack Your Shack and a Bungalow! Another time when learning of Noah putting the animal on the boat 2 by 2 and soon the flood came I said to the kids do you think Noah did any fishing while the Ark floated on the waters No they didn't think so. I said, why not? They said, well he only had 2 worms !

In the story that we read in Exodus 14 the Israelites fled from slavery in Egypt led by Moses...The Israelites had no generals, no army, no weapons, no strategy, and no hope, Pharaoh on the other hand had presided over the worlds greatest nation and commanded the worlds most powerful army They could have fled one direction by land, but that would have meant going by several Egyptian Army camps, So they went the direction with the Red sea in front of them. The outcome would be obvious, the Egyptians would win. Except for the Greatness of God. Just like Goliath would win, except for the greatness of God.

The Midianites would defeat Gideon. Except for the greatness of God and Daniel would have been eaten by the lions. Except for the greatness of God. When the Israelites got to the Red Sea they were trapped. The Egyptians were close behind. God divided the waters and after Moses and the Israelites had crossed the Red Sea they looked back only to see, the Egyptian army totally consumed by water. The powerful chariots had got stuck in the mud and were unable to cross. The technology and weapons were no match for the greatness of God, and the people of faith. God's greatness can only stir our faith with the words How Great thou Art.

Hymn Great is thy faithfulness #324

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOUR TO THE LORD

Quote The unselfish effort to bring cheer to others will be the beginning of a happier life for ourselves. Helen Keller –author, political activist, lecturer

God sets choices before us. Some can bring life and blessing, but others lead to despair. When we give our gifts to God, we make a choice for life, a choice to bless others in God's holy name. So trust that God will bless the choice we make today.

Doxology We give Thee but Thine own, What e'er the gift may be; All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from Thee.

Prayers of the People, Blessing of Gifts

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KNOX PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH, BAYFIELD

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God of Life and Love, in spoken words and in the silence of our hearts, we give you thanks for all of life, for the grace you provide to creation in its diversity, and for your loving kindness known in the details of our lives. Hear us, we pray, as we speak of matters on our hearts and minds this day: Gracious and generous God, we bring our gifts to you in thanksgiving. Bless them and surprise us by all the Holy Spirit can accomplish with them. Bless our lives, too, so that our choices will always honour you for Christ's sake.

Where the church is divided by squabbling or deep disagreement, where Christians emphasize our differences instead of seeking unity in Christ, where we put energy into guarding tradition at the expense of honouring new life and relationships with our neighbours: transform us and make all things new.

Where families are divided by old hurts or new tensions, where friendships have ended through misunderstanding or neglect, where relationships have been severed by betrayal or thoughtlessness: transform us and make all things new.

Where countries are torn by war and conflict, where communities are divided by prejudice or unexamined privilege, where leaders provoke anger instead of building understanding co-operation: transform us and make all things new.

Where the poor and lonely find little support or comfort, where people are tired from overwork or pressured by rising costs; where workers fear for their jobs in the present or the future; transform us and make all things new.

Where people suffer pain with physical, emotional or spiritual roots, Where loss marks the beginning and ending of every day, Where young people fear for the future of the planet and their elders mourn the loss of what they once assumed would last:

Transform us and make all things new. God, our Source and Saviour, in Christ you make all things new. And so, united in one voice, we pray the words he taught us:

Loving God, by your Spirit, surround us with strength and love. Equip us to offer support for those who are near to us. God of light and love, draw near to those who must confront illness, loss or changing circumstances. We lift up Jan and family as they mourn the loss of Danielle. God of hope, we ask you to linger with Veronica, Jim and family; Lyle, Deb and family; Stephani, Judith & Gerry; Rob; Stephanie and family; and, Grace & Rudy. We lift up all those who are on our hearts as they face immense challenges. Where new life is

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beginning and hope dawns; where there is laughter and joy, healing and positive change, where there is good news to celebrate, send your Spirit with rejoicing and gratitude... These things we pray in Jesus' name, gathering our prayers into one voice in the words he taught, 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 To God be the Glory #350

To Go Forth In God's Name Commissioning and Benediction

May God's love restore you. May Christ's teaching inspire you. May the Holy Spirit equip you to serve in this divine creation blessed by God, holy One and holy Three. Amen.

Postlude Amen

64 Be still and know

Be still and that I am God x3

I am the Lord that health thee x3

In thee, O Lord, I put my trust x 3

306 Praise God

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures high and low;

Praise God in Jesus fully known; Creator, Word and Spirit, One.

324 Great is thy faithfulness

Great is thy faithfulness, O God my Father; there is no shadow of turning with thee; thou changest not; thy compassions they fail not; as thou hast been, thou forever wilt be.

Refrain Great is thy faithfulness; Great is thy faithfulness; morning by morning new mercies I see; all I have needed thy hand hath provided; great is thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me.

Summer and winter and springtime and harvest, sun, moon and stars in their courses above, join with all nature in eloquent witness to thy great faithfulness, mercy and love.

Refrain

Pardon for sin and a peace that endureth, thine own dear presence to cheer and to guide,
strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow: blessings all mine, with ten thousand
beside! **Refrain**

313 O Worship The King

Oh worship the King, all glorious above; Oh gratefully sing God's power and God's love,
Our Shield and Defender, the Ancient of Days, Pavilioned in splendour and girded with
praise.

Oh tell of God's might, oh sing of God's grace, Whose robe is the light, whose canopy
space; Whose chariots of wrath the deep thunderclouds form, And dark is God's path on
the wings of the storm.

The earth, with its store of wonders untold, Almighty, thy power hath founded of old, Hath
stablished it fast by a changeless decree, And round it hath cast, like a mantle, the sea.

Thy bountiful care what tongue can recite? It breathes in the air; it shines in the light; Thy
mercies, how tender, how firm to the end, Our Maker, Defender, Redeemer and Friend.

O measureless Might, unchangeable Love, While angels delight to hymn thee above, Thy
ransomed creation, in glory ablaze, In true adoration shall sing to thy praise.

350 To God be the Glory

To God be the glory, who great things has done! God so loved the world!—freely sending
the Son, who yielded his life an atonement for sin, and opened the life-gate that all may
go in.

Refrain Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the earth hear God's voice! Praise the
Lord! Praise the Lord! Let the people rejoice! Oh come to the Father through
Jesus the Son, and give God the glory, who great things has done.

Oh perfect redemption, the purchase of blood, to every believer the promise of God, that
when the offender, repenting, believes, through Jesus' atonement, full pardon receives!

Refrain

Great things God has taught us, great things God has done and great our rejoicing
through Jesus the Son, but purer and higher and greater will be our wonder, our gladness,
when Jesus we see!

Refrain