

Knox Presbyterian Church, Bayfield
Third Sunday of Advent December 17th 2023

WE GATHER

PRELUDE *a time of quiet reflection*

Hymn Be still and know #64

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The grace of Jesus Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

HYMN Praise God #306

CALL TO WORSHIP Insert

PRAYER OF ADORATION AND CONFESSION [responsive]

Generous God, we confess that our concerns are narrow as we tend to focus on our own lives. Too often the opportunities to say thanks or to offer encouragement slip by. Anxiety turns us inward and anger can make us lash out. Forgive us when we neglect the joy you provide. Turn our hearts back to you and inspire us with your love made visible in Jesus Christ. Amen

ASSURANCE OF PARDON AND SHARING THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you. **And also with you.**

HYMN Hope is a star [v 1-3] #119

TO HEAR THE WORD OF GOD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

SCRIPTURE

TANAKH* Isaiah 61:1-4, 8-11 [B#691/W#767]

PSALM Psalm 126 [B#572/W#126]

EPISTLE 1 Thessalonians 5:16-24 [B#205/W#219]

GOSPEL John 1:6-8, 19-28 [B#91 /W#94]

May God bless our understanding of this, God's holy word.

The word of the Lord.

MESSAGE Rev. Dolson

HYMN 'Twas in the moon of wintertime #144

TO RESPOND IN FAITH

THE OFFERING OF OUR LIFE AND LABOUR TO GOD

QUOTE Waiting is a period of learning. The longer we wait, the more we hear about him for whom we are waiting. Henri Nouwen

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.

BLESSING OF GIFTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN People in darkness #124

TO GO FORTH IN GOD'S NAME

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Amen [3-part choral]

Following the worship service you are invited to linger for conversation and fellowship.

What a difference! The three kings had only a rumor to go by. But it moved them to make that long journey. The scribes were much better informed, much better versed. They sat and studied the Scriptures like so many dons, but it did not make them move. Who had the more truth? The three kings who followed a rumor or the scribes who remained sitting with all their knowledge? Soren Kierkegaard from "Only a Rumor"