

SHARING GOD'S LOVE ACROSS GENERATIONS

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# 3rd Sunday After the Epiphany January 21, 2024 at 10:30am



Interim Moderator: Rev. Glen Soderholm

Interim Minister: Rev. Cathy Stewart

# Order of Worship:

\*As able, please stand

**Gathering Music**(organ) "Holy, Holy, Holy" J.M. Michel

Greeting

**Life and Work of Our Congregation** 

**Presentation of the Bible** 

**Centering Song (choir)** "Creating God, Your Fingers Trace"

Creating God, your fingers trace the bold designs of farthest space; let sun and moon and stars and light and what lies hidden praise your might.

Sustaining God, your hands uphold earth's myst'ries known or yet untold; let water's fragile blend with air, enabling life, proclaim your care.

Redeeming God, your arms embrace all now despised for creed or race; let peace, descending like a dove, make known on earth your healing love.

Indwelling God, your gospel claims one family with a billion names; let every life be touched by grace until we praise you face to face.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 62)

For God alone our souls wait in silence;

From whom comes our salvation.

God alone is our rock and our salvation,

Our fortress; we shall never be shaken.

Come, let us worship God together.

#### **Prayer of Approach**

Hymn: "Come, let us sing to the Lord our song" 412

and lead us by your Spirit. In Christ's name we pray, Amen.

## **Prayer of Confession**

We confess, O God, we carry ideas about You that are of our own making. You constantly surprise us, uprooting our ideas, overturning our expectations. Heal us of our desire to make you in our own image,

#### **Promise of Forgiveness**

#### **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ.

All: And also with you.

#### Sung response:

May the peace of Christ be with you, and also with you. May the peace of Christ be with you, in all you do.

#### **Prayer for Illumination**

Karl MacDougall

#### **Scripture Readings:**

- Jonah 3:1-5; 10
- Psalm 139: 7-12; responsively from Psalter. Refrain 2
- Matthew 2: 1-12

\* Hymn "Lead me, Jesus; I will follow" 646

**Theme Conversation:** Invitation to gather on the steps of the platform

**Sermon:** "Who Knows? What if?" Rev. Cathy Stewart

\* Hymn "God of many names" 309

### **Dedication of Offering:**

We give thee but thine own, whatever the gift may be; All that we have is thine alone, a trust, O Lord, from thee.

#### **Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

\* Hymn "May the mind of Christ My Saviour" 644

\* Sending Forth and Benediction

\* Sung Response:

Let us praise the God of truth, let us praise the God of peace, let us praise the God of love. Amen. Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah. Amen. (repeat)

Sending Music (organ) Intrade in Jazz J.M. Michel

We welcome Matthias Schmidt as our music leader today. For now, Matthias will be with us for 3 weeks as we work through our search process.



Coffee Hour - will be held on the 1st and 3rd Sunday of the month starting on January 7. Join us in Metcalf Hall after worship for fellowship, tea, coffee, juice, and treats. We would also like to add more coffee hour Sundays in each month. If you are interested in participating in the set-up, serving, and clean-up of coffee hour, please speak to Heather Sanderson for further details or any questions you may have.

**The Library** is starting up again with the help of 4 members of the congregation. The mobile cart will re-appear on January 21<sup>st</sup>, 2024. We can use donations of gently used suitable novels or non-fiction. (Place in bin beside the bench outside the Church office). Coming in 2024: re-using tablets, Kindles, and laptops for Outreach to Seniors. More info on that to come. Questions? Speak to Deb Nash Chambers

Thank you to everyone who participated our January "Give to Guelph" Sunday. Each of these non-perishable food items will help an individual or family in our local community who are facing food insecurity and will be picked up by Chalmers this week. Thanks Knox family!

On February 20th, we will meet at East Side Mario's, 370 Stone Road W., Guelph at 11:45 am and we have a reservation for the Bread Bar, 105 Gordon St, Guelph for Tuesday March 19th. Contact Deb through lunchbunch@knoxguelph.ca to make a reservation to join us by the Friday before each outing.

Cleaning out your closet? Please consider donating unneeded items to one of these organizations that provide clothing to those in need in our community: **The Guelph Food Bank** (Yes they take clothes!), 100 Crimea Street, **Clothing Closet**, New Life Church 400 Victoria Rd N, and **Chalmers Downtown** (41 Macdonell St.).

tax!
2023 Tax Receipts will be in the Metcalfe Hall Sunday, Jan. 14<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup>. All remaining will be mailed January 22<sup>nd</sup>.

HAPPY 100<sup>th</sup> BIRTHDAY to Betty Howden, a life-time member of Knox on January 23<sup>rd</sup>! Best wishes from your church family!

# IMPORTANT DATES TO REMEMBER