

WE GATHER

**Welcome and Announcements
Lighting of the Christ Candle
Acknowledgement of the Land**

Call to Worship: (responsive)

As a deer seeks flowing waters, weary from the chase,
So my soul, O God, is thirsting to behold your face.

You command my steadfast love, in you my soul may quiet be;
In you, my rock, my help, my refuge, set my spirit free.

Yes, you command our steadfast love. So let us worship God who is One,
Father, Spirit, Son.

Opening Hymn: VU page 766 As the Deer

Prayer of Approach and Confession (Girolamo Savonarola, Italy, 15th c)

“Restore to me the joy of your salvation.” **“Restore to me the joy of your salvation.”**

I recall what great peace, what great tranquility of soul I enjoyed **when I rejoiced in the Lord, and found delight in God my Saviour. Yes, now I grieve even more because I know what I have lost. I know what very great benefits I have lost.**

Yes, I cry frantically, “Restore to me the joy of your salvation.”

Restore what you have taken away from me because of my sins.

Restore what I have lost through my own fault.

Restore through Jesus 'merits, who always stands at your right hand and makes intercession for us, that through him I may know

that you are reconciled to me, that the seal is set on my heart,

that I may say with the apostle— “I have been crucified with Christ.

It is no longer I who live, but Christ who lives in me.”

Words of Grace

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn? Christ – Christ, who beckons us to remain in his love, with God who never forgets his love. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and made new by God's generous grace. As we

are loved, may we love. In the welcome of Christ, may we welcome one another.

Hymn MV 79 Spirit, Open my heart

Prayer for Understanding

Lord our God, as the deer pants for water, we seek refreshment. We are gathered at the source, at the well of your living word. Make us open to the leading of your Holy Spirit to guide us as we listen to the Scriptures and to receive them deep in our hearts. Amen.

WE LISTEN

Scripture Reading/s: 1 John 5:1- 4

**Sung Response: This is my commandment that you love one another
That your joy may be full. (led by Jane)**

John 15:5-12

Leader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church
Response: Thanks be to God.

Sermon:

WE RESPOND

Call for Offering

Offertory Hymn "We Give You But Your Own" VU# 542

**We give you but your own,
whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is yours alone,
we give it gratefully.**

Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession

God of Wisdom who blesses our offerings and receives our thanks,

we turn to you in these quiet moments,
Thanking you for your perfect love that holds us near and dear to you. We
give you thanks for all those people who have shown us your face by
teaching us to obey your commands by the faithful example of their lives.
We thank you for our life together in your church, as your forgiven people.
God of Wisdom, **Hear our prayer.**

Christ of Compassion,
In you, we receive our call to live with purpose.
From you, we learn how to love those around us.
With you, we find strength to face each new day.
So today we offer our prayers for those who are facing challenges
and seek your guidance to respond to their cries.

We pray for those brought to mind by news headlines this week, in situations
of trauma from war, interpersonal or natural occurrences; for families going
through difficult times, for all who are sick or in sorrow, lonely or despairing.
We pray for those agonizing over important decisions and responsibilities, for
those in leadership roles, and for those who care for our welfare physical and
spiritual. Bless those people, young and old alike, who strive publicly to
combat evil, standing up against the selfish use of earth and wealth. We thank
you for the prophets of our age who warn us of the danger of egoistic life
styles.

Christ of Compassion, **Hear our prayer.**

Divine Spirit of Action, Give guidance to each and all of us in our daily lives
in our coming and going, in our meetings and partings. Give us more trust in
each other.

Divine Spirit of Action, **Hear our prayer.**

And now as we trust you to answer our prayers, according to your perfect
will and not our own, we pray as Jesus taught us:

The Lord's Prayer

Closing Hymn: VU 672 Take time to be holy

Commissioning and Benediction:

Go in love, with the peace of Christ within you,
to witness to his love in truth and in action.
And may God's resurrecting love open the future for you,
empowered by the Spirit,
and embraced by the presence of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.
Amen

FOR YOUR CALENDAR

June 2 Guest Minister: Rev. Jane Haapiseva

All 3 services

June 9 Guest Minister: Rev. Nina Fulford

All 3 services

June 16 Guest Minister: Rev. Jane Haapiseva

Knox and Stewart only

June 18 Seabreeze Cleanup day HELP NEEDED 10 a.m.

June 23 Guest Speaker: Dr Karen Mock

Shared event at Stewart Memorial 10:30 am

June 30 Guest Minister: Ms Lorna Bywater

Shared celebration at Knox United

July 7 Rev Meg returns for the summer.

All 3 services.

**Aug 12-16 CAMP AWESOME "Bees for Peace" at Pioneer led by Rev Meg and
Judy Bath. Registration deadline: May 31 Details on website**

May 27- June 30

Rev Meg is on leave for combined Study Leave and Holiday