



Sunday morning worship

February 5, 2017
Epiphany 5 (Year A)
10:30 a.m.

Chellan Hoffman, Music Director
Rev. Dr. Dave Holmes, Minister
Rev. Dr. Greg Glatz, Minister

knoxunited.ab.ca
An Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Canada

Welcome to Sunday worship at Knox! *Grab a coffee and join a conversation before the service. A tone bell will sound to indicate the beginning of our service. At that time, we encourage you to gather your thoughts in silence as we begin to worship together.*

Sunday worship is a spiritual practice, *in which we gather in community to deepen our experience of how God is connecting people to God, connecting people to each other, connecting people to their own selves, and connecting people to creation.*

Today's theme. *In today's lesson from Isaiah, we hear a voice from the people complaining to God that God has not answered their prayer and saved them from trouble, even though they've done all the right ritual/religious things. God's response is a prophetic challenge: it doesn't matter how "liturgically correct" the people are until they get their political, economic, and community lives in order. Getting our human rights right is key to getting our religion right.*

How to follow along. *An asterisk indicates places in our worship where the congregation is invited to stand in body and/or spirit. **VU** stands for Voices United (the red hymnal) and **MV** stands for More Voices (the spiral-bound hymnal).*

PRELUDE

**"Night" from a Characteristic Suite for Piano,
In the Bottoms (R. Nathaniel Dett, 1882-1943)**

February is Black History Month. Canada celebrates the profound contributions of African-Canadians and African-Americans, including the precious gift of music and song. Canadian musician and composer, Nathaniel Dett was born in Drummondville, Ontario, the child of freedom seekers—those who came to Canada on the Underground Railroad. He studied music at Harvard University, Oberlin College and the Eastman School of Music.

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS +

PASSING THE PEACE* +

We welcome each other in peace. A simple "peace" with a response of "peace" makes for a friendly and meaningful mutual greeting. Some people also use "peace be with you" with a response of "and also with you."

SINGING TOGETHER*

O God of Every Nation (VU 677)

Sung to tune AURELIA

("The Church's One Foundation" VU 331)

SPIRITUAL PRACTICES: COMMUNION

Communion is a practice rich in meanings, both ancient and future. Today, we focus on the real and visceral connection that communion makes between us and Christ.

Music: Let Us Break Bread Together, spiritual (VU 480)

CENTERING PRAYER ~

Hearing God's voice is a mystery. God's voice is a living thing, heard partly through Scripture--a human document that bears unique witness to the grace and Word of God. God's voice is also heard in the conversation the Church has in light of the Bible, combined with our own thoughts, questions, and feelings. Can you discern the voice of God in the worship today? Can we, together?

SCRIPTURE READING

Isaiah 58:1-12

Read by David Teja

JOURNEY STORY:

Sameer Teja

Choral Response: as-Salaam, Shalom

(a prayer for peace written in Arabic, Hebrew and English;
by Jim Strathdee)

TODAY'S MESSAGE ~

How to Be Great Again

Dave Holmes

CONTEMPLATION & RESPONSE ~

You are welcome to light a candle, make an offering, or fill out a prayer request card.

Music: Reverie (Stephen Lalor), played by David Westwick, mandolin

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE +

*During the prayers of the people, we remember our family, friends, our city, and people around the world. We will close our time of prayer with the Lord's Prayer **as it is found in Voices United 959.***

SINGING TOGETHER* What Does the Lord Require of You? (VU 701)

Sung in 3 parts

BLESSING* ~

POSTLUDE

Soon and Very Soon

(Music by Andraé Crouch, African-American composer, 1942-2015; arr. Jack Schraeder)

Please enjoy the cookies and coffee served in Knox Hall (north side of the campus). Thanks for worshipping at Knox.