

A Sabbath Way of Life

January 31, 2021



ARE YOU NEW TO KNOX? WELCOME!



Prayer

If you would like someone to pray with you, pastors will be available at the front of the Worship Center after the service.



Communion

We celebrate Communion weekly. If you are a baptized follower of Christ, we invite you to join us.



Questions?

If you'd like to talk with someone about questions you have, please contact the Knox Office. Information is also available through the Knox app or website.



Connecting at Knox

Community Groups are one of the ways we seek to help folks get and stay connected at Knox. These small groups are a way to engage in Gospel-centered community as we study God's Word, worship, pray, serve, and seek to live out a God-honoring, neighbor-loving life together. Visit the Knox website (Ministries -> Adult) to find out more about Community Groups and to complete a request form to join one.

LEADING IN WORSHIP TODAY

Pastor Bryan Gregory (sermon & Communion) • Pastor Tom Robinson (liturgy)

- FOR REFLECTION -

It cannot be denied that too often the weight of the Christian movement has been on the side of the strong and the powerful and against the weak and oppressed—this, despite the gospel.

- Howard Thurman



∞ ORDER OF WORSHIP ∞

– GOD GATHERS –

Prelude *(You are invited to pray and reflect silently.)*

Welcome

Call to Worship *Psalm 113*

***Hymn of Praise** *Hallelujah! Raise, O Raise*

***Prayer of Praise**

***Song of Praise** *For the Cause*

– GOD RENEWS –

Lament for the Oppressed *Based on Psalms 13 and 44*

Song of Lament *Let Justice Roll Like a River*

Promise of Hope *Psalm 146:5-10*

Pastoral Prayer

Song of Preparation *Speak, O Lord*

– GOD FEEDS –

Scripture Reading *Leviticus 25:8-17*

Sermon *Living the Sabbath:
Resisting Oppression and Marginalization*

Approaching the Table *All Who Hunger, Gather Gladly*

The Lord's Supper

***Song** *Open Our Eyes*

– GOD SENDS –

***Benediction**

** Please rise in body or in spirit*

RESISTING OPPRESSION & MARGINALIZATION

Leviticus 25:8-17

Next Week: Luke 14:1-24

- GOING DEEPER -

- ▶ Our American individualism tends to see questions of poverty and plenty through the cultural lens of “God helps those who help themselves.” You get credit for prospering but likewise are held responsible for your poverty. The reason for poverty is laziness and irresponsibility, and the way out is “pulling yourself up by your bootstraps.” How does today’s Scripture passage undercut our national mythology of poverty?
- ▶ “Medical crisis – loss of job – loss of home – living in your car or on the streets” is not an uncommon story in America. Spiraling down deeper and deeper into poverty and seeing no way out is easier than we want to acknowledge. Are there ways this passage gives you new insight into that problem and how to give such men and women hope and help?
- ▶ Notice that this Mosaic legislation does not leave caring for the poor to handouts when we feel so moved. These provisions are structural and institutional. They are woven into (or at least were supposed to be) the fabric of Israel’s life as a nation. In what ways might this passage stir your imagination, not just about our separate lives, but about the life of the church and the patterns of our nation with respect for caring for the poor?
- ▶ Finally, there is the problem of seeing. We neglect the poor, the weak, the vulnerable, the left behind because we simply do not see them. Why don’t you see them? Why don’t we? How does the Sabbath help us to see more clearly, that we might love more concretely?





Family Matters

- ▶ New men's Bible study at 7 pm on Wednesdays. We'll be using a new "Ligonier Connect" study called "Themes from Ecclesiastes" taught by R. C. Sproul. We will explore the book of Ecclesiastes and see that life under God is truly meaningful, even in the midst of a despairing world that cannot see beyond life "under the sun." Open to all men, regardless of church affiliation. Contact Lewis Clark at 734-904-1741 or lewis@wolverinotech.com for details and Zoom link.
- ▶ Women's Bible studies (Knox website > News & Updates > C3Women Bible Studies):
 - Wed. morning - Hebrews led by Jennifer Donovan and Steph Wessel
 - Wed. evening - OT wisdom books led by Diane Murtonen and Heather Milot
 - Moms, Tots & Beyond - Gentle and Lowly: Heart of Christ for Sinners and Sufferers led by a teaching team
- ▶ The Annual Meeting is coming up on Sun., Feb. @ 4 PM. This year's meeting will be via Zoom. Please contact the Knox Office (email adminsupport@knoxannarbor.org or call 734-761-5669) if you do not have access to Zoom.
- ▶ Links to information about candidates for the offices of elder and deacon, as well as for the 2021 Nominating Committee, were emailed to the congregation. If you did not receive the email, contact the Knox Office. A limited number of printed copies are available in the atrium for those who do not have email.



Community / Ways to Connect

- ▶ **PrimeTimers go virtual!** Are you in the "Prime Time" of life—empty nester, retired, about to retire? Gather with others online to reconnect with friends or make new ones. Norma Miller and Pastor Mike will host Zoom gatherings Thursday, Feb. 11, 18 and 25 at 3 pm. If you're interested in conversation, spiritual encouragement, fun and learning, email Norma (nkmiller852@gmail.com). She will send you the link for joining the Zoom meeting. The pandemic may keep us distanced, but it doesn't have to keep us disengaged!



Listen to our Spotify playlist

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In Essentials, Unity. In Non-essentials, Liberty.
In All Things, Charity.



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and access other helpful information about our church.*

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