



**Kincardine United Church**  
**Advent 4**  
**December 22nd, 2019 10:30 a.m.**

Welcome. You bless us with your presence. If you are a first time worshipper, please sign our guest register at the front entrance of the church. Thank you for turning off your cell phones and for refraining from flash photography. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the downstairs hall following the service.

**Bold print in the bulletin invites you to say the words.**

\*An asterisk in the bulletin indicates you may sit or stand.

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*Office hours: Tuesday through Friday from 1-4:30 p.m.*

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**PRELUDE** Carol Sing

**WELCOME**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked this land,  
weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land.

**European colonisation came about in large part**

**because of the Doctrine of Discovery,**

**a flawed understanding that ignores Indigenous presence on the land.**

Affirming the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples

and, therefore, repudiating the wrong of such a doctrine,

we begin our worship this morning by acknowledging

the unceded territory of the Saugeen Ojibwe.

**We are all Treaty people, parties to Crown Treaty 45 ½ in 1836.**

Keep us mindful of the covenants that have been made – and broken –  
with First Nations peoples.

**May we grow into living with respect on this land,  
walking into reconciliation through peace and friendship,  
while honouring all who live, work and worship on it.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

#### **GOD GATHERS US**

**INTROIT** In Dulci Jublio

*Dupré*

#### **ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

We come into this space when the world seems bent on self-destruction.

**We come feeling burdened with hopelessness and with discouragement.**

We come, even so, embraced by the good news of great joy.

**We come knowing that “God with Us” is arriving and has arrived –  
our promise of what has happened and what yet will become.**

As we listen for the Spirit’s whispers for humble right relation,  
we light this Advent candle of joy which calls us to celebrate.

*(The fourth Advent Candle is lit.)*

***(we sing #28 More Voices, verse 4)***

**Not by your finger, not by your anger will our world order change in a day,  
but by your people, fearless and faithful,  
small paper lanterns, lighting the way.**

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.**

**Fresh as the morning, sure as the sunrise,  
God always faithful, you do not change.**

In our waiting and in our dancing, let us join as one in prayer:

**May your Word live so deeply within us, O God,  
that we may be fearless and faithful,  
that in the gloom we may flicker with Christ’s joyful light,  
that we may become seeds of new life for a confused world. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED** 62 Once in Royal David’s City

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(Choir sings “Come and Fill Our Hearts” #16 MV)*

#### **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

**SHARING TIME** Simon Says

#### **THE LORD’S PRAYER**

**God within us, God beyond us, God among us,  
may the Mystery always be named and known  
among all peoples and in all times.**

**May Creation give way to the rule of love and the power of life.**

**Satisfy our hunger, granting us a hunger to see the whole world fed.**

**Restore us to right relationship**

**with you, with Creation, with others, with ourselves.**

Strengthen us to reject all that would lead us away from you.  
 Come to us when we choose death over life.  
 Give us courage to follow your call in this moment.  
 For in your love we find the only power,  
     the only home, the only honour we will ever need,  
     in this life and the life to come. Amen.

**GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD**

**ANTHEM**      Born Tonight in Bethlehem

**BIBLE READING**    Isaiah 7:10-17 from the paraphrase *The Message*

**\*VOICES UNITED 68**    All Poor Ones and Humble

**BIBLE READING**    Romans 1:1-7 from the New Testament page 152

**DOXOLOGY**          Bring Many Names    #268 Voices United verse 6 only  
     Great, living God, never fully known,  
     joyful darkness far beyond our seeing,  
     closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:  
     Hail and hosanna, great, living God!

**MEDITATION**      Breaking the Rules

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**ANTHEM**      Goin' to Bethlehem

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)**

We bring our offerings not to follow rules, but to embrace your Spirit, O God.  
 Bless us with your Spirit that we may live faithfully in the world,  
     offering still further blessings as Spirited connection to all our relations.  
 Amen.

**\*VOICES UNITED 76**    See Amid the Winter's Snow

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SONG OF COMMITMENT**    Gloria #37 Voices United  
     Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
     Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

**POSTLUDE**    In Dulci Jublio

*J.S. Bach*