



Kincardine United Church
1st Sunday of Lent
February 18, 2018 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.

Kincardine United Church, 721 Princes St. Kincardine ON, N2Z 0A3

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Web site: www.kincardineunitedchurch.org

PRELUDE

I Call to Thee

J.S. Bach

WELCOME, ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT

I Call to Thee

Dupre

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come to worship God who's rainbow promise is our covenant in Love.

Have you even looked outside at the snow and the overcast skies?

It's a little hard to embrace the rainbow when all we see is winter.

Are you trying to say you are dragged down by February "Blahs?"

Are you suggesting that you are feeling SAD?

Bad puns are not going to make us laugh.

We need some inspiration and something to raise our spirits.

Okay, then – let's come to worship God who delights in the irony of life,

who dances within the complexities of pain and of healing,

who gives us mirth as a lens into deeper relationship.

You mean we are given permission to laugh and to rejoice?

Yes! Let's enter into God's presence with prayerful giggles:

God of laughter and of delight, we come even as we struggle.

We come seeking a safe space within which to let our hair down,

to sometimes just be silly and yet know we are loved for it,

to enter into the frolic of merriment despite life's challenges.

Open our hearts this morning, we pray, that we may discover your Spirit of joy.

Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 112** O God, How We Have Wandered

1. **O God, how we have wandered and hidden from your face.
It seems to laugh is foolish within your gift of grace.
Yet even in the wilderness while tempted left and right,
was Jesus served by angels in heavenly delight.**

2. **His painful contemplation was not devoid of joys.
So, too, we find that laughter love's ministry employs
the healing in our giggles – shared ironies of life –
enfold our deepest sorrows and heal the widest strife.**

3. **So, let us dance and chuckle as in our sorrows we
discover through our laughter a place where we're set free!
It is the balm of healing that opens wide our hearts
to know that God is loving by where God's hope imparts.**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Let us come humbly before God in confession:

**Wait a minute! Haven't we just been singing about laughter as healing?
How does laughter and joy and giggling and delight match with confession?**

We come humbly because God already knows what's heavy on our hearts.

We come to confess because it opens us to God delight.

You mean like a parent who tries desperately not to laugh

**when a child tries to get away with something behind the parent's back –
even though the parent knows from experience what's happening?**

Exactly! As we enter our time of silent prayer,

imagine God's twinkling eyes as you share how you've tried to hide.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SHARING TIME Hokey Pokey

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name,
 thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
 Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us our trespasses
 as we forgive those who trespass against us,
 and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
 For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Genesis 9:8-17 in the Old Testament on page 7

***MORE VOICES 138** My Love Colours Outside the Lines

BIBLE READING Mark 1:9-15 in the New Testament on page 34

GLORIA

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,
 as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,
 world without end. Amen.

MEDITATION "Quantum Entanglement"

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

ANTEHM How Long Has it Been *Lister*

COMMUNITY PRAYERS**OFFERING INVITATION AND OFFERTORY**

Prelude *J.C. Kittel*

***OFFERTORY HYMN 543 VU** We Give Thee but Thine Own
We give thee but thine own, whate'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O God, from thee.
May we thy bounties thus as stewards true receive,
and gladly, as thou blessest us, to thee our first-fruits give.

***OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)**

Take and bless these offerings, O God,
that we may find connection with our aching world.
In our joyful giving, may we find hope and healing for our selves.
In our offering, may we foster delight in others which brings healing
laughter.
Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 356** Seek Ye First the Kingdom

- 1. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and God's righteousness,**
and all these things will be added unto you. Hallelu, hallelujah.
- 2. Ask and delight shall be given unto you, laughter that lifts spirits**
high.
Fond giggles shared through our faith in God above. Hallelu,
hallelujah
- 3. We do not live by bread alone, but by the Spirit's mirth.**
In foolishness is Christ's healing path of love. Hallelu, hallelujah.

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT 145 MV** Draw the Circle Wide
Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song,
no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.
Let our hearts touch far horizons, so encompass great and small;
let our loving know no borders, faithful to God's call.

**Draw the circle wide. Draw it wider still. Let this be our song,
no one stands alone, standing side by side, draw the circle wide.**

POSTLUDE

Prelude

J.L. Kerbs



AV TEAM 🎧 Jim Zarubick, Dave Leaning

COUNTERS 🗳 Bernd and Ursula Portz

FEBRUARY HOUSE LEADER 🏠 Sheila Bauer

MUSIC 🎵 David Hamilton, KUC Choir

NURSERY ATTENDANT ♦ Catherine and Cate Crawford

SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER ♦ Thank You

SCRIPTURE READER 📖 Cat Laliberte

WORSHIP 🕊 Gord Dunbar