



**Kincardine United Church  
4th Sunday after Epiphany  
& Holy Humour Sunday  
February 3, 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.

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

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

*Phone: 519-396-2391, Office Email: [kuchurch@bmts.com](mailto:kuchurch@bmts.com)*

*Gord Dunbar's email: [gord.kuc@bmts.com](mailto:gord.kuc@bmts.com)*

*Web site: [www.kincardineunitedchurch.org](http://www.kincardineunitedchurch.org)*

**PRELUDE**      Dearest Jesus

*J.S. Bach*

**WELCOME**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land. Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and of their spirituality.

**We begin our worship this morning by acknowledging**

**the unceded territory of the Chippewas of Nawash First Nation,  
the Saugeen Ojibwe and, more recently, the Saugeen Metis.**

We are all Treaty people,

parties to the Upper Canada, Haldimand, Huron and Niagara Treaties.  
**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  
 with all who live and work and worship on it.**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

### **GOD GATHERS US**

**INTROIT**      Dearest Jesus

*Dupré*

#### **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

#### **CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

It's wonderful to be here with all of you in the deep, dark middle of winter.

**It's good to be here, especially as we enter the February "blahs."**

Then let's set aside the seasonal pickle we're in,  
 relishing being nourished in worship as we ketchup with God  
 and with each other.

#### **Hot dog!**

Even though our emotions may be churning,  
 it's time to sweeten life with the milk of human kindness –  
 incorporating the same snowy ice  
 which causes us to cream our knees as we slip.

**That's right! It's Sundaes on Sunday today!**

**We come to be fed – if not now at least later – with ice cream.**

Let us come in anticipation, seeking joy in the midst of laughter as we pray:

**Life is a bowl of cherries, O God, even when it hands us the pits.**

**In trying to stem disconnection and polarization,  
 may your Spirit "juice" us to drink deeply of life,  
 allowing the fruit of our relationships to ferment  
 so that we may become intoxicated with your grace. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 624 "Give to Us Laughter"**

#### **PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)**

**We enter your embrace, O God, to open ourselves to you.**

**Strengthen us to follow the path of Jesus,**

**never trunk-ating the journey,  
 nor branching away from Christ's purpose.**

**Instead, may you direct us to leaf sin and sorrow behind.**

**Whenever we are tempted to em-bark on the path of selfishness,**

**root us deeply within your heart, twigging us to your grace,  
 transforming us from saps to acorns of faithful truth.**

*(Silent Prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SHARING TIME "Optical Illusions"

### THE LORD'S PRAYER – A DIALOGUE WITH GOD

Our Father who art in heaven.

Yes?

**Don't interrupt us, we're praying.**

But – *you called me!!!*

**Called you? No, we didn't call anyone. We're reciting a prayer.**

**Thanks a lot for interrupting, but now we have to start over:**

**Our father who art in heaven...**

There – you did it again!

**Did what?**

You called me. You said, "Our Father, who art in heaven."

Well, here I am. What's on your mind?

**Oh! It's you! Yeah, but we didn't mean anything by it.**

**We were, you know, just saying the prayer –  
like we always do after Sharing Time.**

**It's our tradition here at Kincardine United Church, like fulfilling a duty.**

Well, all right. Carry on, then.

**Okay. Thanks. Hallowed be thy name ...**

Hold it right there! What do you mean by that?

**By what?**

"Hallowed."

**It means, well, it means....**

**Good grief, we don't know what it means. How in the world should we know?**

**We just say it as part of the prayer. Do you know what "hallowed" means?**

It means honoured, holy and wonderful.

**Okay, thanks. That makes sense.**

**We never thought about what 'hallowed' meant before.**

**Now, where were we?**

**Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.**

Do you really mean that?

**Sure, why not?**

Well, then, what are you *doing* about it?

**Do about it? We never thought about it *that way*.**

**We guess it would be kind of neat if you got control of everything on earth.**

**We're kinda of in a mess here, you know.**

Yes, I know; but, have I got control of you?

**Well, we're here in church this morning, aren't we?**

That isn't what I asked you.

How are each of you making a difference in the world?

I came in Jesus as model and guide. Have you followed the Way of Jesus?

**Wait a minute and stop picking on us!**

**We're not perfect, but we're better than most – aren't we?**

Excuse me, but I thought you were praying for *my* will to be done.

If so, *you* are the ones who have to make it happen instead of just praying for it.

**So it starts with us?**

**That's not easy, you know, but we guess we're willing to try.**

Great! Now we're getting somewhere. We'll work together as I had hoped.

**That's settled, then. If you don't mind, we really need to finish up here.**

**This prayer is taking a lot longer than it usually does.**

Well then, by all means, continue!

**Give us this day, our daily bread.**

How about sharing with others as each has need?

**You keep making it harder and harder.**

No kidding, eh? Praying can be dangerous because it can transform you.

In fact, you just might get what you ask for.

Remember, you called me – and here I am. Don't stop praying now.

**We're scared to keep praying. We know what the next words are.**

**We have a pretty good idea what you'll say next.**

Try me.

**Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.**

Look deeply into your own heart. Are you ready to forgive others?

**To be honest, we don't know. It's hard because others have hurt us.**

**There has to be a price, doesn't there? Hurt has to be repaid with hurt.**

**Then we're sure we'll feel better.**

Not really because it doesn't work that way. You'll actually feel worse.

But, I can change that.

**You can? How?**

Forgive those others, *and* forgive yourself.

My forgiveness is part of strengthening relationships, even with those who hurt you,  
turning from anger, hate and fear to love.

**Okay. Give me a moment, please. (Silent prayer)**

Okay, *now* how do you feel?

**Emptied, like we were carrying a heavy burden and now it's gone.**

Good! But, you're not through with your prayer yet, are you?

**Thank you. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.**

Good! Good! I'll do that! I'm always with you to help you,

just like when I was with Jesus in the wilderness when he was tempted.

**For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Do you know what would bring me glory? What would really make me happy?

**You really are persistent, aren't you! But we really do want to please you.**

**It isn't easy to follow where your Spirit leads, so we need your help.**

**We want to truly trust and to follow you.**

**So, tell us, how do we make you happy?**

You just did.

## GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

VOICES UNITED 789 Psalm 71 Part 1 only

**\*SONG BASED ON MORE VOICES 150 "Spirit God, Be Our Breath"**

1. **Spirit God: be our breath as we grin.  
Blow through us as life punches our chin.  
When fear and terror emerge out of sin,  
equip us with thick skin.**
  
2. **Patient Christ: soothe our pride, calm our fear.  
Show your Way as a state of good cheer.  
Your love and giving so radic'ly clear:**

neighbours all gathered near.

3. **Laughing God: in your mirth we find joy.  
Irony – a device we employ –  
as your disciples we've come to enjoy:  
fear and sin to destroy.**

4. **Spirit God: pain gives birth to new life.  
Labour needs your Good News as midwife.  
You lead, we follow, to turn aside strife:  
love you give fully rife.**

**BIBLE READING** Luke 4:21-30 from the paraphrase *The Message*

**DOXOLOGY 268 VU Bring Many Names (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** "Affirming the Foreigner"

## **GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**ANTHEM** Praise the Lord

*Hopson*

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**OFFERING PRAYER**

When we give of ourselves – of our time, of our talent and of our treasure –  
we experience God's squeals of delight from within as joyous fulfillment.

**Laughter bubbles like champagne kisses of blessing in dedication.  
Continue to bless what we offer, O God, in Christ's liberating name.  
Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 79 "Arise, Your Light Is Come"**

**\*BENEDICTION**










**\*SONG OF COMMITMENT 37 VU Gloria**

**Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!  
Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

**POSTLUDE** Prelude in F

*J.S. Bach*



<b>AV MINISTRY TEAM</b>		Jim Zarubick, John and Mary Phillips
<b>COUNTERS</b>		Don & Angela Hazlewood
<b>FEBRUARY HOUSE LEADERS</b>		Krista, Lydia & Morgan Ritchie
<b>MUSIC</b>		David Hamilton, KUC Choir
<b>NURSERY ATTENDANT</b>		Thank you
<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b>		Cathy Laliberte
<b>SLIDE PRESENTATION</b>		Sarah MacKenzie
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER</b>		Jackie Clements
<b>WORSHIP</b>		Gord Dunbar, Kerry Stover