



Kincardine United Church

2nd Sunday of Lent

February 28, 2021 10:30 a.m.

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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PRELUDE Siciliano from Concerto Op. 3, No. 11

Antonio Vivaldi

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

MUSICAL INTROIT Prelude in G Minor BWV 596

J. S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come into this sacred digital space to praise and to worship God.

**We come, but it's hard to lift our spirits when we feel so isolated,
when we feel our suffering within,
as well as feeling the struggles of our neighbours and friends.**

Come as we live-stream this service,
connected and comforted despite our distance from one another.

**We come, but it doesn't feel like a REAL connection at times,
because we want to share conversation face to face,
to shake one another's hands or to give a long-delayed hug.**

Come during this February thaw as we gather around the warmth of faith's flame.

**We come, but our faith has been tested and stretched during this pandemic,
for we are weary, worried and wallowing in sadness and in numbness.**

Come to be enveloped by God's healing embrace through prayer:

God of loving hope, it's hard to open our perception to your presence.

**We feel like we're in survival mode, keeping our heads down,
fearful to even venture out of the house despite the relaxing restrictions.**

In our hopelessness, we come for your word of encouragement.

In our weariness, we come for your spirit's strength and endurance.

In our sorrow, we come for your companionship through our losses.

In our isolation,

we come to be sewn together by your grace with faith's thread.

Guide us as you walk with us, O God, we pray. Amen.

***MORE VOICES 30** It's a Song of Praise to the Maker

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

SHARING TIME "Comforting Touch In Suffering"

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and what shall be.

Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:
the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and for ever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

VOICES UNITED 746 Part Three only Psalm 22:23-28

***VOICES UNITED** 614 In Suffering Love

BIBLE READING Mark 8:31-38 from the paraphrase *The Message*.

³⁰⁻³² Jesus warned them to keep it quiet, not to breathe a word of it to anyone. He then began explaining things to them: "It is necessary that the Son of Man proceed to an ordeal of suffering, be tried and found guilty by the elders, high priests, and religion scholars, be killed, and after three days rise up alive." He said this simply and clearly so they couldn't miss it. ³²⁻³³ But Peter grabbed him in protest. Turning and seeing his disciples wavering, wondering what to believe, Jesus confronted Peter. "Peter, get out of my way! Satan, get lost! You have no idea how God works."
³⁴⁻³⁷ Calling the crowd to join his disciples, he said, "Anyone who intends to come with me has to let me lead. You're not in the driver's seat; I am. Don't run from suffering; embrace it. Follow me and I'll show you how. Self-help is no help at all. Self-sacrifice is the way, my way, to saving yourself, your true self. What good would it do to get everything you want and lose you, the real you? What could you ever trade your soul for?" ³⁸ "If any of you are embarrassed over me and the way I'm leading you when you get around your fickle and unfocused friends, know that you'll be an even greater embarrassment to the Son of Man when he arrives in all the splendor of God, his Father, with an army of the holy angels."

DOXOLOGY Sing Your Praise to God Eternal #244 *Voices United* (verse 1 only)

**Sing your praise to God eternal, sing your praise to God the Son,
sing your praise to God the Spirit, living and forever One.**

God has made us, God has blessed us, God has called us to be true.

God rules over all creation, daily making all things new.

MEDITATION Righteous Zeal

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS**ANTHEM** *Amazing Grace* *Early American Tune Arr. Richard Proulx*

*Amazing grace! how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!
 I once was lost, but now am found, was blind, but now I see.
 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;
 how precious did that grace appear, the hour I first believed!
 Through many dangers, toils, and snares, I have already come;
 'tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 The Lord has promised good to me, his word my hope secures;
 he will my shield and portion be as long as life endures.*

MINUTE FOR MISSION**OFFERING INVITATION****PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*in unison*)

**We bring our donations of time, of talent and of treasure –
 not because we believe –**

but because we follow the risen Christ's Way of self-giving.

**Bless us and our gifts as signs of our faith alive for your mission,
 transforming the world each day as we give you thanks. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED 567** *Will You Come and Follow Me*

BENEDICTION**SONG OF COMMITMENT 298** *When You Walk from Here*

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,
 walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.**

POSTLUDE *Fugue in G Minor BWV 558*

J. S. Bach