

Kincardine United Church
2nd Sunday after Epiphany
January 15, 2023 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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YouTube: [KUC YouTube Channel](#) Facebook: [KUC Facebook Page](#)

PRELUDE Trio *A. Arnsdorff*

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Kincardine United Church takes seriously
the commitments made to First Nations communities
through the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report,
especially through the Calls to Action to churches like us.

**Therefore, we acknowledge, this day,
that we gather for worship
on the traditional territories of the Saugeen Ojibway,
and the other Indigenous peoples who preceded them –
the original nations of this land –
and we acknowledge, with respect,
their history, their spirituality, and their culture.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Pastorella

E.W. Marpurg

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

It seems ironic that this tiny flickering flame of the Christ Candle
is so hard to see in the light of day,
that the radiated heat is unfelt across the digital divide,
that the subtle aroma of the burning candle is impossible to smell through our screens.

**Yet we come, nevertheless,
perceiving Christ's living presence all around us,
feeling the expansive warmth of Christ's welcome in worship,
inhaling the heady perfume of love alive.**

Come, then, to be embraced by the rainbow spectrum of God's promise,
to be enfolded in the unconditional embrace of Christ's companionship,
to be empowered by the Spirit's passion for right relation.

We come in answer to God's call, joyful to serve and to witness.

In answer to that divine call, let us join our hearts with God's heart in prayer:

In this morning light, O God, wrap us with the inspiration of night's vision.

**Within our pandemic-changed world, O Christ,
free us to reach out – digitally or in person –
to one another as companions along the Way.**

**When we feel beaten down and discouraged, O Spirit,
open us to your whispers of possibility. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED #87** I Am the Light of the World

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

SHARING TIME The Invisible String by Patrice Karst

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*say together*)

**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

VOICES UNITED #764 Psalm 40:9-11 (Part 3 only with refrain)

Refrain (sung): You put a new song in my mouth, your name to glorify.

I have told the glad news of deliverance in the great congregation;
I did not restrain my lips, as you well know.

**I have not kept your goodness hidden in my heart,
but have spoken of your faithfulness and your saving help.**

I have not concealed your steadfast love,
nor your truth from the great congregation.

**Do not withhold from me your tender care, O God;
may your love and truth ever preserve me.**

Refrain (sung): **You put a new song in my mouth, your name to glorify.**

***VOICES UNITED #570** Jesus' Hands were Kind Hands

DOXOLOGY #321 Voices United (verse 4 only)

**Eternal, Triune God, let all the hosts above,
let all on earth below record and dwell upon your love.
When heaven and earth have fled before your glorious face,
may all the saints you love has made sing everlasting praise.**

PRAYER BEFORE MEDITATION

MEDITATION Puzzling It Out Together

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

ANTHEM Light of the World *Nancy Price and Don Besig*

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(in unison)*

**We offer into your mission, living Christ, these gifts rooted in our loving.
Sometimes we become weary in the giving, so bless with your joy.
Sometimes we are challenged by the enormity of the need, so bless us with your generosity.
Sometimes we wonder if they make a difference, so bless us with your vision.
In faith, we are inspired by your calls, so bless our gifts as you bless us in Jesus' name.
Amen.**

DECOVENANTING

Judy, you have been a beacon of wise stability and insightful leadership
during the sabbatical time of the past four months.

Thank you.

Thank you for the privilege of working in covenant with you all during the sabbatical time.

I have been enthused, challenged, enlivened and drained,
yet you have loved me throughout.

Now that the sabbatical time is complete,

we ask for God's continued blessings upon you.

We release you from your role of paid, accountable leadership among us.

**May the Spirit keep you enlivened, may the Christ keep challenging you
and may God's grace bless you with wholeness.**

A NEW CREED

Let us rise in body or spirit as we repeat a collective statement of faith:

WE ARE NOT ALONE, WE LIVE IN GOD'S WORLD.

WE BELIEVE IN GOD:

WHO HAS CREATED AND IS CREATING,

**WHO HAS COME IN JESUS, THE WORD MADE FLESH TO RECONCILE AND MAKE
NEW,**

WHO WORKS IN US AND OTHERS BY THE SPIRIT.

WE TRUST IN GOD.

WE ARE CALLED TO BE THE CHURCH:

TO CELEBRATE GOD'S PRESENCE,

TO LIVE WITH RESPECT IN CREATION,

TO LOVE AND SERVE OTHERS,

TO SEEK JUSTICE AND RESIST EVIL,

TO PROCLAIM JESUS, CRUCIFIED AND RISEN, OUR JUDGE AND OUR HOPE.

IN LIFE, IN DEATH, IN LIFE BEYOND DEATH, GOD IS WITH US.

WE ARE NOT ALONE.

THANKS BE TO GOD.

RECOVENANTING

Welcome back, Gord.

God's blessings on this place, my spiritual home.

May you bring us renewed insights and energy after your sabbatical.

**Your sabbatical offered us the joy of Judy's leadership and a diversity of worship
leadership.**

**WE SHARE GOD'S CARE AND CHALLENGE, OFFERING AND RECEIVING WELCOME,
BECOMING CHRIST TO ONE ANOTHER IN COMMUNITY.**

Thank you for your prayers during my sabbatical time.

Thank you for the gift of sabbatical time in which to deepen my spiritual growth, to find time to rest,
to enjoy first-hand research and to disengage from the busyness of church life.

I have been blessed by your sprinkling of the light of Christ each day while away.

You have given me the water of life, filled with good things and warmed by the fire of love.

Thank you for your prayers during your sabbatical time.

Thank you for the gift of sabbatical time:

our growing confidence in our collective ministry,

our deepening awareness of this congregation's vibrant mission,

our strengthened identity as disciples.

**WE CONTINUE TO ANSWER GOD'S CALL INTO OUR COVENANT RELATIONSHIP –
A RELATIONSHIP HERE BLESSED ONCE MORE.
THANKS AND PRAISE BE TO GOD!**

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

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune *Henry Purcell*