

Kincardine United Church

Palm/Passion Sunday

April 10, 2022 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 Prelude on the hymn "My Song Is Love Unknown" Paul Fey

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

As we gather for worship, we acknowledge that we are gathered
on the traditional territory of First Nations Peoples –
Peoples who have lived on this land and by these waters
for thousands of years.

**We gather as a non-Indigenous community of faith
on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibwe Nation,
giving gratitude for their stewardship through the ages.**

We are newcomers to this land and we have gained so much in coming.

Our gain, however, has come at a great cost to First Nations Peoples.

We acknowledge that we have gained much within racist systems of our creation,
systems which have benefitted those who are white, Christian and heterosexual.

Our acknowledgement

**is only the beginning of our journey toward reconciliation,
toward healing of all our relations
with those we have belittled in this culture.**

Our words must now be followed up with action.

**We pray the Holy Spirit breathes forgiveness, hope and love
into all our relations and sets us free from the evil of colonialism.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT

Prelude

J. C. Kittel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE *(based on Luke 19:1-10)*

Jesus noticed Zacchaeus, reviled tax collector and corrupt public official.

Jesus invited himself to dinner, transforming Zacchaeus in and for love.

“Then Jesus said to him,

**‘Today salvation has come to this house,
because he, too, is a son of Abraham.**

For the Son of Man came to seek out and to save the lost.’”

As we light this Christ Candle,

let us pledge to follow the Way of Jesus as people also transformed for love.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(be prepared to wave your palms)*

So come, just as the curious crowds came when Jesus entered Jerusalem.

Come to witness and to celebrate the hopes and dreams embodied in Jesus.

See? There he is riding on a colt draped in the cloaks of the disciples.

“Blessed is the king who comes in the name of the Lord!

Peace in heaven and glory in the highest heaven!”

Some of the religious officials were shocked at the crowd’s enthusiasm and shouts,

worried their bosses would have to move violently against this groundswell,

telling Jesus to shut up the disciples.

Jesus’ response was revealing:

“‘I tell you, if these were silent, the stones would shout out.’”

So let us join the disciples and the crowd as we sing our welcome.

***VOICES UNITED 123** *(while waving palms)* Hosanna, Loud Hosanna

BIBLE READING Luke 19:41-44 in the New Testament page 83.

⁴¹ As he came near and saw the city, he wept over it, ⁴² saying, “If you, even you, had only recognized on this day the things that make for peace! But now they are hidden from your eyes. ⁴³ Indeed, the days will come upon you, when your enemies will set up ramparts around you and surround you, and hem you in on every side. ⁴⁴ They will crush you to the ground, you and your children within you, and they will not leave within you one stone upon another; because you did not recognize the time of your visitation from God.”

VOICES UNITED 126 *(verse 1 only)* Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

PRAYER OF APPROACH

Let us join as one in prayer:

Loving God, open our minds and our hearts to the story of Jesus’ last days.

Let his passion sink deeply into our souls, strengthening us to understand.

In our hearing, encourage us to listen, to learn and to act in love,

co-creating – with you – a world infused with self-giving love. Amen.

BIBLE READING Luke 19:47-48 in the New Testament page 83.

⁴⁷ Every day he was teaching in the temple. The chief priests, the scribes, and the leaders of the people kept looking for a way to kill him; ⁴⁸ but they did not find anything they could do, for all the people were spellbound by what they heard.

VOICES UNITED 126 *(verse 2 only)* Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Luke 22:7-13 in the New Testament page 86.

⁷ Then came the day of Unleavened Bread, on which the Passover lamb had to be sacrificed. ⁸ So Jesus sent Peter and John, saying, "Go and prepare the Passover meal for us that we may eat it." ⁹ They asked him, "Where do you want us to make preparations for it?" ¹⁰ "Listen," he said to them, "when you have entered the city, a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him into the house he enters ¹¹ and say to the owner of the house, 'The teacher asks you, "Where is the guest room, where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?'" ¹² He will show you a large room upstairs, already furnished. Make preparations for us there." ¹³ So they went and found everything as he had told them; and they prepared the Passover meal.

VOICES UNITED 126 (*verse 3 only*) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

JESUS INVITES US TO TABLE

INVITATION

To the table he prepared in the Upper Room,
 Jesus welcomed Judas who would betray him with a kiss,
 Jesus welcomed Peter who would deny him three times,
 Jesus welcomed all his disciples who would abandon him out of fear.
 Jesus welcomed each one with no hesitation,
 welcoming us with the same expansive love.

We gather at this table, individuals yet one, to be fed by the living Christ.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God.

Let us give God our thanks and our praise.

It is right to give God our thanks and our praise.

We remember that the story of faithful covenant had many sides,
 many perspectives, many conflicting messages.

**Adam and Eve tasted of the fruit of the knowledge of good and evil,
 banished from the garden to wrestle with the greys of life.**

Yet Noah learned the rainbow promise carried within God's grace.

Moses, with Miriam, led oppressed slaves to become a people of faith.

Yet those same people grumbled and protested every step of the way.

David and Solomon helped create a mighty kingdom in God's name.

Yet the prophets decried as faithless the corruption of the powerful,
 the selfishness of the wealthy

and the neglect of those most on the margins.

John the Baptizer heralded the coming of one greater than he.

In response, Jesus modelled the embodiment of the Way of self-giving –
 the light of the world, the living water, the bread of life.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Just as Jesus gathered around him disciples – a community of believers –
 so, too, we take the time to lift those in our family of faith,

as well as those in the wider community and around the world.
Hear, O God, our silent prayers for healing, for hope, for transformation:
(*Silent Prayer*)

Let us continue our prayer using the words Jesus gave us to say:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (2)

**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.**

BIBLE READING Luke 22:24-28 in the New Testament page 87.

²⁴ A dispute also arose among them as to which one of them was to be regarded as the greatest. ²⁵ But he said to them, "The kings of the Gentiles lord it over them; and those in authority over them are called benefactors. ²⁶ But not so with you; rather the greatest among you must become like the youngest, and the leader like one who serves. ²⁷ For who is greater, the one who is at the table or the one who serves? Is it not the one at the table? But I am among you as one who serves.

²⁸ "You are those who have stood by me in my trials; ²⁹ and I confer on you, just as my Father has conferred on me, a kingdom, ³⁰ so that you may eat and drink at my table in my kingdom, and you will sit on thrones judging the twelve tribes of Israel.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND FRACTION

***VOICES UNITED 501** Break Now the Bread of Life

PRAYER FOR THE SPIRIT'S BLESSING

Let us pray for the Spirit's blessing upon what we say and do:

**Living Spirit, who guides our living and inspires our journey of faith,
bless the bread here and in many households connected electronically,
bless the wine or grape juice that has been prepared.
Transform us by our partaking as we commune in you. Amen.**

PARTAKING

If you are worshipping at home,

please take the bread and beverage you have prepared and partake.

If you are worshipping here in person,

please take the elements you have been given and partake.

As you partake, remember the Way of Jesus as our own path of becoming.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us join once more in prayer:

**Though some of us are separated by neighbourhoods and by miles,
though some of us are physically distant one from each other,
we thank you for your grace poured out into our cups,
for the life restored in the bread we have eaten,
for the unity in spirit and in truth through this sacrament.**

**We are one, as we share, grateful for love embodied.
Thanks be to you, O God. Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Luke 22:47-53 in the New Testament page 87.

⁴⁷ While he was still speaking, suddenly a crowd came, and the one called Judas, one of the twelve, was leading them. He approached Jesus to kiss him; ⁴⁸ but Jesus said to him, "Judas, is it with a kiss that you are betraying the Son of Man?" ⁴⁹ When those who were around him saw what was coming, they asked, "Lord, should we strike with the sword?" ⁵⁰ Then one of them struck the slave of the high priest and cut off his right ear. ⁵¹ But Jesus said, "No more of this!" And he touched his ear and healed him. ⁵² Then Jesus said to the chief priests, the officers of the temple police, and the elders who had come for him, "Have you come out with swords and clubs as if I were a bandit? ⁵³ When I was with you day after day in the temple, you did not lay hands on me. But this is your hour, and the power of darkness!"

VOICES UNITED 126 (verse 5 only) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Luke 22:54-62 in the New Testament page 87-88.

⁵⁴ Then they seized him and led him away, bringing him into the high priest's house. But Peter was following at a distance. ⁵⁵ When they had kindled a fire in the middle of the courtyard and sat down together, Peter sat among them. ⁵⁶ Then a servant-girl, seeing him in the firelight, stared at him and said, "This man also was with him." ⁵⁷ But he denied it, saying, "Woman, I do not know him." ⁵⁸ A little later someone else, on seeing him, said, "You also are one of them." But Peter said, "Man, I am not!" ⁵⁹ Then about an hour later still another kept insisting, "Surely this man also was with him; for he is a Galilean." ⁶⁰ But Peter said, "Man, I do not know what you are talking about!" At that moment, while he was still speaking, the cock crowed. ⁶¹ The Lord turned and looked at Peter. Then Peter remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said to him, "Before the cock crows today, you will deny me three times." ⁶² And he went out and wept bitterly.

VOICES UNITED 126 (verse 4 only) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

REFLECTION Palms to Passion as Hope?

CHOIR ANTHEM I Want Jesus to Follow Me Spiritual

BIBLE READING Psalm 31:21-22 in the Old Testament page 506.

²¹ Blessed be the LORD,
for he has wondrously shown his steadfast love to me
when I was beset as a city under siege.

²² I had said in my alarm,
"I am driven far from your sight."

But you heard my supplications
when I cried out to you for help.

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

DOXOLOGY Love Is the Touch #89 *More Voices* (verse 4 only)

**Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;**

**love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.**

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**Loving God, the world we have fashioned within your good Creation
is incomplete and flawed – yet ripe for renewal.
In Jesus, you show us the path that mends what is broken.
Bless these gifts we offer in Jesus' name, we pray,
using them to transform woundedness into healing. Amen.**

BIBLE READING Psalm 118:5-9 in the Old Testament page 565.

⁵ Out of my distress I called on the LORD;
the LORD answered me and set me in a broad place.

⁶ With the LORD on my side I do not fear.
What can mortals do to me?

⁷ The LORD is on my side to help me;
I shall look in triumph on those who hate me.

⁸ It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in mortals.

⁹ It is better to take refuge in the LORD
than to put confidence in princes.

***VOICES UNITED 135 (verse 1 only)** Beneath the Cross of Jesus

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT I Have Called You by Your Name
#161 *More Voices* (verse 4 only)

**I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.**

POSTLUDE Litanies Jehan Alain