

Kincardine United Church

4th Sunday of Easter

April 21, 2024 11:00 a.m.

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 Street, Kincardine, ON N2Z 2X5

Phone: 519-396-2391

Gord Dunbar: gord.kuc@bmts.com Gord's Phone: 519-386-6346

PRELUDE

Prelude in E Minor BWV 555 J. S. Bach

WELCOME

INFORMATION ABOUT INDIGENOUS ADVOCACY

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 traditional 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

INTROIT Dearest Jesus, We Are Here to Hear Thy Word

Marcel Dupré

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Welcome to this safe space to explore meaning and purpose in community.

We come to believe in it.

Let us resolve to explore alternative ways of living.

We come to grow as we follow the Way of Jesus.

In this worship service, may we add to the movement of self-giving love.

As we embrace this movement, may the Spirit equip us for turbulence.

United in the Spirit, let us converse with God in prayer:

In this season of Easter, risen Christ, we long for new life.

May we discover and nurture practices of spiritual resilience,

finding other travellers along the Way to strengthen us,

inspiring institutions to transform – including our own community of faith.

When it feels lonely and impossible, Creator God,

may we experience your encouraging presence as hope-filled intention.

Through our continuing journey of counter-cultural revolution,

may the Spirit enthuse us in joy. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 326** O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing

SHARING TIME Parkinson Society ...*Heather Galloway*

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 John 10:11-18 from *The Message*

¹¹⁻¹³ "I am the Good Shepherd. The Good Shepherd puts the sheep before himself, sacrifices himself if necessary. A hired man is not a real shepherd. The sheep mean nothing to him. He sees a wolf come and runs for it, leaving the sheep to be ravaged and scattered by the wolf. He's only in it for the money. The sheep don't matter to him.

¹⁴⁻¹⁸ "I am the Good Shepherd. I know my own sheep and my own sheep know me. In the same way, the Father knows me and I know the Father. I put the sheep before myself, sacrificing myself if necessary. You need to know that I have other sheep in addition to those in this pen. I need to gather and bring them, too. They'll also recognize my voice. Then it will be one flock, one Shepherd. This is why the Father loves me: because I freely lay down my life. And so I am free to take it up again. No one takes it from me. I lay it down of my own free will. I have the right to lay it down; I also have the right to take it up again. I received this authority personally from my Father."

***VOICES UNITED 278** In the Quiet Curve of Evening

BIBLE READING 1st John 3:16-24 from the New Testament

⁶We know love by this, that he laid down his life for us—and we ought to lay down our lives for the brothers and sisters. ¹⁷How does God’s love abide in anyone who has the world’s goods and sees a brother or sister in need and yet refuses help?

¹⁸Little children, let us love not in word or speech but in deed and truth. ¹⁹And by this we will know that we are from the truth and will reassure our hearts before him ²⁰whenever our hearts condemn us, for God is greater than our hearts, and he knows everything. ²¹Beloved, if our hearts do not condemn us, we have boldness before God, ²²and we receive from him whatever we ask, because we obey his commandments and do what pleases him.

²³And this is his commandment, that we should believe in the name of his Son Jesus Christ and love one another, just as he has commanded us. ²⁴All who obey his commandments abide in him, and he abides in them. And by this we know that he abides in us, by the Spirit that he has given us.

DOXOLOGY 104 MV (*sung twice*) “Know That God Is Good”

**Know that God is good, know that God is good,
know that God is good, God is good, God is good.**

PRAYER BEFORE REFLECTION

REFLECTION “Entangled”

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

ANTHEM Steal Away Traditional, arranged by David Hamilton

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We offer to you, O God, our gifts of self, of resource and of commitment.

May you bless us so that:

we can empathize with our neighbours through your love;

we will take up the ongoing challenge of making a positive difference;

we embrace Christ’s command to love one another in sharing.

**Transform us, we pray, as we strive to transform the world, in Jesus’ name.
Amen.**

***MORE VOICES 169** When Hands Reach Out Beyond Divides

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT (*sung twice*) “Go Now in Peace” # 964 *Voices United*

Go now in peace, go now in peace.

May the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.

POSTLUDE Fugue in E Minor BWV 555 J. S. Bach