



**Kincardine United Church  
Advent 1, Communion  
December 2, 2018 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.

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

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**PRELUDE**      Carols

**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

### SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

## GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT      Lo How a Rose

*Brahms*

### ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Our Advent journey has begun.

We prepare for the celebration of Christ's birth.

**We come to embrace the good news of the Light of the World.**

It is within the hidden mysteries of life we discover vulnerability.

Within the dancing shadows cast by a flickering candle flame

we discover the promise of hope and of new possibilities.

**We come to be transformed despite and because of our weakness.**

We light a candle reminding us of the way of hope.

*(the first Advent candle is lit)*

**(we sing)      A candle is burning, a flame warm and bright,  
 a candle of hope in December's dark night.  
 While angels sing blessings from heaven's starry sky,  
 our hearts we prepare now for Jesus is nigh.**

Let us join as one community of faith in prayer:

**We come to worship with the image of flickering light seared in our minds.**

**It dances as your Spirit dances within our hearts, gracious God,**

**drumming the rhythm of hope which enlivens us all.**

**As you bless us with the Way of Jesus,**

**may we invite others to Christ's dance of transformation. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 1      O Come, O Come, Emmanuel**

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Like the hymn we just sang,

sometimes we feel like we are held for ransom by our own decisions,  
 by our own circumstances in life.

Sometimes we just don't know what to do nor whom to seek for help.

Sometimes we fear trusting you, O God,

afraid that opening our souls to you will result in punishment.

Yet, in this season of waiting, you wait for us,  
 your arms reaching out with loving invitation.  
 In hopeful response, we open ourselves to your healing embrace.  
*(Silent Prayer)*

## ASSURANCE OF GRACE

**SHARING TIME** Why Wait?

**THE LORD'S PRAYER** (we sing)

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** Jeremiah 33:14-16 in the Old Testament page 738

**\*VOICES UNITED** 299 Teach Me, God, To Wonder

**BIBLE READING** Luke 21:25-36 in the New Testament page 85

**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** "Future Shock or Transformative Grace?"

**ANTHEM** Lo How a Rose

*Traditonal, arr. D. Hamilton*

## GOD INVITES US TO TABLE

**INVITATION**

**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 praise.

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

We give God our thanks and our praise for life's abundant possibilities!

Within God's good Creation we discover patience in waiting:

waiting for the miraculous growth of new life,  
 waiting as we tend each precious seed and shoot,  
 waiting for rain and for sun, for seasons and for fallow,  
 waiting for the harvest yet to be.

**In the waiting we continue to become –**

**through mistakes, through learning, through love, through wisdom.**

In the stories of people of faith, we grow as we are nurtured:

in Moses' life of persecution, changed into privilege,  
 transformed by liberation;  
 in Miriam's dance of joy and of desperation when facing the unknown;  
 in Ruth's loving devotion to her mother-in-law while forsaking her own family;  
 in Elisha's fearful trembling as he followed in Elijah's legendary footsteps;  
 in Daniel's resolute trust in God despite deadly political intrigue;  
 in Mary's simply profound acceptance of responsibility through motherhood.

**In the stories of our becoming that we write through our living,**

**we discover God's own story woven into our own.**

Despite the lessons and the wisdom shared, we still chose unhealthy ways.

In response, God sent Jesus as a vulnerable child, as a cultural counterpoint:

instead of conflict, he fostered loving one another,  
 instead of greed, he proclaimed giving of one's self,  
 instead of power and privilege, he modelled humility and servanthood.

**We did not listen; we could not hear; we chose to ignore;  
 we turned away.**

## WORDS OF INSTITUTION

### COMMUNITY PRAYERS

#### PRAYER FOR SPIRIT'S BLESSING

In our waiting to share the feast laid before us, we pray:

**To this table, Christ's table, we bring the stories of our lives.**

**As we partake of this bread and this grape juice, Holy Spirit,  
 may you bless what we do**

**as a sign and promise of hope and of healing,  
 uniting us as one in loving companionship. Amen.**

#### DISTRIBUTION

*Communion will be served at the front of the church.*

*The ushers will direct you forward using the centre aisle to receive the bread,  
 to receive the small glass of grape juice, to prayerfully partake of each,  
 and return to your seat using the side aisles.*

***Gluten-free crackers are available separately from the bread.***

*Please let an usher know if you wish to be served in your seat.*

*An appropriate response when receiving the bread or grape juice is "Amen."*

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION**

Let us respond in thanksgiving through prayer:

**For the sustenance we have shared at your table, living Christ,  
we give you thanks that we may become evermore your disciples.  
Continue to feed us with your understanding and your wisdom,  
walking with us each step of our journey of deepening faith,  
enabling us to be agents of transformation in the world. Amen.**

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND****A “YAHOO!” MOMENT****OFFERING INVITATION****OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)**

**Just as a single, small candle flame marks the beginning of Advent,  
what we offer to you, O God,  
seems small amidst the immensity of need.**

**As we ask for your blessing of transformation for these offerings,  
we trust that what we give will light a blaze of hope  
to help heal the world.**

**Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 62** Once in Royal David’s City

**\*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** Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland

*J.S. Bach*



<b>AV MINISTRY TEAM</b> 🗣️	Stu Mowry, Dave Leaning, Jim Zarubick
<b>COMMUNION SERVERS</b> ♦	Cathy & Jim Laliberte, Linda & Keith Battler
<b>COUNTERS</b> 💰	Angela & Don Hazlewood
<b>DECEMBER HOUSE LEADER</b> 🏠	Sheila Bauer
<b>MUSIC</b> 🎵	David Hamilton, KUC Choir
<b>NURSERY ATTENDANT</b> ♦	Angela Hazlewood
<b>SCRIPTURE READER</b> 📖	Marion Boyd
<b>SLIDE PRESENTATION</b> ♦	Sarah MacKenzie
<b>SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER</b> ♦	Dianne Clubb
<b>WORSHIP</b> ✝️	Gord Dunbar, Kerry Stover