



Kincardine United Church  
1<sup>st</sup> Sunday after Christmas

December 27, 2020 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** Sicili9ana (Op. 62, No. 6)

*George Goltermann*

**WELCOME**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

*(Slightly modified from the one used at Saugeen Wesley United Church)*

For thousands of years,

First Nations people have lived on this land and by these waters;  
this relationship is at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

**We are gathered as a non-Indigenous community of faith  
on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation,  
and acknowledge their stewardship through the ages.**

We seek to live together in respect, friendship and peace.

**Jesus calls us into the world to love one another as we are loved by God.**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

## GOD GATHERS US

**MUSICAL INTROIT** Liebster Jesu, wir, sind Hier

*Johann Gottfried Walther*

### **CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

Come to worship the vulnerable infant Jesus,  
to enter into the ordinary reality of daily living that follows his birth.

**We are here – Zoom-connected yet oddly empty –  
feeling like there is something missing.**

**In the aftermath of starry night twinkles, impressive angel choruses  
and the awe-filled celebration of the lowly shepherds,  
we are seeking more wonder, more brilliance, more spectacle.**

Come to worship the one whose helplessness invites us to participate actively,  
to discover our creative purpose even in the ordinariness of our lives.

**We come to be assured, to be inspired, to be equipped, to be sent out.**

Come to encounter God through the interrelation of prayer:

**Mother God, who labours to birth our walk in faith,  
who nurses us with love's colostrum,  
who nurtures us for justice,  
who teaches us self-giving,  
who assures us of our worthiness,  
who opens us to the gift of creative compassion  
and who strengthens us for your calling into your kin-dom,  
wean us to be fed by the Spirit's challenges,  
show us how to walk the Way of the risen Christ,  
clothe us in your loving kindness and surprising generosity.  
In our worship, may we be reborn by your grace. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 96 Will You Come and See the Light**

### **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*Silent Prayer*)

**SHARING TIME** "Good Job"

### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

(based on the work of Neil Douglas-Klotz in *Prayers of the Cosmos*)

**O Divine Womb,  
birthing forth the river of blessing which runs through all,  
soften the ground of our being,  
and hallow in us a space for the planting of thy presence.**

**In our depths, sow thy seed with its greening power  
that we might be midwives to thy Reign.**

**Then, let each of our actions bear fruit in accordance with thy desire.**

**Impart to us the wisdom to bring forth the gifts of the earth  
and share them daily according to the needs of each being,  
and restore what has been usurped by injustice to its rightful owners,**

as we restore to others what is not our own.  
 Do not let us be diverted from our purpose,  
 but make us sensitive to the moment at hand.  
 For from thy fertile soil is born the creativity,  
 the life-energy, and the dance, from birthing to birthing. Amen.

### **GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD**

**BIBLE READING** Isaiah 61:10-62:3 in the Old Testament page 692.

**\*VOICES UNITED** 64 O Little Town of Bethlehem

**BIBLE READING** Galatians 4:4-7 from the paraphrase *The Message*.

**DOXOLOGY** NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD #236 VU (verse 3 only)  
 All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,  
 the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,  
 the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.

**MEDITATION** In the Family Way

### **GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**ANTHEM** Come, Rejoice with Exceeding Great Joy

*Paul Williams & David Lance*

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*in unison*)

Loving God, in this time of winter fallow, we offer these seeds of new life.  
 May you bless us in our planting for life yet to spring forth.  
 May you nourish these seeds to germinate into beauty and through wonder,  
 flourishing in the rich soil of the generous Way of Jesus. Amen.

**\*VOICES UNITED** 44 It Came upon the Midnight Clear

**BENEDICTION**

**SONG OF COMMITMENT** 37 "Gloria"

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!  
 Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

**POSTLUDE** The Emperor's Fanfare

*Antonio Soler arr. E. Power Biggs*