

Kincardine United Church
7th Sunday after Epiphany
February 20, 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.

Kincardine United Church, 721 Princes St. Kincardine ON, N2Z 0A3

Office Email: kuchurch@bmts.com Phone: 519-396-2391

Gord Dunbar: gord.kuc@bmts.com Donation Steward: kucdonate@bmts.com

Web site: www.kincardineunitedchurch.org

PRELUDE Four Preludes, Number 3 J.C. Kittel

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge the Traditional Territory of the Anishinabek Nation:

The People of the Three Fires

known as Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomie Nations.

We further give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen,
and the Chippewas of Nawash – now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation –
as the traditional keepers of this land.

**Our thanks compel us to live fully into our journey of reconciliation –
a seven-generation process of intentional listening and learning.**

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

**We, thus, commit ourselves to follow Jesus' calling us into the world,
loving one another as we are loved by God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Four Preludes, Number 2 J.C. Kittel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come on into this worship space that Zooms us together.

**Ouch! for that terrible play on words, but we're glad to be here –
whether in our bunny slippers with a cup of tea,
whether unshaven and bleary-eyed,
whether we're only really joining for the congregational meeting later,**

or whether we didn't have anything better to do.

Well, that was a less than ringing endorsement....

Nevertheless, let us spend some time pondering God's direction for our living.

On this Holy Humour Sunday,

we've come to laugh, to giggle and to groan at terrible puns.

We need to remember the joyful bubbling of the Spirit –

even when we are beset by worries, by concerns and by isolation.

Then let us find that bubbling delight as we join in prayer:

Surprising Spirit, distill our weary spirits with your flame of faith,

pouring us out as gifts of joy to encourage one another.

Risen Christ, transform our hearts through our shared humanity,

grinning at our toddling toward the fullness of whom we are becoming.

Loving God, enfold us with your arms of grace,

imbuing us with smirks of understanding for each person's foibles,

giggling at our OWN fumbling when trying to love each soul. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 260** God Who Gives to Life It's Goodness

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

SHARING TIME "Your Special Gift" by Max Lucado

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 Psalm 37:1-11, 39-40 in the Old Testament page 510-511.

¹Do not fret because of the wicked;

do not be envious of wrongdoers,

²for they will soon fade like the grass,

and wither like the green herb.

³Trust in the LORD, and do good;

so you will live in the land, and enjoy security.

⁴Take delight in the LORD,

and he will give you the desires of your heart.

⁵Commit your way to the LORD;

trust in him, and he will act.

⁶He will make your vindication shine like the light,

and the justice of your cause like the noonday.

- ⁷ Be still before the LORD, and wait patiently for him;
do not fret over those who prosper in their way,
over those who carry out evil devices.
- ⁸ Refrain from anger, and forsake wrath.
Do not fret—it leads only to evil.
- ⁹ For the wicked shall be cut off,
but those who wait for the LORD shall inherit the land.
- ¹⁰ Yet a little while, and the wicked will be no more;
though you look diligently for their place, they will not be there.
- ¹¹ But the meek shall inherit the land,
- ³⁹ The salvation of the righteous is from the LORD;
he is their refuge in the time of trouble.
- ⁴⁰ The LORD helps them and rescues them;
he rescues them from the wicked, and saves them,
because they take refuge in him.

***VOICES UNITED 806** O God, Our Help in Ages Past

1. **O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**
2. **With masks and distance, we observe the safety protocols.
Through science we've become aware of spreading aerosols.**
3. **Our isolation set us up for loneliness apart.
We yearn for what we once enjoyed – to gather heart to heart.**
4. **To laugh or cry in bleak despair are paths that we might take,
but humour is our safety valve – God-given when we ache.**
5. **The sting of polarization is softened with a joke;
in laughter we can build a bridge – the law of love evoke.**
6. **O God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.**

BIBLE READING Luke 6:27-38 in the New Testament page 64-65.

²⁷ “But I say to you that listen, Love your enemies, do good to those who hate you, ²⁸ bless those who curse you, pray for those who abuse you. ²⁹ If anyone strikes you on the cheek, offer the other also; and from anyone who takes away your coat do not withhold even your shirt. ³⁰ Give to everyone who begs from you; and if anyone takes away your goods, do not ask for them again. ³¹ Do to others as you would have them do to you.

³² “If you love those who love you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners love those who love them. ³³ If you do good to those who do good to you, what credit is that to you? For even sinners do the same. ³⁴ If you lend to those from whom you hope to receive, what credit is that to you? Even sinners lend to sinners, to receive as much again. ³⁵ But love your enemies, do good, and lend, expecting nothing in return.^[a] Your reward will be great, and you will be children of the Most High; for he is kind to the ungrateful and the wicked. ³⁶ Be merciful, just as your Father is merciful.

DOXOLOGY Bring Many Names #268 *Voices United* (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 Radical Daring

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

CHOIR ANTHEM River in Judea Words: Linda Marcus.
Music: Jack Feldman. Arranged by John Leavitt

Often times I dream of music, of the river that freely flows.
And it sings a song sweeter than honey, one ev'ry body knows.
Late at night I hear it singing, then again when I wake a dawn.
And it fills me up with hope and good will, the will to go on, go on.
There is a river in Judea, that I heard of long ago.
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.
I believe it keeps on travelin', but it rests on the Sabbath day.
And the time when it pauses in stillness, I almost hear it pray.
When I'm weary and down hearted, how I long for the song it sings,
for the clam within it's gentle blue, the peace that it brings, it brings.
There is a river in Judea, that I heard of long ago.
And it's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.
May the time be not too distant, when we meet by the river,
meet by the shore.

'Till then dream of that wonderful day, as we sing once more, once more:
There is a river in Judea, Halelu, that I heard of long ago. Halelu.
It's a singing, ringing river that my soul cries out to know.
to the river in Judea, Hallelujah!

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

Loving God, you invite us to be joyful givers.

Bless our offerings of time, of talent and of treasure:

**that the oppressed may dance a jig of liberation,
that the marginalized may rediscover delight in community,
that the lost may laugh as they encounter possibility,
that enemies may find understanding through dialogue.**

**Then, laughing Spirit, may we chuckle at your wise whispers –
knowing how WE have been changed and made whole –
all because we joyfully gave in Christ's name. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED 506** Take My Life and Let It Be

1. Take my life, and let it be consecrated all for thee;
take my moments and my days; let them flow in ceaseless praise.
2. Take my giggles, snorts, guffaws, moving me to high applause;
take my laughing, daring joy that division you destroy.
3. Take my anger, ire and hate in your heart to quick abate;
take my soul and let it rise – joyful loving to comprise
4. Take your irony, show us how that our chuckling is healing now;
take your patience then to teach humour heals divisive speech.
5. Take my love: and I will pour at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself, and I will be ever, only, all for thee.

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT *Gloria # 37 Voices United*

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

POSTLUDE

Fughetta in c minor

J. Krieger