

Kincardine United Church

2nd Sunday of Lent

February 25th, 2024 11:00 a.m.

Bold print in the bulletin invites you to say the words.

*invites you to stand as you are able.

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 Dearest Jesus, We Are Here to Hear Thy Word BWV 634 J. S. Bach

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

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! Welcome to this space where kinship is encouraged as God's gift.

**We long for meaning and purpose in community,
a place where we discover siblings we didn't even know –
our relations shared by the gift of grace-filled faith.**

Come and receive the promise of God's loving nurture,
revealed in the life, death and resurrection of Jesus the Christ.

**We come to open our hearts and our wills,
accepting the assurance of being made new in Love.**

Come, let us commune with the One who is Love through prayer:

Remind us, Creator God, that we belong to each other as kin.

Instill within us, Living Spirit, the sacredness of every person.

Teach us, Risen Christ, that you nurture justice within bonds of kinship.

Encourage us to be transformed by your Love through our living. Amen.

***MORE VOICES 1** Let Us Build a House

SHARING TIME Reach for the Moon, Little Lion

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and what shall be.

Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

now and for ever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Romans 4:13-15 from *The Message*

¹³⁻¹⁵ That famous promise God gave Abraham—that he and his children would possess the earth—was not given because of something Abraham did or would do. It was based on God's decision to put everything together for him, which Abraham then entered when he believed. If those who get what God gives them only get it by doing everything they are told to do and filling out all the right forms properly signed, that eliminates personal trust completely and turns the promise into an ironclad *contract!* That's not a holy promise; that's a business deal. A contract drawn up by a hard-nosed lawyer and with plenty of fine print only makes sure that you will never be able to collect. But if there is no contract in the first place, simply a *promise*—and God's promise at that—you can't break it.

* **VOICES UNITED 634** To Abraham and Sarah

BIBLE READING Romans 4:16-17a from *The Message*

¹⁶ This is why the fulfillment of God's promise depends entirely on trusting God and his way, and then simply embracing him and what he does. God's promise arrives as pure gift. That's the only way everyone can be sure to get in on it, those who keep the religious traditions *and* those who have never heard of them. For Abraham is father of us all. He is not our racial father—that's reading the story backward. He is our *faith* father. ^{17a} We call Abraham "father" not because he got God's attention by living like a saint, but because God made something out of Abraham when he was a nobody.

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 "Love ISN'T a Battlefield"

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

ANTHEM Go Out and Serve Him

Words by Nancy Price and Don Besig, Music by Don Besig

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We serve as we give of ourselves and of our resources, O God.

Whether we donate to the mission and ministry of this community of faith,

or whether we give to strengthen our wider community,

bles what we donate as a sign of your grace.

We ask it all in the name of the one who gave fully of himself. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 560** O Master, Let Me Walk with Thee

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT "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

The Prince of Denmark's March

Jeremiah Clarke