

Kincardine United Church
Fourth Sunday After Epiphany
February 2nd, 2025 11:00 a.m.

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

Kincardine United Church

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PRELUDE Jesus, Our Redeemer

D. Buxtehude

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Jesus calls us into the world to love one another as we are loved by God.
As we came to this land,

First Nations peoples welcomed us, sustained us and taught us.

We did not hear them when they shared their vision.

**In our zeal to tell them the good news of Jesus Christ,
we were closed to the value of their spirituality.**

We confused Western ways and culture

with the depth, breadth, length and height of the gospel of Christ.

We imposed our civilization as a condition of accepting the gospel.

As a result, the image of the Creator in us is twisted, blurred,
and we are not what we are meant by God to be.

**In our journey toward reconciliation, we acknowledge, this day,
that we gather for worship**

on the traditional territories of the Saugeen Ojibway,

**as well as the other indigenous peoples who preceded them –
the original nations of this land – and we acknowledge, with**

respect, their history, their spirituality, and their culture.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

May the peace of Christ be with you all
And also with you

GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT Take My Life and Let It Be

David Hamilton

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Beloved, let us love one another,
because love is from God.

God's love was revealed among us in this way,
Jesus Christ came into the world.

Since God loved us so much,
we are called to love one another.

Come, let us worship.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN MV #1 Let Us Build a House

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

In Christ, God says to us,

“Arise, shine, for your light is come.”

In Christ, God says to us,

“Love one another as I have loved you.”

In Christ, God says to us,

“Your sins are forgiven you.”

Thanks be to God for love and hope!

SHARING TIME Construction Workers

THE LORD'S PRAYER (sung) VU #960

**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.**

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**God of Epiphany,
 we long to hear your holy Word in fresh ways.
 Open our ears to the call of your voice.
 Open our eyes to the dawning of a new day.
 Fill us with anticipation for your future.**

OLD TESTAMENT READING Jeremiah 1:4–10

Jeremiah's Call and Commission

⁴ Now the word of the LORD came to me saying, ⁵ “Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations.” ⁶ Then I said, “Ah, Lord GOD! Truly I do not know how to speak, for I am only a boy.” ⁷ But the LORD said to me, “Do not say, ‘I am only a boy,’ for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you. ⁸ Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the LORD.” ⁹ Then the LORD put out his hand and touched my mouth, and the LORD said to me, “Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰ See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.”

EPISTLE READING 1 Corinthians 13:1–13 (The Message)

The Way of Love

13 If I speak with human eloquence and angelic ecstasy but don't love, I'm nothing but the creaking of a rusty gate.

² If I speak God's Word with power, revealing all his mysteries and making everything plain as day, and if I have faith that says to a mountain, "Jump," and it jumps, but I don't love, I'm nothing.

³⁻⁷ If I give everything I own to the poor and even go to the stake to be burned as a martyr, but I don't love, I've gotten nowhere. So, no matter what I say, what I believe, and what I do, I'm bankrupt without love.

Love never gives up.

Love cares more for others than for self.

Love doesn't want what it doesn't have.

Love doesn't strut,

Doesn't have a swelled head,

Doesn't force itself on others,

Isn't always "me first,"

Doesn't fly off the handle,

Doesn't keep score of the sins of others,

Doesn't revel when others grovel,

Takes pleasure in the flowering of truth,

Puts up with anything,

Trusts God always,

Always looks for the best,

Never looks back,

But keeps going to the end.

⁸⁻¹⁰ Love never dies. Inspired speech will be over some day; praying in tongues will end; understanding will reach its limit. We know only a portion of the truth, and what we say about God is always incomplete. But when the Complete arrives, our incompletes will be canceled.

¹¹ When I was an infant at my mother's breast, I gurgled and cooed like any infant. When I grew up, I left those infant ways for good.

¹² We don't yet see things clearly. We're squinting in a fog, peering through a mist. But it won't be long before the weather clears and the sun shines bright! We'll see it all then, see it all as clearly as God sees us, knowing him directly just as he knows us!

¹³ But for right now, until that completeness, we have three things to do to lead us toward that consummation: Trust steadily in God, hope unswervingly, love extravagantly. And the best of the three is love.

***HYMN VU #574** "Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love"

GOSPEL READING: Luke 4:21–30 (The Message)

Then he started in, "You've just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place."

²² All who were there, watching and listening, were surprised at how well he spoke. But they also said, "Isn't this Joseph's son, the one we've known since he was just a kid?"

²³⁻²⁷ He answered, "I suppose you're going to quote the proverb, 'Doctor, go heal yourself. Do here in your hometown what we heard you did in Capernaum.' Well, let me tell you something: No prophet is ever welcomed in his hometown. Isn't it a fact that there were many widows in Israel at the time of Elijah during that three and a half years of drought when famine devastated the land, but the only widow to whom Elijah was sent was in Sarepta in Sidon? And there were many lepers in Israel at the time of the prophet Elisha but the only one cleansed was Naaman the Syrian."

²⁸⁻³⁰ That set everyone in the meeting place seething with anger. They threw him out, banishing him from the village, then took him to a mountain cliff at the edge of the village to throw him to his doom, but he gave them the slip and was on his way.

DOXOLOGY #321 (*verse 4*) "*Maker in Whom We Live*"

Eternal Triune God, let all the hosts above,

let all on earth below, record and dwell upon your love.

When heaven and earth have fled before your glorious face,

may all the saints your love has made sing everlasting praise.

REFLECTION “Press 1 For ...”

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

ANTHEM Glory To God

From Peru

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Receive our gifts, O God. May they be used to show forth to the world the greatness of your love. We ask this in the name of Jesus the Christ, your perfect gift and our Saviour. Amen

***CLOSING HYMN VU # 675** “Will Your Anchor Hold”

***COMMISSIONING** David Sparks, Gathering A/C/E 2024-25 pg 53

God who accepts us

will empower us to unite in our work and witness.

God who loves us

will inspire us to live in unity.

God who knows us

will encourage us and bring us peace so that we may all be one as we follow the Way of Jesus. Thanks be to God.

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT VU #37** “Gloria”

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE A Meditation On Joy

David Hamilton