

Kincardine United Church

Baptism of Jesus Sunday

January 14th, 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

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PRELUDE

He Once Came in Blessing

J.S. Bach

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Before we arrived as settlers,

there were First Nations here already for thousands of years –
peoples with a tradition of stewardship with the land.

They welcomed, sustained and taught us.

Our prayer is that, in love, we find ways to share the land,
celebrating all cultures with those who call this land home.

**In our reconciliation journey, we acknowledge that this community –
where we work and worship –**

is situated on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibwe.

We humbly respect their culture, traditions and stewardship of the land.

**May we live in friendship, peace, and a spirit of reconciliation
with all our First Nations neighbours.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT Christ, My Life

F.W. Marpurg

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Come on this Baptism of Jesus Sunday to dive deeper into baptism's purpose.

But most of us were just infants when we were baptised.

Why can't we just settle into our comfortable pews and enjoy our worship rituals?

Because the living Christ lives in each of us individually,

but also lives within us as the collective Body of Christ.

Let us, then, embrace who we are and whose we are as followers of the Way of Jesus.

Can't we just sing a hymn or something?

Okay, but as we sing this hymn, let's consider it a prayer with God,

paying attention especially to the fourth and the fifth verses.

***VOICES UNITED 100** When Jesus Comes to Be Baptised

SHARING TIME Bath Time

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Acts 19:1-7 in the New Testament

While Apollos was in Corinth, Paul passed through the interior regions and came to Ephesus, where he found some disciples. ²He said to them, "Did you receive the Holy Spirit when you became believers?" They replied, "No, we have not even heard that there is a Holy Spirit." ³Then he said, "Into what, then, were you baptized?" They answered, "Into John's baptism." ⁴Paul said, "John baptized with the baptism of repentance, telling the people to believe in the one who was to come after him, that is, in Jesus." ⁵On hearing this, they were baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus. ⁶When Paul had laid his hands on them, the Holy Spirit came upon them, and they spoke in tongues and prophesied, ⁷altogether there were about twelve of them.

***KNOWN UNKNOWNNS 21** (*Tune: #333 Voices United*) God and Parent of All People

- 1. God and parent of all people, maker of both heaven and earth,
praise and gratitude we offer for the world you brought to birth.
Nature in its finest clothing, science in its riches find
witness your surpassing goodness, meant to nourish humankind.**
- 2. Jesus Christ, eternal Saviour, once a child on Mary's breast,
born to save the saint and sinner, destined to reveal God's best,
you found praise in children's voices, you blessed babies by your touch;
you declare for every infant how God loves each one so much.**
- 3. Holy Spirit, sent among us, binding earth to heaven above,
you inspire that selfless beauty seen where people share their love.
For the fruits of human passion in the womb, the world, the heart,
we express, as Christ's own family, gratitude in every part.**

BIBLE READING Mark 1:4-11 in the New Testament

⁴ so John the baptizer appeared in the wilderness, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins. ⁵ And the whole Judean region and all the people of Jerusalem were going out to him and were baptized by him in the River Jordan, confessing their sins. ⁶ Now John was clothed with camel's hair, with a leather belt around his waist, and he ate locusts and wild honey. ⁷ He proclaimed, "The one who is more powerful than I is coming after me; I am not worthy to stoop down and untie the strap of his sandals. ⁸ I have baptized you with water, but he will baptize you with the Holy Spirit."

⁹ In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. ¹⁰ And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove upon him. ¹¹ And a voice came from the heavens, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

DOXOLOGY 321 (*verse 4 only*) "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.**

PRAYER BEFORE REFLECTION

REFLECTION "Soaking It In"

ANTHEM A Covenant Prayer Allen Pote

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

INTRODUCTION TO RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL FAITH

God blesses all of us.

We are blessed and that is so amazing!

God blesses the most unlikely people.

We are blessed even when we're not at our best.

God blesses those we like and those we do not.

We are blessed in our daring to love *all* people.

In baptism, we are blessed.

By water and the Spirit,

we are blessed as God's own people in community.

RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL FAITH

Remembering the blessing of baptism,

we are reminded that we are not alone.

We belong as part of a greater whole, enlivened by Christ within.

In our living, the risen Christ reminds us how and to where we are called.

We open ourselves this morning to God,

renewing our commitment to ever becoming followers of the Way of Jesus.

*You are invited to come forward to the baptismal font using the centre aisle.
Remember that you are God's beloved as a cross is traced on your forehead or your hand.*

Return to your seat using the side aisles.

Please feel free to join in the following chant as others come to the font:

MORE VOICES 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am
**Take, O take me as I am; summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father-Mother, who is in the heavens,
may your name be made holy, may your dominion come,
may your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us today the bread we need;
and forgive us our debts, as we have forgiven our debtors;
and do not put us to the test, but rescue us from evil.
For yours is the dominion, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Our baptisms provide a sign and an act that we become yours, O God.
Take what we offer this morning, blessing what we give as yours, too,
for you call us to serve others with Christ's love and compassion.
May you continue to transform us for your mission love and justice in the world,
by the power of the Spirit. Amen.**

***MORE VOICES 163** River Running in You and Me

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT *Gloria # 37 Voices United*
Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE As the Light of the Sun A.P.F. Boely