

Kincardine United Church
Baptism of Jesus
January 9th, 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.

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PRELUDE Jesus, Our Redeemer *D. Buxtehude*

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land.
Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and of their spirituality.

We begin our worship this morning

by acknowledging the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibwe.

We are all Treaty people, parties to Crown Treaty 45 ½ in 1836.

**Keep us mindful of the covenants that have been made – and broken –
with First Nations peoples.**

**May we grow into living with respect on this land,
walking into reconciliation through peace and friendship,
while honouring all who live, work and worship on it.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Jesus, Our Redeemer BWV 626 *J. S. Bach*

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come on in because the water's fine!

Are you kidding? It's January and much too cold for a swim.

Actually, what I mean is to come on in and enjoy the waters of baptism.

But most of us have already been baptised. Isn't your invitation redundant?

Once baptised, always baptised, that's true,

but our baptism is not a one-and-done kind of commitment.

Okay, so you're inviting us to consider our baptism as a *beginning*?

Yup. A beginning that extends for a lifetime of growth and becoming.

That seems kind of scary – yet exhilarating at the same time.

Then let us gather as one in prayer to seek God's guidance:

We come in trust, O God, seeking union in your Spirit.

Fill us each and all, moulding us as a people of faith.

Daily may you fall afresh upon our hearts, filling our lives with love. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 376 Spirit of the Living God**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

MASH-UP OF BIBLE READINGS AND MORE VOICES #90 “Don't Be Afraid”
Luke 3:15-17, 21-22 and Acts 8:14-17 in the New Testament on pages 60 & 126.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger, my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger and I have promised, promised to be always near.

¹⁵ As the people were filled with expectation, and all were questioning in their hearts concerning John, whether he might be the Messiah, ¹⁶ John answered all of them by saying, “I baptize you with water; but one who is more powerful than I is coming; I am not worthy to untie the thong of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ His winnowing fork is in his hand, to clear his threshing floor and to gather the wheat into his granary; but the chaff he will burn with unquenchable fire.”

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger, my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger and I have promised, promised to be always near.

²¹ Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, ²² and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, “You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.”

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger, my love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid.

My love is stronger and I have promised, promised to be always near.

¹⁴ Now when the apostles at Jerusalem heard that Samaria had accepted the word of God, they sent Peter and John to them. ¹⁵ The two went down and prayed for them that they might receive the Holy Spirit ¹⁶ (for as yet the Spirit had not come upon any of them; they had only been baptized in the name of the Lord Jesus). ¹⁷ Then Peter and John laid their hands on them, and they received the Holy Spirit.

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 Burning It Up

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

CHOIR ANTHEM A Covenant Prayer

Adapted from John Wesley's Covenant Service 1780 by Allen Pote

*Lord, make me what you will, I put myself into your hands.
Put me to doing, put me to suffering,
let me be employed for you, or laid aside for you,
Lord, make me what you will, I will no longer be my own.
Let me be full, let me be empty, let me have all things, let me have nothing,
Lord, I freely and with a willing heart,
give it all to you, to your pleasure and disposal, Lord.
Make me what you will.*

PRESENTATION ...Rod Coates

On behalf of the congregation of Kincardine United Church,
I present John and Nancy Brash
for membership in Kincardine United Church through certificate of transfer.

INTRODUCTION

(The prospective new members are invited to say why they wanted to become members of Kincardine United Church and to say a little about themselves.)

PROFESSION OF FAITH

Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ, do you promise to resist evil,
turning away from sin and toward God, to live in love and justice?

I DO, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

Do you believe in God, Source of Love,
in Jesus Christ, Love Incarnate
and in the Holy Spirit, Love's Power?

I DO, BY THE GRACE OF GOD.

Will you join with the people of this family of faith
in the mission and the ministry of Christ's Church?

I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER.

***CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT**

Let us pledge to Nancy and John our support and our care.

**As a congregation which strives to be a loving, hopeful and inclusive
community of faith that nurtures Christian discipleship,
we commit ourselves to support you, to walk with you
and to grow with you within this faith community.**

***VOICES UNITED 918** A New Creed

WELCOME

Into union with Christ, into the household of faith,
we welcome you with joy and with thanksgiving.

We are members of the body of Christ.

We are inheritors of God's promise.

John and Nancy, in the name of Christ we welcome you!

INTRODUCTION TO RENEWAL OF BAPTISMAL FAITH

Like Nancy and John, God blesses all of us.

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

Through baptism, we become one with all those who follow the Way of Jesus.

By water and the Spirit, we become 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, therefore, to God,

renewing our commitment to following of the Way of Jesus.

MORE VOICES 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am

*You are invited to dip your finger into the water you have prepared,
tracing a cross on your forehead with the water.*

*If you have others with you safely in your household,
feel free to draw that cross for one another.*

You are God's beloved, filled by the Spirit and blessed by abundant grace.

We remember, recommitting to our ongoing journey of faith.

MORE VOICES 85 Take, O Take Me as I Am

SILENT PRAYER

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.

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

In our commitment to you, risen Christ, by baptism and the Spirit,
we continue to learn to love others as you have loved us.

Take these gifts of time, of talent and of treasure,
blessing them for your mission in the world. Amen.

***MORE VOICES** 161 I Have Called You by Your Name

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT *Gloria # 37 Voices United*

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

POSTLUDE

In Thee Is Gladness

Marcel Dupré