

Kincardine United Church

3rd Sunday of Lent

March 20th, 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 Liebster Jesu BWV 731 J.S. Bach

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

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Prelude G. Merkel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come to worship God who plants us, who tends us and who prunes us.

We come to grow our roots ever deeper into the Ground of our Being.

In this hybrid digital and personal space,

come as one community of faith enlivened by Christ's light.

Gathered and welcomed by God's gracious invitation,

we come to grow and to flourish, nourished by the gift of faith.

Let us grow, together, more deeply through the communion of prayer:

Gardener God, may the Spirit sustain us as you shape us.

In our shaping this morning:

snip our self-centredness that we may sprout self-giving;

redirect our wild impulses toward your justice and right relation;

fertilize our roots with the manure of our mistakes

that we may grow deeper into your love;

sprinkle living water upon us that we may ever become whole in you.

Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 240** Praise, My Soul, the God of Heaven

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

SHARING TIME Practising Bonsai

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 Luke 13:1-5 in the New Testament page 76.

At that very time there were some present who told him about the Galileans whose blood Pilate had mingled with their sacrifices. ² He asked them, "Do you think that because these Galileans suffered in this way they were worse sinners than all other Galileans?" ³ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish as they did. ⁴ Or those eighteen who were killed when the tower of Siloam fell on them—do you think that they were worse offenders than all the others living in Jerusalem? ⁵ No, I tell you; but unless you repent, you will all perish just as they did."

***VOICES UNITED 271** There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

BIBLE READING Luke 13:6-9 in the New Testament page 76.

⁶ Then he told this parable: "A man had a fig tree planted in his vineyard; and he came looking for fruit on it and found none. ⁷ So he said to the gardener, 'See here! For three years I have come looking for fruit on this fig tree, and still I find none. Cut it down! Why should it be wasting the

soil?’ ⁸ He replied, ‘Sir, let it alone for one more year, until I dig around it and put manure on it. ⁹ If it bears fruit next year, well and good; but if not, you can cut it down.’”

DOXOLOGY Love Is the Touch #89 *More Voices* (verse 4 only)

**Love is the Maker and Spirit and Son;
love is the kingdom their will has begun;
love is the path which the saints all have trod:
God is where love is, for love is of God.**

MEDITATION What the Fig?

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

CHOIR ANTHEM Si Si Gumbo We (We Need You)
Words and Music by Patsy Ford Simms

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**Bless the gifts we offer, O God,
shaping them to bring life, beauty and colour to the greys of life,
rooting them in movements for justice and peace,
branching them throughout the world in loving partnership,
invigorating them by the light of our sharing and caring. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED 651** Guide Me, O Thou Great Jehovah

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT I Have Called You by Your Name
#161 *More Voices* (verse 4 only)

**I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.**

POSTLUDE Trumpet Tune Henry Purcell