

Kincardine United Church

Palm/Passion Sunday

March 24th, 2024 11:00 a.m.

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

*An asterisk in the bulletin indicates you may sit or stand.

Kincardine United Church

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PRELUDE

Communion

Healey Willan

ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

Intermezzo

Healey Willan

GOD GATHERS US

WELCOME

A GUEST ARRIVES

BIBLE READING Mark 11:1-3 from the New Testament

¹⁻³ When they were nearing Jerusalem, at Bethphage and Bethany on Mount Olives, he sent off two of the disciples with instructions: "Go to the village across from you. As soon as you enter, you'll find a colt tethered, one that has never yet been ridden. Untie it and bring it. If anyone asks, 'What are you doing?' say, 'The Master needs him, and will return him right away.'"

IS THIS THEFT?

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.**

BIBLE READING Mark 11:4-7 from the New Testament

⁴⁻⁷ They went and found a colt tied to a door at the street corner and untied it. Some of those standing there said, “What are you doing untying that colt?” The disciples replied exactly as Jesus had instructed them, and the people let them alone. They brought the colt to Jesus, spread their coats on it, and he mounted.

BIBLE READING Mark 11:8-11 from the New Testament

⁸⁻¹⁰ The people gave him a wonderful welcome, some throwing their coats on the street, others spreading out rushes they had cut in the fields.

Running ahead and following after, they were calling out,

Hosanna!

Blessed is he who comes in God’s name!

Blessed the coming kingdom of our father David!

Hosanna in highest heaven!

¹¹ He entered Jerusalem, then entered the Temple. He looked around, taking it all in. But by now it was late, so he went back to Bethany with the Twelve.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

***VOICES UNITED 123** Hosanna, Loud Hosanna (*Wave Palm Branches*)

BIBLE READING Mark 14:1-2, 10-11 from the New Testament

It was two days before the Passover and the Festival of Unleavened Bread.

The chief priests and the scribes were looking for a way to arrest Jesus by

stealth and kill him, ²for they said, “Not during the festival, or there may be a riot among the people.”

¹⁰ Then Judas Iscariot, who was one of the twelve, went to the chief priests in order to betray him to them. ¹¹ When they heard it, they were greatly pleased and promised to give him money. So he began to look for an opportunity to betray him.

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

VOICES UNITED 126 (*verse 1 only*) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Mark 14:12-16 from the New Testament

¹² On the first day of Unleavened Bread, when the Passover lamb is sacrificed, his disciples said to him, “Where do you want us to go and make the preparations for you to eat the Passover?” ¹³ So he sent two of his disciples, saying to them, “Go into the city, and a man carrying a jar of water will meet you; follow him, ¹⁴ and wherever he enters, say to the owner of the house, ‘The Teacher asks: Where is my guest room where I may eat the Passover with my disciples?’ ¹⁵ He will show you a large room upstairs, furnished and ready. Make preparations for us there.” ¹⁶ So the disciples set out and went to the city and found everything as he had told them, and they prepared the Passover meal.

JESUS INVITES US TO TABLE

INVITATION

BIBLE READING Mark 14:17-21 from the New Testament

¹⁷ When it was evening, he came with the twelve. ¹⁸ And when they had taken their places and were eating, Jesus said, “Truly I tell you, one of you will betray me, one who is eating with me.” ¹⁹ They began to be distressed and to say to him one after another, “Surely, not I?” ²⁰ He said to them, “It is one of the twelve, one who is dipping bread into the bowl with me. ²¹ For the Son of Man goes as it is written of him, but woe to that one by whom the Son of Man is betrayed! It would have been better for that one not to have been born.”

VOICES UNITED 126 (*verse 2 only*) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Mark 14:22-25 from the New Testament

²² While they were eating, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it he broke it, gave it to them, and said, "Take; this is my body." ²³ Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks he gave it to them, and all of them drank from it. ²⁴ He said to them, "This is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many. ²⁵ Truly I tell you, I will never again drink of the fruit of the vine until that day when I drink it new in the kingdom of God."

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND COMMUNITY PRAYERS

**Jesus is giving us this bread and this grape juice to remind us,
reminding us that – like this bread and grape juice –
we can be transformed to love one another as you love us,
God.**

**As we welcome your transformation with each of us,
we open our hearts to you.**

**In our hearts we share our concerns and our joys
for those we love –**

and even for those who make our lives difficult.

Lord, hear our prayers.

(Silent prayer)

Knowing you are with us, living Spirit, in each moment and through each challenge,

we pray the words Jesus gave us to pray, saying:

Our Father in heaven, may your name be revered as holy.

May your kingdom come.

May your will be done on earth as it is in heaven.

Give us today our daily bread.

And forgive us our debts, as we also have forgiven our debtors.

And do not bring us to the time of trial, but rescue us from the evil one. Amen.

PARTAKING

If you are worshipping at home,

*please take the bread and beverage you have prepared and partake,
sharing with anyone who is with you.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray once more:

Risen Christ, you keep turning the world upside down.

We pray that your continuing transformation works within us each day,

opening us for love that nourishes change in the way we live our lives. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Mark 14:26-31 from the New Testament

²⁶ When they had sung the hymn, they went out to the Mount of Olives. ²⁷ And Jesus said to them, “You will all fall away, for it is written, ‘I will strike the shepherd,

and the sheep will be scattered.’

²⁸ “But after I am raised up, I will go before you to Galilee.” ²⁹ Peter said to him, “Even though all fall away, I will not.” ³⁰ Jesus said to him, “Truly I tell you, this day, this very night, before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times.” ³¹ But he said vehemently, “Even though I must die with you, I will not deny you.” And all of them said the same.

VOICES UNITED 126 (verse 3 only) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Mark 14:32-42 from the New Testament

³² They went to a place called Gethsemane, and he said to his disciples, “Sit here while I pray.” ³³ He took with him Peter and James and John and began to be distressed and agitated. ³⁴ And he said to them, “My soul is deeply grieved, even to death; remain here, and keep awake.” ³⁵ And going a little farther, he threw himself on the ground and prayed that, if it were possible, the hour might pass from him. ³⁶ He said, “Abba, Father, for you all things are possible; remove this cup from me, yet not what I want but what you want.” ³⁷ He came and found them sleeping, and he said to Peter, “Simon, are you asleep? Could you not keep awake one hour? ³⁸ Keep awake and pray that you may not come into the time of trial; the spirit indeed is willing, but the flesh is weak.” ³⁹ And again he went away and prayed, saying the same words. ⁴⁰ And once more he came and found them sleeping, for their eyes were very heavy, and they did not know what to say to him. ⁴¹ He came a third time and said to them, “Are you still sleeping and taking your rest? Enough! The hour has come; the Son of Man is betrayed into the hands of sinners. ⁴² Get up, let us be going. Look, my betrayer is at hand.”

BIBLE READING Mark 14:43-50 from the New Testament

⁴³ Immediately, while he was still speaking, Judas, one of the twelve, arrived, and with him there was a crowd with swords and clubs, from the chief priests, the scribes, and the elders. ⁴⁴ Now the betrayer had given

them a sign, saying, "The one I will kiss is the man; arrest him and lead him away under guard." ⁴⁵ So when he came, he went up to him at once and said, "Rabbi!" and kissed him. ⁴⁶ Then they laid hands on him and arrested him. ⁴⁷ But one of those who stood near drew his sword and struck the slave of the high priest, cutting off his ear. ⁴⁸ Then Jesus said to them, "Have you come out with swords and clubs to arrest me as though I were a rebel? ⁴⁹ Day after day I was with you in the temple teaching, and you did not arrest me. But let the scriptures be fulfilled." ⁵⁰ All of them deserted him and fled.

VOICES UNITED 126 (verse 4 only) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

BIBLE READING Mark 14:53-65 from the New Testament

⁵³ They took Jesus to the high priest, and all the chief priests, the elders, and the scribes were assembled. ⁵⁴ Peter had followed him at a distance, right into the courtyard of the high priest, and he was sitting with the guards, warming himself at the fire. ⁵⁵ Now the chief priests and the whole council were looking for testimony against Jesus to put him to death, but they found none. ⁵⁶ For many gave false testimony against him, and their testimony did not agree. ⁵⁷ Some stood up and gave false testimony against him, saying, ⁵⁸ "We heard him say, 'I will destroy this temple that is made with hands, and in three days I will build another, not made with hands.'"
" ⁵⁹ But even on this point their testimony did not agree. ⁶⁰ Then the high priest stood up before them and asked Jesus, "Have you no answer? What is it that they testify against you?" ⁶¹ But he was silent and did not answer. Again the high priest asked him, "Are you the Messiah, the Son of the Blessed One?" ⁶² Jesus said, "I am, and 'you will see the Son of Man seated at the right hand of the Power' and 'coming with the clouds of heaven.'"

⁶³ Then the high priest tore his clothes and said, "Why do we still need witnesses? ⁶⁴ You have heard his blasphemy! What is your decision?" All of them condemned him as deserving death. ⁶⁵ Some began to spit on him, to blindfold him, and to strike him, saying to him, "Prophecy!" The guards also took him and beat him.

BIBLE READING Mark 14:66-72 from the New Testament

⁶⁶ While Peter was below in the courtyard, one of the female servants of the high priest came by. ⁶⁷ When she saw Peter warming himself, she stared at him and said, "You also were with Jesus, the man from Nazareth." ⁶⁸ But he denied it, saying, "I do not know or understand what you are talking about."

And he went out into the forecourt. Then the cock crowed. ⁶⁹ And the female servant, on seeing him, began again to say to the bystanders, "This man is one of them." ⁷⁰ But again he denied it. Then after a little while the bystanders again said to Peter, "Certainly you are one of them, for you are a Galilean, and you talk like one." ⁷¹ But he began to curse, and he swore an oath, "I do not know this man you are talking about." ⁷² At that moment the cock crowed for the second time. Then Peter remembered that Jesus had said to him, "Before the cock crows twice, you will deny me three times." And he broke down and wept.

VOICES UNITED 126 (verse 5 only) Ride On, Ride On, the Time Is Right

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Take what we give in Jesus' name, O God.

Bless our devotion to the Way of Love,

our resources shared for Love and our time spent sharing Love.

Bless us as we try to become more Christ-like. Amen.

BIBLE READING Mark 15:1-5 from the New Testament

As soon as it was morning, the chief priests held a consultation with the elders and scribes and the whole council. They bound Jesus, led him away, and handed him over to Pilate. ² Pilate asked him, "Are you the King of the Jews?" He answered him, "You say so." ³ Then the chief priests accused him of many things. ⁴ Pilate asked him again, "Have you no answer? See how many charges they bring against you." ⁵ But Jesus made no further reply, so that Pilate was amazed.

BIBLE READING Mark 15:6-14 from the New Testament

⁶ Now at the festival he used to release a prisoner for them, anyone for whom they asked. ⁷ Now a man called Barabbas was in prison with the insurrectionists who had committed murder during the insurrection. ⁸ So the crowd came and began to ask Pilate to do for them according to his custom. ⁹ Then he answered them, "Do you want me to release for you the King of the Jews?" ¹⁰ For he realized that it was out of jealousy that the chief priests had handed him over. ¹¹ But the chief priests stirred up the crowd to have him release Barabbas for them instead. ¹² Pilate spoke to them again, "Then what do you wish me to do with the man you call the King of the Jews?" ¹³ They shouted back,

“Crucify him!”

¹⁴ Pilate asked them, “Why, what evil has he done?” But they shouted all the more,

“Crucify him!”

ANTHEM The Royal Banners Forward Go Dent Davidson

BIBLE READING Mark 15:15-20 from the New Testament

¹⁵ So Pilate, wishing to satisfy the crowd, released Barabbas for them, and after flogging Jesus he handed him over to be crucified. ¹⁶ Then the soldiers led him into the courtyard of the palace (that is, the governor’s headquarters), and they called together the whole cohort. ¹⁷ And they clothed him in a purple cloak, and after twisting some thorns into a crown they put it on him. ¹⁸ And they began saluting him, “Hail, King of the Jews!” ¹⁹ They struck his head with a reed, spat upon him, and knelt down in homage to him. ²⁰ After mocking him, they stripped him of the purple cloak and put his own clothes on him. Then they led him out to crucify him.

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.**

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

***VOICES UNITED 135** Beneath the Cross of Jesus

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.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

A Meditation

George Oldroyd