

Kincardine United Church

4th Sunday of Lent

March 27th, 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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WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked this land,
weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land.

European colonisation came about in large part

because of the Doctrine of Discovery,

a flawed understanding that ignores Indigenous presence on the land.

Affirming the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
and, therefore, repudiating the wrong of such a doctrine,
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 Introit: Dearest Jesus J.G Walther

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Let us approach God with joy,

for God will not condemn us.

Let us bring our praises to God,

for God will lift us up.

Let us bring our troubles to God,

for God offers us steadfast love.

Let us join as one in prayer with and through God:

Ever-welcoming God,

you assure us that there is a place for all in your loving embrace.

May we lean into that tender care, confident and trusting,

Remind us that your way is full of compassion.

Open our hearts to the ever-present opportunities

to bring hope and comfort to all people in Jesus' name. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 288** Great Is Thy Faithfulness

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

SHARING TIME God's Dream

by Archbishop Desmond Tutu and Douglas Carlton Abrams,
and illustrated by LeUyen Pham

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,

Source of all that is and what shall be.

Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven:

the hallowing of your name echo through the universe!

The way of your justice be followed by peoples of the world!

Your heavenly will be done by all created beings!

Your commonwealth of peace and freedom

sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.

In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.

In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.

From trials too great to endure, spare us.

From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,

now and for ever. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

VOICES UNITED 759 Psalm 32 selected verses (no refrain)

Blessed are those whose offences are forgiven, whose sin has been put away.

Blessed are those to whom God imputes no guilt,

and in whose spirit there is no deceit.

I will teach you, and guide you in the way you should go.

I will keep you under my eye and instruct you.

Be not like a horse or mule, without understanding,

whose course must be checked with bit and bridle.

Many pains are in store for the wicked,

but whoever trusts in God, is surrounded by steadfast love.

***MORE VOICES 157** I Am a Child of God

BIBLE READING Luke 15:1-3, 11b-32 in the New Testament page 78-79.

Now all the tax collectors and sinners were coming near to listen to him. ² And the Pharisees and the scribes were grumbling and saying, “This fellow welcomes sinners and eats with them.” ³ So he told them this parable:

“There was a man who had two sons. ¹² The younger of them said to his father, ‘Father, give me the share of the property that will belong to me.’ So he divided his property between them. ¹³ A few days later the younger son gathered all he had and traveled to a distant country, and there he squandered his property in dissolute living. ¹⁴ When he had spent everything, a severe famine took place throughout that country, and he began to be in need. ¹⁵ So he went and hired himself out to one of the citizens of that country, who sent him to his fields to feed the pigs. ¹⁶ He would gladly have filled himself with the pods that the pigs were eating; and no one gave him anything. ¹⁷ But when he came to himself he said, ‘How many of my father’s hired hands have bread enough and to spare, but here I am dying of hunger! ¹⁸ I will get up and go to my father, and I will say to him, “Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; ¹⁹ I am no longer worthy to be called your son; treat me like one of your hired hands.”’ ²⁰ So he set off and went to his father. But while he was still far off, his father saw him and was filled with compassion; he ran and put his arms around him and kissed him. ²¹ Then the son said to him, ‘Father, I have sinned against heaven and before you; I am no longer worthy to be called your son.’ ²² But the father said to his slaves, ‘Quickly, bring out a robe—the best one—and put it on him; put a ring on his finger and sandals on his feet. ²³ And get the fatted calf and kill it, and let us eat and celebrate; ²⁴ for this son of mine was dead and is alive again; he was lost and is found!’ And they began to celebrate.

²⁵ “Now his elder son was in the field; and when he came and approached the house, he heard music and dancing. ²⁶ He called one of the slaves and asked what was going on. ²⁷ He replied, ‘Your brother has come, and your father has killed the fatted calf, because he has got him back safe and sound.’ ²⁸ Then he became angry and refused to go in. His father came out and began to plead with him. ²⁹ But he answered his father, ‘Listen! For all these years I have been working like a slave for you, and I have never disobeyed your command; yet you have never given me even a young goat so that I might celebrate with my friends. ³⁰ But when this son of yours came back, who has devoured your property with prostitutes, you killed the fatted calf for him!’ ³¹ Then the father said to him, ‘Son, you are always with me, and all that is mine is yours. ³² But we had to celebrate and rejoice, because this brother of yours was dead and has come to life; he was lost and has been found.’”

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 Let’s Party!

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

CHOIR ANTHEM Psalm of Quietness

Words and Music by John F. Wilson., Arranged by Jack Schrader

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

These symbols of the sweat of our brow,
we present to you, O God, as an act of trust:
trust that they will contribute to your mission in the world,
trust that we will become instruments of your will,
trust that you will bless the giving and the givers. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 600** When I Needed a Neighbour

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 The Prince of Denmark's March Jeremiah Clarke