

Kincardine United Church

Advent 1

November 28, 2021 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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CAROL SING (*In Person*)

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 nun Lomm, Der Heiden Heiland Marcel Dupré

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Twenty months into this pandemic, we arrive weary, wary and wrung out.

We come to find shelter from our fears,

to discover hope as we practice our faith in worship.

We're tired of this marathon of distancing,

longing for relief through a return to what we once thought as “normal.”

We come because the vulnerable Christ-child enlightens us with possibility.

On this first Sunday of Advent, we light this first candle symbolizing HOPE –

the assurance that the risen Christ transforms all things in love.

(The first candle is lit)

VOICES UNITED 7 verse 1 only (we sing)

Hope is a star that shines in the night, leading us on ‘till the morning is bright.

When God is a child there’s joy in our song.

The last shall be first and weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

Flickering and fragile, this tiny flame opens us to wonder,

to the heart of God which transforms us as we join together in prayer:

We come to be sustained in life, O God, even as we wrestle.

Inspire us to perceive the Way of Jesus as the path of wholeness.

Unite us to become a community of faith woven as one by the Spirit.

Teach us how to live by loving kindness,

becoming catalysts for hope in the hearts of those we encounter. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 1 (verses 1, 2, & 7 plus verse below by Juanita Austin)**

O Come, O Come, Emmanuel

O come, and let a righteous branch arise,

It’s holy limbs up, reaching to the skies.

In you, when we are rooted, we’re strong.

Together we are blest and we belong.

Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Silent Prayer)*

SHARING TIME On a Snowy Night *by Jean Little, illustrated by Brain Deines*

LORD’S PRAYER

God within us, God beyond us, God among us,

may the Mystery always be named and known

among all peoples and in all times.

May Creation give way to the rule of love and the power of life.

Satisfy our hunger, granting us a hunger to see the whole world fed.

Restore us to right relationship

with you, with Creation, with others, with ourselves.

Strengthen us to reject all that would lead us away from you.

Come to us when we choose death over life.

Give us courage to follow your call in this moment.

For in your love we find the only power,

the only home, the only honour we will ever need,

in this life and the life to come. Amen.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Jeremiah 33:14-16 in the Old Testament on page 738.

¹⁴ The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will fulfill the promise I made to the house of Israel and the house of Judah. ¹⁵ In those days and at that time I will cause a righteous Branch to spring up for David; and he shall execute justice and righteousness in the land. ¹⁶ In those days Judah will be saved and Jerusalem will live in safety. And this is the name by which it will be called: "The LORD is our righteousness."

***VOICES UNITED #68** All Poor Ones and Humble

BIBLE READING Luke 21:25-33 in the New Testament on page 85-86.

²⁵ "There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. ²⁶ People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. ²⁷ Then they will see 'the Son of Man coming in a cloud' with power and great glory. ²⁸ Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near."

²⁹ Then he told them a parable: "Look at the fig tree and all the trees; ³⁰ as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. ³¹ So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. ³² Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. ³³ Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

DOXOLOGY Bring Many Names #268 *Voices United* (verse 6 only)

**Great, living God, never fully known,
joyful darkness far behind our seeing,
closer yet than breathing, everlasting home:
Hail and hosanna, great, living God!**

MEDITATION Stumped?

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

CHOIR ANTHEM Are You Dressed for the Wedding?
Words and music by Joseph M. Martin and David Angerman

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

**We never know, living Christ, whether what we offer is enough.
Still, we present these gifts for your mission in the world,
trusting that you will bless them – and us – for your purpose.
May these gifts seed new life springing out of old stumps. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED 713** I See a New Heaven

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT *Gloria # 37 Voices United*

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

POSTLUDE Nun Komm, Der Heiden Heiland *BMV 599 J. S. Bach*