

**Kincardine United Church**  
**13th Sunday after Pentecost & Baptism**  
**September 4, 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**

Dearest Jesus BWV 634

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**

Dearest Jesus

Marcel Dupré

## LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

### CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come as people God loves – without condition and without hesitation.

**Really? God loves us THAT much?**

**How is that possible when we know from the inside out our flaws?**

**Doesn't God want us to be perfect?**

God doesn't want us to be perfect –

although God does want us to listen, to learn and to grow in wholeness.

**Wow! God certainly knows us from the inside out, working with us to realize our potential.**

**That's an invitation to a faithful relationship we can accept with gusto.**

Let us, then, build on that relationship through prayer:

**Loving God, gracious God, thank you for your blessings of loving companionship.**

**We only thrive when you surround us with your nurturing embrace.**

**Embrace us within our worship this morning that we may mature in Jesus' name.**

**Walk with us through life's tangles and challenges as we live out our baptisms. Amen.**

\*VOICES UNITED #244 Sing Your Praise to God Eternal

## GOD IS REVEALED IN SACRAMENT

### STATEMENT OF PURPOSE *(Romans 6:3-6 from The Message)*

Let us remember the gift of God's grace poured out in baptism.

"...when we went under the water, we left the old country of sin behind;

**when we came up out of the water, we entered into the new country of grace –  
a new life in a new land!**

That's what baptism into the life of Jesus means.

**When we are lowered into the water, it is like the burial of Jesus;**

**when we are raised up out of the water, it is like the resurrection of Jesus.**

Each of us is raised into a light-filled world by God

**so that we can see where we're going in our new grace-sovereign country."**

### SHARING TIME

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER *We Sing*

**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.**

#### Presentation

*...Rod Coates*

On behalf of the congregation of Kincardine United Church,

I present Donovan Turin Gunaratne, son of Damian and Alanna,

for initiation into the body of Christ through baptism.

#### PROFESSION OF FAITH *(to Alanna and Damian)*

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.**

**GODPARENTS' COMMITMENT** *(to Isaac Thangaraj and Ellie Thangaraj)*

Will you pray for Donovan, taking care that he may learn and live the faith?

**I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER.**

**CONGREGATIONAL COMMITMENT**

*...Rod Coates*

As we rise in body or in spirit,  
let us pledge to Donovan our support and our care.

**As a baptised and baptising church, Christ's body,  
we commit ourselves to support and uphold you within this faith community  
as we live out our baptisms in the light of God's grace.**

**VOICES UNITED 918** A New Creed

**We are not alone, we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:**

**who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new,  
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

**We trust in God.**

**We are called to be the Church:**

**to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us.**

**We are not alone.**

**Thanks be to God.**

**PRAYER OF THANKGIVING AND THE POURING OF THE WATER**

God be with you.

**And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give thanks to God.

**It is good to give God thanks and praise.**

*(Please be seated as the water is poured into the font by Anika Gunaratne)*

Gracious and loving God, we thank you for your blessing in the gift of life  
and, within it, the gift of water.

**Now, loving God, may your Holy Spirit embrace what we do,  
blessing this water that it may be a sign of new life in Christ. Amen.**

**THE BAPTISM**

Donovan Turin Gunaratne,

I baptise you in the name of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit.

## **SIGNING WITH THE CROSS**

I mark you with the sign of the cross, claiming you as Christ's forever.

## **LAYING ON OF HANDS**

May the power of the Holy Spirit work within you,  
that being born of water and of the Spirit,  
you may be a faithful witness to Jesus Christ.

## **PASSING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST**

Christ, as the light of the world, shares that light with us.  
May this candle remind you of the light you share,  
proclaiming God's love to the world.

## **INTRODUCING DONOVAN TO THE CONGREGATION**

## **PRESENTATION OF GIFTS**

### **WELCOME**

*...Rod Coates*

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.**

**In the name of Christ, we welcome you!**

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD**

**VOICES UNITED 861** Psalm 139 (sections 1 and 4 only with refrain)

**(Sung) God, you have searched me, you know me through and through.**

O God, you have searched me and known me.

You know when I sit down and rise up, you discern my thoughts from afar.

**You discern my path and the places I rest;**

**You are familiar with all my ways.**

Before a word is on my tongue, you know it, O God, completely.

You guard me from behind and before, and lay your hand upon me.

**It is beyond my knowledge; it is a mystery; I cannot fathom it.**

How deep your designs are to me, O God! How great their number!

**I try to count them but they are more than the sand.**

**I come to the end – I am still with you.**

Search me, O God, and know my heart;

**test me and know my thoughts.**

Watch closely, lest I follow a path of error

**and guide me in the everlasting way.**

**(Sung) God, you have searched me, you know me through and through.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 356** Seek Ye First the Kingdom

**BIBLE READING** Jeremiah 18:1-10 from the paraphrase *The Message*

1-2 GOD told Jeremiah, "Up on your feet! Go to the potter's house. When you get there, I'll tell you what I have to say." 3-4 So I went to the potter's house, and sure enough, the potter was there, working away at his wheel. Whenever the pot the potter was working on turned out badly, as sometimes happens when you are working with clay, the potter would simply start over and use the same clay to make another pot. 5-10 Then GOD's Message came to me: "Can't I do just as this potter does, people of Israel?" GOD's Decree! "Watch this potter. In the same way that this potter works his clay, I work on you, people of Israel. At any moment I may decide to pull up a people or a country by the roots and get rid of them. But if they repent of their wicked lives, I will think twice and start over with them.

**DOXOLOGY** Gloria Patri

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,  
as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen.**

**PRAYER**

**MEDITATION** Shaped in Trust

**SUNG REFRAIN**

**Take, O take me as I am.**

**Summon out what I will be.**

**Set your seal upon my heart and live in me.**

## **GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**ANTHEM**

Sunshine in My Soul

J. R. Sweeney and Arranged by John Innes

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)**

**Whether digitally, with coin, with paper, with cheque or with Pre-Authorized Remittance,  
we give to your mission, O God, of our time, our talent and our treasure.**

**May you bless each gift to enrich your good news in the world,  
in Jesus' name. Amen**

**SABBATICAL BLESSING**

Throughout scripture from Genesis to Jesus' ministry and throughout the church's witness,  
Sabbath is a time for rest, for quiet places and for re-creation.

A Sabbatical is a gift given to the congregation

which affirms the leadership gifts of the many instead of the one.

It is also a gift given to ministry personnel by the community of faith –

a time to be renewed for ministry and to be strengthened in their sense of Call.

*(to Gord)*

Gord, you have been given a gift of Sabbatical leave by this congregation.

With God's help:

Will you pray for the people and the ministry of this congregation?

Do you promise to use this time faithfully so that you will be renewed and strengthened  
in your ministry within this community of faith?

**I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER AND COMPANION.**

*(to Judy)*

Judy, you have been appointed to fulfill the part-time ministry position here at Kincardine United Church during Gord's Sabbatical Leave.

With God's help:

Will you pray for the people and the ministry of this congregation?

Do you promise to fulfill this position with diligence, with compassion and with faithfulness as part of the ministry team?

**I WILL, GOD BEING MY HELPER.**

*(to the congregation as they stand in body or in spirit)*

With God's help:

Will you pray for Gord, for Judy, for the rest of the staff team, for the leaders of this congregation, for the worship leaders we welcome and for this community of faith, working together in the ministry we share?

Will you continue to carry out your commitment to serve this community of faith in God's name?

Will you use this time faithfully in ways that will renew and strengthen you as the baptized people of God?

**We will.**

Let us pray together:

**Loving God, bless Gord, bless Judy, bless the staff team,**

**bless the leaders of this congregation,**

**bless the worship leaders we welcome,**

**and bless us all as the people of Kincardine United Church**

**during this Sabbatical time.**

**By your Spirit empower each of us to be strengthened through the gifts you bestow, renewed as servants of God in this community and in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**\*VOICE UNITED 688 O Day of God Draw Nigh**

**BENEDICTION**

**SONG OF COMMITMENT**

Spirit God, Be Our Breath

#150 More Voices (verse 4 only)

**Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.**

**Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.**

**Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn...**

**Spirit God, be our song.**

**POSTLUDE**

Miniature Suite for Organ – Finale

Healey Willan