

Kincardine United Church

14th Sunday after Pentecost

September 3, 2023 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.

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PRELUDE Prelude in g minor BWV 558 J. S. Bach

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge the Traditional Territory of the Anishinabek Nation:

The People of the Three Fires

known as Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomie Nations.

We further give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen, and the Chippewas of Nawash – now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation –

as the traditional keepers of this land.

Our thanks compel us to live fully into our journey of reconciliation – a seven-generation process of intentional listening and learning.

We seek to live together in respect, friendship and peace.

Therefore, we commit ourselves to follow Jesus' calling us into the world, loving one another as we are loved by God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Prelude William H. Harris

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Whatever possessed any of us to come into this space on this holiday weekend?

We come because this is a safe space, a welcoming space, a familiar space, OUR space.

As we gather, let us fully embrace each of us who dare to explore our faith through worship.

May the peace of Christ be with you all.

And also with you.

(Make mutually acceptable signs of peace with those around you.)

See? We're all here together seeking meaning and purpose in community.

We don't have to get all conceptual and visionary, we just enjoy belonging.

Well, since we know that we all belong to God and God to us, let us pray as one:

We come to snuggle into your loving embrace, God, trusting you in each moment.

We treasure moments when we feel whole within ourselves and with one another.

We ask that your Spirit would move within and among us for transformation,

making us more loving, more welcoming, more daring and more compassionate.

May you become the very ground of our being in Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 245** Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet

SHARING TIME Water Bugs and Dragonflies by Doris Stickney

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.

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Exodus 3:1-6 from the paraphrase *The Message*

¹⁻² Moses was shepherding the flock of Jethro, his father-in-law, the priest of Midian. He led the flock to the west end of the wilderness and came to the mountain of God, Horeb. The angel of GOD appeared to him in flames of fire blazing out of the middle of a bush. He looked. The bush was blazing away but it didn't burn up.

³ Moses said, "What's going on here? I can't believe this! Amazing! Why doesn't the bush burn up?"

⁴ GOD saw that he had stopped to look. God called to him from out of the bush, "Moses! Moses!"

He said, "Yes? I'm right here!"

⁵ God said, "Don't come any closer. Remove your sandals from your feet. You're standing on holy ground."

⁶ Then he said, "I am the God of your father: The God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, the God of Jacob." Moses hid his face, afraid to look at God.

***VOICES UNITED 268** Bring Many Names

BIBLE READING Exodus 3:7-15 from the paraphrase *The Message*

⁷⁻⁸ GOD said, "I've taken a good, long look at the affliction of my people in Egypt. I've heard their cries for deliverance from their slave masters; I know all about their pain. And now I have come down to help them, pry them loose from the grip of Egypt, get them out of that country and bring them to a good land with wide-open spaces, a land lush with milk and honey, the land of the Canaanite, the Hittite, the Amorite, the Perizzite, the Hivite, and the Jebusite.

9-10 “The Israelite cry for help has come to me, and I’ve seen for myself how cruelly they’re being treated by the Egyptians. It’s time for you to go back: I’m sending you to Pharaoh to bring my people, the People of Israel, out of Egypt.”

11 Moses answered God, “But why me? What makes you think that I could ever go to Pharaoh and lead the children of Israel out of Egypt?”

12 “I’ll be with you,” God said. “And this will be the proof that I am the one who sent you: When you have brought my people out of Egypt, you will worship God right here at this very mountain.”

13 Then Moses said to God, “Suppose I go to the People of Israel and I tell them, ‘The God of your fathers sent me to you’; and they ask me, ‘What is his name?’ What do I tell them?”

14 God said to Moses, “I-AM-WHO-I-AM. Tell the People of Israel, ‘I-AM sent me to you.’”

15 God continued with Moses: “This is what you’re to say to the Israelites: ‘GOD, the God of your fathers, the God of Abraham, the God of Isaac, and the God of Jacob sent me to you.’ This has always been my name, and this is how I always will be known.

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 BEFORE REFLECTION

REFLECTION “Imaging Possibilities”

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)

We give because you have given us abundance.

May you bless what we give back so that your mission continues in the world.

**By that blessing, may we discover deep spirituality, bold discipleship
and daring justice which makes a difference in the world. Amen.**

***VOICES UNITED 420** Go to the World

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT #150 (*Verse 4 only*) *More Voices*

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

Fugue in g minor BWV 558

J. S. Bach