

Kincardine United Church

Creation Sunday 1

September 8, 2024 9:30 a.m.

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

*An asterisk in the bulletin indicates you may rise in body or spirit.

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Prelude Siciliana G. Golterman

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

Sharing the Peace of Christ

**May the peace of Christ be with you all.
and also with you.**

GOD GATHERS US

Introit Dearest Jesus, We Are Here to Hear Thy Word *J.G. Walther*

Silent Meditation

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Call to Worship: (~adapted from Psalm 33:1-5 NIV)

God has called us to worship. Sing joyfully to the LORD, you righteous;
it is fitting for the upright to praise him.

Praise the LORD with the harp;

make music to him on the ten-stringed lyre.

Sing to him a new song;

play skillfully, and shout for joy.

For the word of the LORD is right and true;

he is faithful in all he does.

The LORD loves righteousness and justice; the earth is full of his unfailing love.

God has enabled us to worship, by his works we are both worshipers and a congregation. We are called to love God, so let us make time for Him. Amen.

Prayer of Approach

Hymn: VU 574 Come Let us Sing of a Wonderful Love

Prayer of Confession: (adapted from Habakkuk 2: 2-20)

Dear God, forgive us for our many sins

We do not deny them or excuse them, but confess that we have broken your holy law and fallen short of keeping your commands.

Over and over again, God speaks to the worthlessness of idols and the condemnation coming against those who set them up.

We quickly identify physical idols like those in biblical times and today around the world. Yet, we often overlook idols such as self, career, pleasure, and success that we worship instead of God.

Holy Spirit, help us to turn away from our sin and cling to the cross. May we hide in the wounds of Jesus and find shelter in his side.

Assurance of Grace:

Loving Heavenly Father, Yours is surpassing greatness, unspeakable goodness, and superabundant grace. Your steadfast love greets us each morning, and your faithfulness is our constant companion. Your mercies are fresh each day, flowing toward us in your patient perseverance and loving guidance.

**With that assurance, we receive forgiveness, living in faith and hope.
Amen.**

Sharing Time

The Lord's Prayer (~Jo Poore)

**Mother, Father, God, Universal Power,
remind us daily of the sanctity of all life.**

**Touch our hearts with the glorious oneness of all creation,
as we strive to respect all the living beings on this planet.**

**Penetrate our souls with the beauty of this earth,
as we attune ourselves to the rhythm and flow of the seasons.**

**Awaken our minds with the knowledge to achieve a world in perfect
harmony,**

**and grant us the wisdom to realize that we can have heaven on earth.
Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

Prayer of Illumination

Scripture Readings (NIV): Matthew 7:15-20, 1 Peter 5:5-11

Matthew 7:15-20 ¹⁵“Watch out for false prophets. They come to you in sheep’s clothing, but inwardly they are ferocious wolves. ¹⁶By their fruit you will recognize them. Do people pick grapes from thornbushes, or figs from thistles? ¹⁷Likewise, every good tree bears good fruit, but a bad tree bears bad fruit. ¹⁸A good tree cannot bear bad fruit, and a bad tree cannot bear good fruit. ¹⁹Every tree that does not bear good fruit is cut down and thrown into the fire. ²⁰Thus, by their fruit you will recognize them.

1 Peter 5:5-11⁵ In the same way, you who are younger, submit yourselves to your elders. All of you, clothe yourselves with humility toward one another, because, “God opposes the proud but shows favor to the humble.”^[a] ⁶ Humble yourselves, therefore, under God’s mighty hand, that he may lift you up in due time. ⁷ Cast all your anxiety on him because he cares for you.

⁸ Be alert and of sober mind. Your enemy the devil prowls around like a roaring lion looking for someone to devour. ⁹ Resist him, standing firm in the faith, because you know that the family of believers throughout the world is undergoing the same kind of sufferings.

¹⁰ And the God of all grace, who called you to his eternal glory in Christ, after you have suffered a little while, will himself restore you and make you strong, firm and steadfast. ¹¹ To him be the power for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn: VU 209 Fire of God, Undying Flame (1,2,4 &5)

Scripture Readings (NIV): 2nd Timothy 4:3-4 & 1st Corinthians 16:13-14

2 Timothy 4:3-4 ³ For the time will come when people will not put up with sound doctrine. Instead, to suit their own desires, they will gather around them a great number of teachers to say what their itching ears want to hear. ⁴ They will turn their ears away from the truth and turn aside to myths.

1 Corinthians 16:13-14 ¹³ Be on your guard; stand firm in the faith; be courageous; be strong. ¹⁴ Do everything in love.

Doxology VU 315 (verse 4) “Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty”
Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty. All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea; holy, holy, holy, merciful and mighty, God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Reflection: Ubuntu

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

Community Prayers

Offertory Invitation & Prayer of Dedication

Closing Prayer (adapted from UCW Study Guide)

Open our minds to be intelligent to understand about true worship of God.

Open our hearts to experience an eternal friendship with God which leads to true worship in Spirit and truth.

“Just as windows can be frosted to block visibility or clouded by dirt, our lives can obscure the light of God.

To be true windows for others to see Christ, we must be clear and open about our faith and struggles.

Transparency invites others to glimpse God through us.

Just as stained-glass windows reveal their beauty when backlit, our lives must radiate God’s love outwardly.

Healing our brokenness allows His light to shine clearly.

Let us through our understanding take up our calling and eagerly share the Good News.

Change our hearts so we may experience an eternal friendship with God, which leads to true worship in Spirit and truth.

May we be clear, clean, and open windows through which others see Christ, and we see Christ in them." Amen.

Hymn VU 291 All Things Bright and Beautiful

Benediction

Song of Commitment VU 481 (verse 2)

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living the tasks of our everyday life we will face. Our faith every sharing in love ever caring, embracing God’s children of each tribe and race. With your feast you feed us, with your light now lead unite us as one in this life that we share. Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving give honour to Christ and the name that we bear.

Postlude Festive Postlude *Paul Fey*