

Kincardine United Church
12th Sunday after Pentecost & Communion
August 28, 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 Prelude J.C. Kittel

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

For thousands of years, First Nations people have walked on this land.
Their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and of their spirituality.

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 Interlude J.C. Kittel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

God calls us to service rather than honour. God calls us to love the unknown rather than the familiar.

We come to this worship, trusting in the grace of Jesus Christ, who is the same yesterday, today and forever.

God, in the freshness of this new day,
Help us to retain clarity of vision so that we might seek the honour of your kingdom rather than the honour of the world. Sustain us through each day so that we might be filled by the grace of your Spirit. Help us to release the regrets of the day into your care. Greet us each day so that we are confident in your love and strengthened in our faith. Amen

***VOICES UNITED #395** Come In, Come In and Sit Down

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Let us receive the promise of grace and the assurance of pardon given to all who believe and repent. This is a faithful saying and worthy of all acceptance. This is our faith. This is our hope. Trusting in this grace, be assured that our sins are forgiven. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

O God, we confess the things that we try to hide from you; the things that we try to hide from others; the things we try to hide from ourselves.

We confess the heartbreak, worry and sorrow we have caused and that make it hard for others to forgive us; the times we have made it easy for others to do wrong; the harm we have done and cannot undo, and that make it hard for us to forgive ourselves. Forgive us, we pray, and make us what you desire us to be, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

SHARING TIME

THE LORD'S PRAYER

**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 Jeremiah 2: 4 - 13

⁴ Hear the word of the LORD, O house of Jacob, and all the families of the house of Israel. ⁵ Thus says the LORD:

What wrong did your ancestors find in me
that they went far from me
and went after worthless things and became worthless themselves?

⁶ They did not say, "Where is the LORD,
who brought us up from the land of Egypt,
who led us in the wilderness,
in a land of deserts and pits,
in a land of drought and deep darkness,
in a land that no one passes through,
where no one lives?"

⁷ I brought you into a plentiful land
to eat its fruits and its good things.
But when you entered you defiled my land
and made my heritage an abomination.
⁸ The priests did not say, "Where is the LORD?"
Those who handle the law did not know me;
the rulers transgressed against me;
the prophets prophesied by Baal
and went after things that do not profit.
⁹ Therefore once more I accuse you,
says the LORD,
and I accuse your children's children.
¹⁰ Cross to the coasts of Cyprus and look;
send to Kedar and examine with care;
see if there has ever been such a thing.
¹¹ Has a nation changed its gods,
even though they are no gods?
But my people have changed their glory
for something that does not profit.
¹² Be appalled, O heavens, at this;
be shocked; be utterly desolate,
says the LORD,
¹³ for my people have committed two evils:
they have forsaken me,
the fountain of living water,
and dug out cisterns for themselves,
cracked cisterns
that can hold no water.

***VOICES UNITED 374** Come and Find the Quiet Centre

BIBLE READING Luke 14: 1, 7 - 14

On one occasion when Jesus was going to the house of a leader of the Pharisees to eat a meal on the Sabbath, they were watching him closely. ⁷ When he noticed how the guests chose the places of honor, he told them a parable. ⁸ "When you are invited by someone to a wedding banquet, do not sit down at the place of honor, in case someone more distinguished than you has been invited by your host, ⁹ and the host who invited both of you may come and say to you, 'Give this person your place,' and then in disgrace you would start to take the lowest place. ¹⁰ But when you are invited, go and sit down at the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he may say to you, 'Friend, move up higher'; then you will be honored in the presence of all who sit at the table with you. ¹¹ For all who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted." ¹² He said also to the one who had invited him, "When you give a luncheon or a dinner, do not invite your friends or your brothers and sisters or your relatives or rich neighbors, in case they may invite you in return, and you would be repaid. ¹³ But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, and the blind. ¹⁴ And you will be blessed because they cannot repay you, for you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

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

Prepare our hearts, O Lord, to accept your word. Silence in us any voice but your own, that hearing, we may also obey your will, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen

MEDITATION The Best Seat

GOD INVITES US TO TABLE

INVITATION

Jesus taught that the best seat in the house is with each person seated as worthy.

We come to this table – to Christ’s table – at his invitation.

Jesus welcomed each person – regardless of their background, their worldview or their mistakes.

We accept his generous welcome, humbled each one of us is invited and worthy.

CALL TO GIVE THANKS

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give God our thanks and praise.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

We remember God’s acts of loving grace, empowering flawed and wounded people for leadership:

Abraham the wealthy and Sarah the enduring,

Moses the stutterer and Miriam the assertive,

Ruth the seductress and Naomi the strategist.

We remember how God empowered marginalized people to speak truth to power:

Samuel the innocent child and Esther the beauty queen,

Rahab the liberating prostitute and Hosea the compassionate doormat,

Mary Magdalene once mentally ill and Peter the impulsive blurter.

We remember that God’s love gathers, upholds and sends ALL people.

When we forget and turn away, God doesn’t give up.

God came in Jesus, the Word made flesh,

living among us to teach, to heal and to model the Way of Love.

God sets a place at the table for each one of us.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

As we gaze around Christ’s table at one another

– those here in person and those not present –

we hold each person who needs our prayers,

each event in the world that troubles us,

along with our own worries and joys,

holding it all in our hearts for God’s touch.

(Silent prayer)

We have the best seats in the house

because every seat has been prepared for us by the risen Christ,

gathering at table as we rediscover our wholeness through this sacrament.

REMEMBERING JESUS AT TABLE AND FRACTION

With a rag-tag collection of people, the disciples he chose, his friends and companions,
on the night he was betrayed, he took the bread.

After he had given thanks, he broke it and gave it to them saying,

“Take, eat, this is my body broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”

In the same manner he took the cup.

After he had given thanks, he poured it out and gave it to them saying,

“Drink this, all of you, remembering me.”

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION

Let us ask for the transformation of these elements and of ourselves as we pray:

**Enlivening Spirit, transform us and these common elements of life,
re-forming us into instruments of your will for loving in the world.**

**As we drink and eat, may you continue to dwell within us,
inspiring and equipping us in each moment. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

If you are worshipping at home,

please take the bread and beverage you have prepared and partake.

If you are worshipping here in person, please take the elements you have been given and partake.

As you partake, remember the Way of Jesus as our own path of loving.

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, once more, together:

For the ways we have been fed and nourished, thank you.

For your welcome that transforms us, bless you.

**Through your encouragement and equipping to follow the Way of Love,
we dedicate ourselves in Jesus' name. Amen.**

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

ANTHEM Miniature Suite for Organ - *Intermezzo* Healey Willan

OFFERING INVITATION

God gives us more grace than we can ever earn and sustains us in ways that we cannot imagine.
With a spirit of generosity, let us freely offer ourselves and our gifts to the world.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)

**God of grace, we give thanks for your faithfulness to us; we give thanks for your unending
hope in us; we rejoice in the knowledge of your unending grace. In the light of your unending
mercy and confident in your love, we dedicate our offerings and ourselves to you. Amen**

***VOICE UNITED 567** Will You Come and Follow Me

BENEDICTION

Go into the world with a daring and tender love. The world is waiting. Go in peace. And all that you
do, do it for the love and by the Spirit of Jesus. Amen

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

Fughetta in C minor

J. Krieger