



**Kincardine United Church
Advent 4
December 23, 2018 10:30 a.m.**

Welcome. You bless us with your presence. If you are a first time worshipper, please sign our guest register at the front entrance of the church. Thank you for turning off your cell phones and for refraining from flash photography. Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the downstairs hall following the service.

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

*An asterisk in the bulletin indicates you may sit or stand.

Kincardine United Church, 721 Princes St. Kincardine ON, N2Z 0A3

Office hours: Tuesday through Friday from 1-4:30 p.m.

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Web site: www.kincardineunitedchurch.org

PRELUDE Carols

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Kincardine United Church takes seriously
the commitments made to First Nations communities
through the national Truth and Reconciliation Commission Report,
especially through the Calls to Action to churches like us.

**Therefore, we acknowledge, this day, that we gather for worship
on the traditional territories of the Saugeen Ojibway,
and 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

INTROIT In Sweet Rejoicing

J.S. Bach

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Our Advent journey is nearly complete,
yet the waiting continues with anticipation.

We pause to ponder, to proclaim and to prepare for what has come
but is not yet fulfilled.

**We come to gaze into each other's hearts as friends along the Way,
discovering the love which transforms.**

We come to discover love lived into a world too focused on division.

We come to turn away from polarization to perceive the Christ in one another.

We come to take up the challenge of affirming each person with love.

We light the first candle reminding us of the way of hope.

(the first Advent candle is lit)

We light the second candle reminding us of Christ's path of peace.

(the second Advent candle is lit)

We light the third candle reminding us of Spirited joy.

(the third Advent candle is lit)

We light our fourth candle to mark how love abides by God's grace.

(the fourth Advent candle is lit)

**(we sing) A candle is burning, a candle of love,
a candle to point us to heaven above.**

**A baby for Christmas, a wonderful birth,
for Jesus is bringing God's love to our earth.**

Let us join as one community of faith in prayer:

We come worshipping you, O God, into the centre of our living.

Where you live in our hearts, we make room for strangers and for friends;

we make room for enemies and for allies;

we make room for our neighbours.

We make ever more room for the power of your love.

We thank you for the blessing of grace-filled love, knowing each day how to share widely of the love that embraces us. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 9 People Look East**

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Your Love is at work in us, O God.

We forget to give thanks,

instead wavering between trying harder and giving up.

Forgive our lacklustre-heartedness, and remind us that you are Love. Forgive our narrow vision, and turn us again to walk your way.

Forgive our wrongful ways, and open us to receive as well as give.

Free us from our selfish desires, and help us to grow through hope,

peace, joy and love.

(Silent Prayer)

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SHARING TIME My Favourite Things

THE LORD'S PRAYER (say together)

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.

ANTHEM Goin' to Bethlehem

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING Micah 5: 2-5a Old Testament page 865

***VOICES UNITED 899 Song of Mary**

BIBLE READING Luke 1: 39-55 New Testament page 57

DOXOLOGY 268 VU Bring Many Names (verse 6 only)

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

MEDITATION Blessed Is Your Name

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

ANTHEM Somebody Build a Manger

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING PRAYER and DEDICATION

Holy One, this Advent season we wait with love,

And we give with love.

Receive these generous offerings,

And use them for your works of love in this faith community and with those we are called to serve.

Bless these poinsettias and those who donated them,

bless these cards and those who created them,

bless those who deliver both to be servants of your good news.

**Bless those who receive them with relationships
that nurture life abundant.**

**Bless those in whose memory these gifts are given,
knowing them as part of the company of saints
and as we remember those saints we carry in our hearts.**

We name those saints in the silence of our hearts now.

Silence

As we receive your blessing,

may we continue to be a blessing for others –

in the company with the saints before us –

while the infant Jesus blesses us

with hope, peace, joy and love. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 59 Joy To The World**

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT MV 37 VU Gloria**







Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!

POSTLUDE The First Noel

G. Phillips



AV MINISTRY TEAM		Sean Crawford-Thompson, Judy & Jim Zarubick
COUNTERS		Liz & Barry Schmidt
DECEMBER HOUSE LEADER		Sheila Bauer
MUSIC		David Hamilton, KUC Choir
NURSERY ATTENDANT		Jackie Clements
SCRIPTURE READER		The Wolfe Family
SLIDE PRESENTATION		Sarah MacKenzie
SUNDAY SCHOOL TEACHER		Catharine Crawford
WORSHIP		Kerry Stover, Gord Dunbar

