Kincardine United Church Advent 2

December 5, 2021 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.

Kincardine United Church, 721 Princes St. Kincardine ON, N2Z 0A3 Office Email: <u>kuchurch@bmts.com</u> Phone: 519-396-2391 Gord Dunbar: <u>gord.kuc@bmts.com</u> Donation Steward: <u>kucdonate@bmts.com</u> Web site: www.kincardineunitedchurch.org

CAROL SING (In Person)

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

(Slightly modified from the one used at Saugeen Wesley United Church) For thousands of years,

First Nations people have lived on this land and by these waters; this relationship is at the centre of their lives and spirituality.

We are gathered as a non-Indigenous community of faith on the traditional territory of the Saugeen Ojibway Nation, and acknowledge their stewardship through the ages. We seek to live together in respect, friendship and peace.

Jesus calls us into the world to love one another as we are loved by God.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

MUSICAL INTROIT Lo, How a Rose J. Brahms

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

On this second Sunday of Advent, we light this first candle symbolizing PEACE – the proclamation that God calls us to live peacefully in understanding.

(The second candle is lit)

Noticing the tiny flame, we wonder when the next puff of air will blow it out. We ponder that, if this candle was outside, it would quickly be extinguished. Still the flame flickers and flourishes –

a symbol of the Prince of Peace living within us -

a powerful image of strength despite perceived weakness.

2

VOICES UNITED 7 verse 2 only (we sing)

Peace is a ribbon that circles the earth, giving a promise of safety and worth. When God is a child there's joy in our song.

The last shall be first and weak shall be strong, and none shall be afraid.

We come to affirm that divine peace thrives within us,

a seed of inspiration strengthened by Spirit breath.

We come to seek wisdom and daring to live lives of peace,

transformation into a community of faith that builds bridges.

We enter into prayer to receive the blessings

of the peace which passes all understanding:

Whisper to our hearts this morning, O God,

helping us to notice the chasms we create between one another.

Breathe into our intentions that we become ever more aware,

believing we CAN make a difference no matter how small we may feel.

Lead us through the Way of Jesus to listen to one another in love. Amen.

*VOICES UNITED 18 There's a Voice in the Wilderness

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Silent Prayer)

SHARING TIME Peace: The Prayer of Saint Frances

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 Malachi 3:1-4 in the Old Testament on page 889.

See, I am sending my messenger to prepare the way before me, and the Lord whom you seek will suddenly come to his temple. The messenger of the covenant in whom you delight—indeed, he is coming, says the LORD of hosts. ² But who can endure the day of his coming, and who can stand when he appears? For he is like a refiner's fire and like fullers' soap; ³ he will sit as a refiner and purifier of silver, and he will purify the descendants of Levi and refine them like gold and silver, until they present offerings to the LORD in righteousness. ⁴ Then the offering of Judah and Jerusalem will be pleasing to the LORD as in the days of old and as in former years.

*VOICES UNITED #58 Infant Holy, Infant Lowly

BIBLE READING Luke 3:1-6 in the New Testament on page 60.

In the fifteenth year of the reign of Emperor Tiberius, when Pontius Pilate was governor of Judea, and Herod was ruler of Galilee, and his brother Philip ruler of the region of Ituraea and Trachonitis,

and Lysanias ruler of Abilene, ² during the high priesthood of Annas and Caiaphas, the word of God came to John son of Zechariah in the wilderness. ³ He went into all the region around the Jordan, proclaiming a baptism of repentance for the forgiveness of sins, ⁴ as it is written in the book of the words of the prophet Isaiah,

"The voice of one crying out in the wilderness:

'Prepare the way of the Lord,

make his paths straight.

⁵ Every valley shall be filled,

and every mountain and hill shall be made low,

and the crooked shall be made straight,

and the rough ways made smooth;

⁶ and all flesh shall see the salvation of God.""

DOXOLOGY Bring Many Names #268 Voices United (verse 6 only) Great, living God, never fully known, joyful darkness far behond our seeing, closer yet than breathing, everlasting home: Hail and hosanna, great, living God!

MEDITATION Women's Voices in the Wildnerness

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

CHOIR ANTHEM Will We Know Him? Words by Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music by Don Besig

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison) Take these gifts we offer, O God, and bless them for your purpose. May they fuel our reaching out to our community for justice. May they foster the building of mutual relationships across divides. May they forge bonds of possibility despite uncertainty. Amen.

*<u>VOICES UNITED</u> 64 O Little Town of Bethlehem

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT Gloria # 37 Voices United Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

POSTLUDE Prelude in C Major BMV 553 J. S. Bach