



Kincardine United Church

Transfiguration Sunday

February 23rd, 2019 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

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PRELUDE Cameo Overture
Children, Go Where I Send Thee
Allegro from "Water Music"
Alden Bridge Overture
Air and Allegro
Bach: Three Chorales

all performed by K.U.C.I.E.

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

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

As we came to this land,

First Nations peoples welcomed us, sustained us and taught us.

We did not hear them when they shared their vision.

In our zeal to tell them the good news of Jesus Christ,
we were closed to the value of their spirituality.

We confused Western ways and culture

with the depth, breadth, length and height of the gospel of Christ.

We imposed our civilization as a condition of accepting the gospel.

As a result, the image of the Creator in us is twisted, blurred,
and we are not what we are meant by God to be.

**In our journey toward reconciliation, 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 Morecambe

performed by K.U.C.I.E.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

You scrubbed your face, combed your hair, put on your Sunday clothing.
Have you come to shine?

Sometimes we come purely out of habit, out of routine.

Sometimes we luxuriate in bed enjoying the snuggly warmth,

wondering if we're really going to put the effort in to get up and come.

This morning, though, we're here – but we're not sure about "shining."

Beyond routine habit, for what do you yearn?

What nudges you subconsciously to make the effort on this Sunday morning?

The familiar and the novel woven together invites us,

but especially the possibility that something – someone –

will enflame our souls and light a sustaining fire of purpose.

Then come, at Christ's invitation, journeying within God's heart,

touched by the Spirit's surprising insights, revealed by divine unmasking.

Come as one and pray:

O God, we never know how you will touch us,

how you will reveal yourself to us and, thus, to encourage us.

In this morning's journey, may you unmask who we are in you.

May you plant within us the seeds to shine, to glow for you.

May you infuse us with courage as disciples of the Way of Christ.
 May you open us to your radical loving
 that we can help to change the world.
 We ask it wobbly in our uncertainty, but firm in our trust. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 585** Jesus Bids Us Shine

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (*Silent Prayer*)

SHARING TIME Christ-salis

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 Exodus 24:12-18 from the Old Testament page 70

***VOICES UNITED 104** We Have Come at Christ's Own Bidding

BIBLE READING Matthew 17:1-9 from the New Testament page 18

DOXOLOGY Bring Many Names #268 Voices United 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 Glowing

GOD INVITES US TO THE TABLE

INVITATION

Here is the table the risen Christ sets for all of us this day.

We come to accept that invitation –

**whether in faith we doubt or we are certain,
 whether we embrace mystery or try to unscrew the inscrutable –
 wherever we are on the journey of life,
 we come grateful to gather together as one.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Give God your thanks and your praise.

It is right to give God our thanks and our praise.

In God's good Creation, we were formed in the image of God to shine,
to find our place in the web of life as good stewards who listen carefully.

**Those who came before us shone their light of faith
to illuminate life's path.**

From Abraham and Sarah to Moses and Miriam,
from rulers struggling with mental illness like King Saul
to rulers wrestling with their own desires like King David,
from discounted prostitutes like Rahab who freed others
to destitute daughters-in-law like Ruth who chose to lead,
from prophets emptied by depression like Elijah yet who persevered
to prophets like Hosea who's hopes were forever dashed
yet who still anticipated transformation,
from hard-working yet puzzled fisher folk like Peter
to a marginalized, foreign woman at Jacob's Well.

**All of these very human and flawed people lived their faith,
shining with inner light for the world to witness,
establishing daring examples of what is possible in all of us.**

Even with all these glowing witnesses to God's grace, to God's transformation,
we turned away, ignoring them all, seeking "easier" paths.

**In response, Jesus came to show us the Way,
to live a life of unconditional self-giving that heals and reshapes.**

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

In gratitude, while embraced by overwhelming love,
we lift our hearts to God's heart,
offering prayers for those things that worry us,
for those situations for which we ask divine guidance,
for those near and dear to our hearts
and for the healing of our aching world
that it may glow evermore.

(Silent prayer)

Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION AND FRACTION

PRAYER FOR THE SPIRIT'S BLESSING

**On this table are the ordinary things of life –
bread, crackers and grape juice –
yet we pray that the Spirit may so bless the ordinary**

that it shines with the inner illumination of Christ's transfiguration,
lighting us up by the power of God's love,
transforming us all for God's purpose in life. Amen.

DISTRIBUTION

Communion will be served at the front of the church.

*The greeters will direct you forward using the centre aisle to receive the bread,
to receive the small glass of grape juice,
and to prayerfully partake of each in turn.*

Please return to your seat using the side aisles.

Gluten-free crackers are available separately from the bread.

Please let a greeter know if you wish to be served in your seat.

An appropriate response when receiving the bread or grape juice is "Amen."

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us join together in prayer:

**Loving God who takes us and transforms us by your love,
may what we have shared and experienced this morning
so touch us that we will shine with your light.**

**Even when the winds of uncertainty threaten to blow out the flame,
may the power of your Spirit and the companionship of Christ
be our guide and our strength each day. Amen.**

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

ANTHEM Come Find Forgiveness and Love

Price/Besig

OFFERING INVITATION

OFFERING PRAYER (in unison)

We give to you, O God, our selves and our offerings.

Bless them, we pray, that your light will shine through them and us.

Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 289** It Only Takes a Spark

***BENEDICTION**

***SONG OF COMMITMENT** Gloria #37 Voices United

Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!

Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.

POSTLUDE Promised Land

performed by K.U.C.I.E.