



**Kincardine United Church**  
**1st Sunday of Black History Month**  
**February 7, 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.

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**PRELUDE** Dearest Jesus

*J.S. Bach*

**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**

**MUSICAL INTROIT** Prelude (Op. 21, No.7)

*G. Merkel*

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

Do you really not know...

**that he is God of all in the heavens and on the earth?**

Have you really not heard...

**how she has brought princes to naught and oppressors to their  
knees?**

Haven't you already been told...

**that you're counted among the stars, and that you matter?**

Do you not know, have you not heard?

**We come to learn, we come for our strength to be renewed,  
we come in hope.**

Let us pray...

**\*VOICES UNITED 79** Arise, Your Light Is Come

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE AND PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

**SHARING TIME** - Story

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**, sung (*Voices United* #960):

**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** Isaiah 40:21-31 from the paraphrase *The Message*

<sup>21-24</sup> Have you not been paying attention? Have you not been listening? Haven't you heard these stories all your life? Don't you understand the foundation of all things? God sits high above the round ball of earth. The people look like mere ants. He stretches out the skies like a canvas— yes, like a tent canvas to live under. He ignores what all the princes say and do. The rulers of the earth count for nothing. Princes and rulers don't amount to much. Like seeds barely rooted, just sprouted, They shrivel when God blows on them. Like flecks of chaff, they're gone with the wind. <sup>25-26</sup> "So—who is like me? Who holds a candle to me?" says The Holy. Look at the night skies: Who do you think made all this? Who marches this army of stars out each night, counts them off, calls each by name —so magnificent! so powerful!— and never overlooks a single one?

<sup>27-31</sup> Why would you ever complain, O Jacob, or, whine, Israel, saying, "GOD has lost track of me. He doesn't care what happens to me"? Don't you know anything? Haven't you been listening? GOD doesn't come and go. God *lasts*.

He's Creator of all you can see or imagine. He doesn't get tired out, doesn't pause to catch his breath. And he knows *everything*, inside and out. He energizes those who get tired, gives fresh strength to dropouts. For even young people tire and drop out, young folk in their prime stumble and fall. But those who wait upon GOD get fresh strength. They spread their wings and soar like eagles, They run and don't get tired, they walk and don't lag behind.

**\*MORE VOICES 28** God of the Bible (Fresh as the Morning)

**BIBLE READING** Mark 1:29-39 (NRSV)

<sup>29</sup> As soon as they<sup>[a]</sup> left the synagogue, they entered the house of Simon and Andrew, with James and John. <sup>30</sup> Now Simon's mother-in-law was in bed with a fever, and they told him about her at once. <sup>31</sup> He came and took her by the hand and lifted her up. Then the fever left her, and she began to serve them.

<sup>32</sup> That evening, at sunset, they brought to him all who were sick or possessed with demons. <sup>33</sup> And the whole city was gathered around the door. <sup>34</sup> And he cured many who were sick with various diseases, and cast out many demons; and he would not permit the demons to speak, because they knew him.

<sup>35</sup> In the morning, while it was still very dark, he got up and went out to a deserted place, and there he prayed. <sup>36</sup> And Simon and his companions hunted for him. <sup>37</sup> When they found him, they said to him, "Everyone is searching for you." <sup>38</sup> He answered, "Let us go on to the neighboring towns, so that I may

proclaim the message there also; for that is what I came out to do.”<sup>39</sup> And he went throughout Galilee, proclaiming the message in their synagogues and casting out demons.

**DOXOLOGY** NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD #236 VU (verse 3 only)

**All praise and thanks to God for all that has been given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest who dwell in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

**MEDITATION** Seeking Renewable Strength

**GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**ANTHEM** Do Lord

**COMMUNITY PRAYERS** God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God, creator of the world, you hold all that you have created within your compassionate embrace. As you hold our lives torn by pain, sorrow or hatred within your aching heart, we cry out for wholeness- for ourselves, for those we love, and for our world.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

May your healing presence gently transform the places of our lives where we hold pain. May your loving presence be a comforting reality for those of us who find ourselves in despair, lost or alone.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

May your transforming presence create generosity in place of greed, harmony in place of hatred, and everlasting justice where evil now reigns.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God, creator of the world, from the silence of our own hearts, we bring before you these people that need your healing, loving, transforming presence: *silence*

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

O God, creator of the world, this is your world, and we claim your power and your presence to make it whole.

We offer you our thanksgiving for a time rich with connections, among each other and with you.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

We thank you for moments when we have experienced what it is to be united even in our differences. Help us to grow as a listening, discerning, learning people.

Help us to give up patterns and structures that enslave us and others. Help us to acknowledge our fear and lean into your hope and your courage.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.**

Help us to grow in our trust in each other and in your Spirit. Fill us with your grace and with your wisdom, with your patience and with your love.

Propel us into your future, Rooted in the richness of our past.

God of grace, **hear our prayer.** Amen

**OFFERING INVITATION**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER** (in unison)

**Grant us the blessing, God: of gifts generously given, of time generously made available, of abilities generously shared, in your loving and challenging service.**

**\*VOICES UNITED** 639 One More Step Along the World I Go

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SONG OF COMMITMENT****Gloria, Gloria, in excelsis Deo!****Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia.****POSTLUDE** Fughetta in g minor*Rembt*