

# Kincardine United Church

## Baptism of Jesus

January 8, 2023 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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*YouTube: [KUC YouTube Channel](#) Facebook: [KUC Facebook Page](#)*

**PRELUDE**    Dearest Jesus, We Are Here To Hear Thy Word    *J.S. Bach*

### **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**    Prelude    *J.C. Kittel*

## **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**We light the Christ Candle this morning in celebration of the baptism of Jesus Christ, God's beloved Son. In Christ's baptism, we are reminded that we are the beloved of God. May we feel this love in our hearts and may we show this love and grace to all whom we meet in this world.**

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

**L: Come, people of God!**

**P: We come, called by God to be witnesses to the Light.**

**L: With John and with all the disciples,**

**P: with our sisters and brothers throughout the ages and around the world;**

**L: we gather to sing, to pray and to worship our God!**

## **PRAYER OF APPROACH**

**God of Life and new Life, you are splendid and strong! Your voice thunders above the sound of loud waters. You sit enthroned above the floods of life. As Jesus heard you speak to him in his baptism, may we also hear you calling us your beloved, through Jesus Christ, your Son, our Saviour. Amen**

**\*HYMN 395 VU**      Come In, Come In And Sit Down

## **ASSURANCE OF GRACE**

Friends, God is for us and not against us. For that very reason God sent his Son into the world – not to condemn the world, but that the world might be saved through him.

**We declare the good news of the Gospel. In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven, blessed and set free to live a new life in him.**

## **PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

The message of John tells us that the Light came into the world and people loved darkness more than the Light, for their actions are evil. We confess our sins to God, to whom we have access through faith in Christ. We come in boldness and confidence, not according to our merit, but according to God's grace.

**God of justice, we confess our actions are evil whenever we do not take action when others are oppressed; whenever we guard our own prosperity at the expense of those who are poor; or ignore the cries of those in need of help. Forgive us, we pray, for hiding in the darkness of this world more than loving the light of your righteousness made known to us in Jesus Christ. Judge us with mercy, we pray, and extend your grace to us. Strengthen our faithfulness to you and to all who are precious in your sight. We pray in the name of Jesus Christ, our Light. Amen.**

**SHARING TIME – Being Beloved**

## **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.**

## **GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD**

### **BIBLE READING Isaiah 42: 1 - 9**

- 1. Here is my chosen servant, whom I uphold, my chosen, in whom my soul delights; I have put my spirit upon him; he will bring forth justice to the nations.**
- 2. He will not cry or lift up his voice or make it heard in the street;**
- 3. a bruised reed he will not break, and a dimly burning wick he will not quench; he will faithfully bring forth justice.**
- 4. He will not grow faint or be crushed until he has established justice in the earth; and the coastlands wait for his teaching.**
- 5. Thus says God, the Lord, who created the heavens and stretched them out, who spread out the earth and what comes from it, who gives breath to the people who walk upon it and spirit to those who walk in it:**
- 6. I am the Lord, I have called you in righteousness, I have taken you by the hand and kept you; I have given you as a covenant to the people, a light to the nations,**
- 7. to open the eyes that are blind, to bring out the prisoners from the dungeon, from the prison those who sit in darkness.**
- 8. I am the Lord, that is my name; my glory I give to no other, nor my praise to idols.**
- 9. See the former things have come to pass, and new things I now declare; and before they spring forth, I tell you of them.**

**\*HYMN 672 VU Take Time To Be Holy**

### **BIBLE READING Matthew 3:13 – 17**

- 13. Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him.**
- 14. John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?"**
- 15. But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented.**
- 16. And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw the Spirit of God descending like a dove and alighting on him.**
- 17. And a voice from heaven said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."**

**DOXOLOGY** “Maker in Whom We Live” # 321 *Voices United* (verse 4 only).

Eternal, Triune God, let all the hosts above,  
let all on earth below record and dwell upon your love.

When heaven and earth have fled before your glorious face,  
may all the saints your love has made sing everlasting praise.

#### **PRAYER BEFORE MEDITATION**

O God, we would be servants of your gospel. By your grace, through the power of your Holy Spirit, reveal to us your wisdom in its rich variety.

**Speak to us in your Word read and proclaimed, that hearing we may in turn share with others the boundless riches of Christ, that everyone might come to see your plan for all creation. In Jesus Christ our Lord we pray.**

#### **MEDITATION – Why Do You Come To Me**

**KINGDOM OF GOD** (sing together)

The Kingdom of God is justice and peace and joy in the Holy Spirit.  
Come, Lord, and open in us the gates of your Kingdom.

#### **COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

### **GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

**ANTHEM** We Three Kings *J.H. Hopkins*

#### **OFFERING INVITATION**

God gives us not only the genesis of life but the new life born of repentance, forgiveness and resurrection. Therefore, with generous hearts, let us give a portion of what has already been given to us in our covenant with God and with each other.

#### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*in unison*)

**Great saving God, you have gathered us into one baptism, regardless of our backgrounds and our conditions. Therefore, we offer our tithes and our offerings, that they may be joined with others to become a mighty force, bringing your peace and healing to the world. Amen**

**\*HYMN #87 VU** I Am The Light Of The World

#### **BENEDICTION**

May the God who called Jesus “beloved” also speak blessings to us, beloved daughters and sons, and empower us to bring that good news to others who still need to hear it. Amen

**SONG OF COMMITMENT** “Gloria” #37 *Voices United* (sing once).

**POSTLUDE** Tuba Tune Paul Fey

