

Kincardine United Church

Communion, 9th Sunday after Pentecost

July 21st, 2024 11:00 a.m.

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

*An asterisk in the bulletin indicates you may rise in body or spirit.

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PRELUDE

Communion

Healey Willan

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

INTROIT

Interlude

J. C. Kittell

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come as people gathered as one into this church community.

Here we are in all our wonderfully rag-tag diversity and curiously odd eccentricities.

Come as those whom God chooses and those whom Jesus invites.

We come to discover our transformation through the Spirit's inspiration.

Come even as we wonder about the future of this community of faith –

or perhaps especially *because* we wonder and worry.

We come in our uncertainty, but also out of trust in God.

Let us pray, then, while embracing that attitude of trust:

Change is afoot, O God, and we need – we depend – upon your guidance.

Through our connection deep within your heart,

may we discover our meaning and purpose as a family of faith.

Encourage us within intentional dialogue,

open us to understanding when conflict arises,

and strengthen us to foster meaningful relationships with one another.

May we further live our faith within our wider community as we journey with you. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 331** The Church's One Foundation

SHARING TIME If Nathan Were Here

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 Ephesians 2:11-15 from *The Message*

¹¹⁻¹³ But don't take any of this for granted. It was only yesterday that you outsiders to God's ways had no idea of any of this, didn't know the first thing about the way God works, hadn't the faintest idea of Christ. You knew nothing of that rich history of God's covenants and promises in Israel, hadn't a clue about what God was doing in the world at large. Now because of Christ—dying that death, shedding that blood—you who were once out of it altogether are in on everything.

¹⁴⁻¹⁵ The Messiah has made things up between us so that we're now together on this, both non-Jewish outsiders and Jewish insiders. He tore down the wall we used to keep each other at a distance. He repealed the law code that had become so clogged with fine print and footnotes that it hindered more than it helped. Then he started over. Instead of continuing with two groups of people separated by centuries of animosity and suspicion, he created a new kind of human being, a fresh start for everybody.

***KNOWN UNKNOWNNS 67** Sisters and Brothers, with One Voice Tune: #169 *Voices United*

- 1. Sisters and brothers, with one voice confirm your calling and rejoice:
each is God's child and each God's choice.**

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

2. Strangers no more, but cherished friends, live as the body God intends, sharing the love the Spirit sends.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

3. Not, though, by wisdom, wealth or skill, nor by ourselves can we fulfill what, for the world, is God's own will.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

4. Christ is the Way. By him alone seeds of the kingdom's life are sown, patterns of heaven on earth are shown.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

5. Then follow Christ through every day; fear not what crowd or critics say. Those on the move move those who stay.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

6. In factory, office, home or hall, where people struggle, strive or stall, seek out and serve the Lord of All.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

7. Seeking and serving, with one voice confirm your calling and rejoice: each is God's child and each God's choice.

Refrain: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

BIBLE READING Ephesians 2:16-22 from *The Message*

¹⁶⁻¹⁸ Christ brought us together through his death on the cross. The Cross got us to embrace, and that was the end of the hostility. Christ came and preached peace to you outsiders and peace to us insiders. He treated us as equals, and so made us equals. Through him we both share the same Spirit and have equal access to the Father.

¹⁹⁻²² That's plain enough, isn't it? You're no longer wandering exiles. This kingdom of faith is now your home country. You're no longer strangers or outsiders. You *belong* here, with as much right to the name Christian as anyone. God is building a home. He's using us all—irrespective of how we got here—in what he is building. He used the apostles and prophets for the foundation. Now he's using you, fitting you in brick by brick, stone by stone, with Christ Jesus as the cornerstone that holds all the parts together. We see it taking shape day after day—a holy temple built by God, all of us built into it, a temple in which God is quite at home.

DOXOLOGY 236 VU (verse 3) "Now Thank We All Our God"

**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.**

PRAYER BEFORE REFLECTION

REFLECTION "Transformers"

JESUS INVITES US TO TABLE

INVITATION

Here is the table Jesus called Love,
gathered around by those called beloved –
table of welcome in unity, ushering into the Trinity.

**Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.
Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.**

GREAT THANKSGIVING

The Lord be with you.

Also with you.

Lift up your hearts high.

We lift them up, too.

Let us give thanks and praise to our Lord.

It is so right we praise with accord.

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

Blessed be God Who caused us to be, called us to flourish, created us free,
present wherever goodness is found, setting us firmly on holy ground.

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

Prophets of old and prophets anew, challenge us all to follow, be true.

When life's temptations hold us in thrall,
then Jesus whispers, "Follow my call."

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

Blessed are those who under duress, greet us like manna in our wilderness,
fill us with hope when courage is gone, give us the strength for carrying on.

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

So it was on the night he's betrayed,
Jesus did offer to those who had stayed,
bread for the journey, wine of his blood,
showing the promise: grace like a flood.

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

PRAYER FOR THE SPIRIT'S BLESSING:

Now let us join our hearts before God,
Giving, in prayer, our praise and our laud,
asking the Spirit blessings of light, sharing this meal as Jesus' delight.

Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.

Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.

FRACTION AND PARTAKING

If you are worshipping at home,

*please take the bread and beverage you have prepared and partake,
sharing with anyone who is with you.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Blessed are all who here upon earth, nurture a vision and bring it to birth,
live by the creed we boldly embrace: blessed assurance, amazing grace.
**Sing unto God a jubilant song, praising the one to whom we belong.
Sing of the future and of the past, Love ever present, holding us fast.**

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

MISSION AND SERVICE STORY *...Liz Dillman*

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

You call us into the world, living Christ, to love one another as you love us.
Bless these gifts as symbols and signs of our love shared with the world,
 helping to create your kin-dom on earth as in heaven.
May we, as a community of faith bearing your name,
 continue to be a blessing while making a difference in the world. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 562** Jesus Calls Us

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT 161 MV (verse 4)

"I Have Called You by Your Name"

I have given you a name, it is mine;
I have given you my Spirit as a sign.
With my wonder in your soul, make my wounded children whole;
go and tell my precious people they are mine.

POSTLUDE

Prelude on Vulpius

Healey Willan