

Kincardine United Church

7th Sunday after Pentecost & Communion

July 24, 2022 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

I call to thee, Lord Jesus Christ BWV 639

J. S. Bach

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked this land,
weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land.

**European colonisation came about in large part
because of the Doctrine of Discovery,**

a flawed understanding that ignores Indigenous presence on the land.

Affirming the United Nations Declaration of the Rights of Indigenous Peoples
and, therefore, repudiating the wrong of such a doctrine,
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

In Thee have I hoped BWV 640

J. S. Bach

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Come all you who are online, you who join us on television and you who are here in person.

We come, longing for connection, for healthy relationships and for mutual love.

Come to immerse yourself in the promise of good news given by our gracious God.

We come in hope, in trust and in anticipation.

Come, then, to be embraced by God in prayer:

God who created us for relationship, who is Love given and received,

fill our hearts with your healing balm of patience, of daring and of challenge.

Risen Christ who modelled the Way of Love in community and in the world,

walk with us as we endeavour to follow your footsteps of self-giving.

Startling Spirit who weaves us together into wholeness for mission,

inspire us to plant seeds of possibility despite many challenges.

Be within us in the power of expansive Love. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 333** Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

GOD INVITES US TO TABLE

INVITATION

We just sang that “thou art all compassion, pure, unbounded love thou art;”

as well as asking for “all thy grace receive.”

We come to this table – Christ’s table – as those invited in love and through grace.

Come as those invited freely and recklessly by the living Christ,

for everyone is invited to gather at this table because ALL are worthy and welcome.

We come in gratitude and to be fed with “wonder, love and praise.”

CALL TO GIVE THANKS

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God.

Let us give God our thanks and praise.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise.

GREAT THANKSGIVING

Love has always been God’s own self – and a Love writ large in all our relations.

The story of Love is God’s story interwoven with ours as we remember.

The baby Moses – protected by his teenaged sister –

became a leader who freed an enslaved people.

The boy Samuel listened to God and shared tough wisdom with his mentor.

The Psalmist declared that “a child will lead them.”

Whenever we needed God’s presence, God was there in the gift of love,

speaking through the voices of stories enlivened through compassion.

When there were times of homelessness and of wandering,

when there were times of violence and of rejection,

when there were times of homecoming and of welcome,
God was there in the gift of love, in the giving away of what was most precious.
When people sought ever more land, ever more power, and ever more prestige;
when people of faith looked to legalisms and laws while ignoring the aching needs of others;
when people yearned to listen to the story of faith, pushing aside the criticisms of others;
God was there in the gift of love, in the assurance that we are *all* special in God's eyes,
that God's narrative lives within hearts transformed.
That gift of forgiveness and of grace is one the Psalmist knew very well.

VOICES UNITED 802 Psalm 85 *part one with refrain*

Refrain: God, show us your love, show us your love and mercy.

Once you were gracious to your land, O God, you restored the fortunes of Jacob;
you forgave the offence of your people, and pardoned all their sin.
You drew back all your displeasure, and turned from your fiery wrath.
Restore us again, God our Saviour, and put away your just anger toward us.
Will you be angry with us forever? Will you prolong your wrath to all generations?
Will you not revive us again, that your people may rejoice in you?

Refrain: God, show us your love, show us your love and mercy.

SONG OF CREATION

Yet fire and division rent us asunder as we turned away from Love.
In our worrying about how to make ends meet, we couldn't hear God's belief in us.
In our desire to continue to do things as we have always done,
we couldn't hear Jesus' call to healing.
In our need to build ourselves up in order to tear others down,
we couldn't hear the Spirit's truth within us.
We forgot our story. We forgot that God is with us in the gift of Love.
Therefore we, along with the Psalmist of old, yearn to try again.

VOICES UNITED 802 Psalm 85 *part two with refrain*

Refrain: God, show us your love, show us your love and mercy.

Let me hear what you will say, O God, for you will speak peace to your people,
to the faithful who turn their hearts to you.
Surely salvation is near those who fear you, and your glory will dwell in our land.
Mercy and faithfulness will meet, justice and peace will embrace.
Faithfulness will spring up from the earth, and righteousness look down from heaven.
You, O God, will give what is good, and our land will yield its harvest.
Righteousness will go before you, and the paths of our feet will be peace.

Refrain: God, show us your love, show us your love and mercy.

AFFIRMATION OF MEMORY AND HOPE

Despite our moving away from God, God did not forget our potential.

God gave God's own self – unconditionally – in Love,
that we might once again remember our story and our identity as God's own lovers.

REMEMBERING JESUS AT TABLE

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

As gather around Christ's table, we pay attention to our relationships with one another.
Invited by Christ, we know how loved we are and how much love we have to share.
In the silence of prayer, let us offer those we love into God's embrace,
that they may be anointed by God's loving communion for healing and for transformation.
Let us pray in silence now:

(Silent prayer)

Take all our prayers, O God, and fold them into the words Jesus gave us to pray, saying:

THE LORD'S PRAYER (#2)

**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.**

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION

Let us pray together:

Help us, Loving Spirit, to remember our story.

**As we share these elements at Christ's table this morning, may you bless us:
with your constant companionship,
with your guiding light,
with your embrace of grace,
with your inspiration for transformation through the power of Love. Amen.**

DISTRIBUTION

*If you are worshipping at home,
please take the bread and beverage you have prepared and partake.
If you are worshipping here in person,
please take the elements you have been given and partake.
As you partake, remember the Way of Jesus as our own path of loving.*

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

Let us pray, once more, together:

**Through communion with you, O Christ, we are made new.
Through what we have said and done today, we remember your self-giving in Love.
Through the Spirit, we become empowered in your name,
to go into the world to live our story through the Way of Love. Amen.**

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

***VOICES UNITED 266** Amazing Grace

BIBLE READING Hosea 1:2-10 from the paraphrase *The Message*.

² The first time GOD spoke to Hosea he said:

“Find a whore and marry her.

Make this whore the mother of your children.

And here’s why: This whole country

has become a whorehouse, unfaithful to me, GOD.”

³ Hosea did it. He picked Gomer daughter of Diblaim. She got pregnant and gave him a son.

⁴⁻⁵ Then GOD told him:

“Name him Jezreel. It won’t be long now before

I’ll make the people of Israel pay for the massacre at Jezreel.

I’m calling it quits on the kingdom of Israel.

Payday is coming! I’m going to chop Israel’s bows and arrows

into kindling in the valley of Jezreel.”

⁶⁻⁷ Gomer got pregnant again. This time she had a daughter. GOD told Hosea:

“Name this one No-Mercy. I’m fed up with Israel.

I’ve run out of mercy. There’s no more forgiveness.

Judah’s another story. I’ll continue having mercy on them.

I’ll save them. It will be their GOD who saves them,

Not their armaments and armies,

not their horsepower and manpower.”

⁸⁻⁹ After Gomer had weaned No-Mercy, she got pregnant yet again and had a son. GOD said:

“Name him Nobody. You’ve become nobodies to me,

and I, GOD, am a nobody to you.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ “But down the road the population of Israel is going to explode past counting, like sand on the ocean beaches. In the very place where they were once named Nobody, they will be named God’s Somebody. Everybody in Judah and everybody in Israel will be assembled as one people. They’ll choose a single leader. There’ll be no stopping them—a great day in Jezreel!”

DOXOLOGY Gloria Patri

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Spirit,

as it was in the beginning is now and ever shall be,

world without end. Amen.

MEDITATION Reckless Love

ANTHEM “Reckless Love” by Corey Asbury and performed by Lydia and Morgan Ritchie

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (*in unison*)

We have gathered at your table, we have been blessed by your grace

and we anticipate transformation by the power of your Love, O God.

Bless, then, all that we give of ourselves, of our treasure and of our souls,

that we may become your loving conduits to heal the world, in Jesus’ name. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 574** Come, Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT Spirit God, Be Our Breath
#150 *More Voices* (verse 4 only)

**Spirit God: be our breath, be our song.
Blow through us, bringing strength to move on.
Through change, through challenge, we'll greet the new dawn...
Spirit God, be our song.**

POSTLUDE Prelude in C BWV 533

J. S. Bach