



Kincardine United Church

5th Sunday of Lent

March 21, 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.

Kincardine United Church, 721 Princes St. Kincardine ON, N2Z 0A3

Office Email: kuchurch@bmts.com Phone: 519-396-2391

Gord Dunbar: gord.kuc@bmts.com Donation Steward: kucdonate@bmts.com

Web site: www.kincardineunitedchurch.org

PRELUDE When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

Paul Fey

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 more recently the Saugeen Metis,
as well as 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 Four Preludes, No. 1

J. C. Kittel

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Did you notice? Yesterday was officially the first day of Spring.
Come this morning as we encounter the seasonal blooming of hope.

Yet here we are, still worshipping digitally, still isolated –

all while public health officials tell us we are at the start of a third wave.

It doesn't feel that hopeful to us while we are still mired in this pandemic.

Come, then, as those feeling broken, as those feeling lost,
as those who feel weary and ill equipped to capture the hope of spring's new life.

Well, that feels more authentic, but what is the point in our coming?

Come to encounter the living, loving God who makes all things new.

Come to be transformed by the strength of our walk of faith – despite suffering.

We come, then, skeptical yet hopeful, doubting yet wondering.

Come as you are to commune with God in prayer:

**Loving God, we don't know we have the endurance for this pandemic,
for our feelings of despair and brokenness overwhelm us.**

Touch us in this time of worship that we may know your grace.

Open our hearts to your possibilities for the future by trusting you.

Encourage us, through Spirit strength, to persevere, nevertheless.

Teach us the bonds of loving that are rooted in you.

We ask it all in the name of the defeated – yet risen – Christ. Amen.

*VOICES UNITED 234 Let Us with a Gladsome Mind

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(Silent Prayer)*

SHARING TIME “Bringing the Desert Back to Life”

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

VOICES UNITED 838 Part One only (Refrain 1) Psalm 119:1-8

***VOICES UNITED** 149 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross

BIBLE READING Hebrews 5:5-10 from the paraphrase *The Message*.

⁴⁻⁶ No one elects himself to this honored position. He's called to it by God, as Aaron was. Neither did Christ presume to set himself up as high priest, but was set apart by the One who said to him, "You're my Son; today I celebrate you!" In another place God declares, "You're a priest forever in the royal order of Melchizedek."

⁷⁻¹⁰ While he lived on earth, anticipating death, Jesus cried out in pain and wept in sorrow as he offered up priestly prayers to God. Because he honored God, God answered him. Though he was God's Son, he learned trusting-obedience by what he suffered, just as we do. Then, having arrived at the full stature of his maturity and having been announced by God as high priest in the order of Melchizedek, he became the source of eternal salvation to all who believingly obey him.

DOXOLOGY Sing Your Praise to God Eternal #244 *Voices United* (verse 1 only)

**Sing your praise to God eternal, sing your praise to God the Son,
 sing your praise to God the Spirit, living and forever One.
 God has made us, God has blessed us, God has called us to be true.
 God rules over all creation, daily making all things new.**

MEDITATION Obey and Perish

MORE VOICES 191 What Can I Do?

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

ANTHEM The Life of Praise *Words Phil Speary, Music John Leavitt*

*When the storm clouds gather, darkness hides the day.
 I'll not be discouraged. You light my way.
 Songs of hope shall fill the night, words of faith shall mark the day,
 hymns of joy shall lift my heart; this, the life of praise.
 When your world is troubled, pain and sorrow weigh,
 Jesus still is faithful, so give him praise.
 Songs of hope shall fill the night, words of faith shall mark the day,
 hymns of joy shall lift my heart; this the life of praise.
 Our Lord is one who shares in all our deepest woes.
 God's spirit holds us close each time we cry.
 His loving kindness meets us in our ev'ry weakness.
 Thus, our soul can fly.*

*Songs of hope will fill our nights, words of faith shall mark our days,
hymns of joy will lift our hearts; this our life of praise.*

MINUTE FOR MISSION

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION *(in unison)*

We offer our gifts to you, O God, asking for your blessing.

Bless our sharing that new shoots of hope may spring from these seeds.

**Bless our giving that seeds of generosity may continue to germinate
deeply within our hearts to live your mission.**

Bless our receiving that we may accept your faith planted in our souls. Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 595 We Are Pilgrims**

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT 298 When You Walk from Here

**When you walk from here, when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy, and with God's humble care.**

POSTLUDE The Prince of Denmark's March

Jeremiah Clarke