

Kincardine United Church

Easter Sunday

March 31st, 2024 11:00 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

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PRELUDE Christ Lag In Todesbanden BWV 625 J. S. Bach

WELCOME

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

We acknowledge the Traditional Territory of the Anishinabek Nation:

The People of the Three Fires

known as Ojibway, Odawa and Pottawatomie Nations.

We further give thanks to the Chippewas of Saugeen,
and the Chippewas of Nawash –

now known as the Saugeen Ojibway Nation –
as the traditional keepers of this land.

**Our thanks compel us to live fully into our journey of reconciliation –
a seven-generation process of intentional listening and learning.**

We seek to live together in respect, friendship and peace.

**Therefore, we commit ourselves to follow Jesus' calling us
into the world,
loving one another as we are loved by God.**

ANNOUNCEMENTS

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST

GOD GATHERS US

INTROIT

Scherzo

Healey Willan

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Come and celebrate on this day of jubilation.

We come to rejoice in new life doubted yet rediscovered.

Come and embrace fear transformed into bold discipleship,
abandonment transformed into daring justice
and faithful companionship transformed into deep spirituality.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

HALLELUJAH!

Let us join as one in prayer, our hearts entwined with God's heart:

Every Easter, surprising God, wonder overcomes daily routine.

Every Easter, risen Christ, your story touches us with new revelation.

Every Easter, sustaining Spirit, you lead us to explore deeper wisdom.

May we absorb the stories of faith anew

that we may continue to grow,

**cultivating our place within the beauty of all our relations,
giving fully of our complete selves as we who are called
by Love alive.**

Amen.

***VOICES UNITED 155**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

GOD SPEAKS TO US IN WORD

BIBLE READING 1st Corinthians 15:1-11 from *The Message*

1-2 Friends, let me go over the Message with you one final time—this Message that I proclaimed and that you made your own; this Message on which you took your stand and by which your life has been saved. (I'm assuming, now, that your belief was the real thing and not a passing fancy, that you're in this for good and holding fast.)

3-9 The first thing I did was place before you what was placed so emphatically before me: that the Messiah died for our sins, exactly as

Scripture tells it; that he was buried; that he was raised from death on the third day, again exactly as Scripture says; that he presented himself alive to Peter, then to his closest followers, and later to more than five hundred of his followers all at the same time, most of them still around (although a few have since died); that he then spent time with James and the rest of those he commissioned to represent him; and that he finally presented himself alive to *me*. It was fitting that I bring up the rear. I don't deserve to be included in that inner circle, as you well know, having spent all those early years trying my best to stamp God's church right out of existence.

¹⁰⁻¹¹ But because God was so gracious, so very generous, here I am. And I'm not about to let his grace go to waste. Haven't I worked hard trying to do more than any of the others? Even then, my work didn't amount to all that much. It was God giving me the work to do, God giving me the energy to do it. So whether you heard it from me or from those others, it's all the same: We spoke God's truth and you entrusted your lives.

***VOICES UNITED 164** The Day of Resurrection

BIBLE READING Mark 16:1-8 from *The Message*

¹⁻³ When the Sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices so they could embalm him. Very early on Sunday morning, as the sun rose, they went to the tomb. They worried out loud to each other, "Who will roll back the stone from the tomb for us?"

⁴⁻⁵ Then they looked up, saw that it had been rolled back—it was a huge stone—and walked right in. They saw a young man sitting on the right side, dressed all in white. They were completely taken aback, astonished.

⁶⁻⁷ He said, "Don't be afraid. I know you're looking for Jesus the Nazarene, the One they nailed on the cross. He's been raised up; he's here no longer. You can see for yourselves that the place is empty. Now—on your way. Tell his disciples and Peter that he is going on ahead of you to Galilee. You'll see him there, exactly as he said."

⁸ They got out as fast as they could, beside themselves, their heads swimming. Stunned, they said nothing to anyone.

DOXOLOGY 104 MV (*sung twice*) "Know That God Is Good"
**Know that God is good, know that God is good,
know that God is good, God is good, God is good.**

PRAYER BEFORE REFLECTION

REFLECTION "Blabbermouth"

SHARING TIME “The Give-Away” written and illustrated by Ray Buckley

GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

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.**

ANTHEM Our Saviour Is Alive Words Nancy Price and Don Besig.
Music Don Besig

OFFERING INVITATION

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**You teach us, O God, that life flourishes where it is planted.
May you bless what we give of our time,
of our talent and of our treasure,
that our gifts may provide the rich soil for your seeds of Love –
bold discipleship, daring justice and deep spirituality –
planted in Jesus' name and through the Spirit's inspiration.
Amen.**

***KNOWN UNKNOWNs 11** *(to the tune #333 VU)* Christ Has Risen

- 1. Christ has risen while earth slumbers, Christ has risen where hope died
as he said and as he promised, as we doubted and denied.
Let the moon embrace the blessing, let the sun sustain the cheer;
let the world confirm the rumour: Christ is risen! God is here!**
- 2. Christ has risen for the people whom he died, through love, to save;**

Christ has risen for the women bringing flowers to grace his grave.

**Christ has risen for disciples huddled in an upstairs room.
He whose word inspired creation can't be silenced by the tomb.**

- 3. Christ has risen to companion former friends who feared the night,
sensing loss and limitation where their faith had once burned bright.
They bemoan what is no longer; they suspect no hopeful sign
'till Christ ends their conversation, breaking bread and sharing wine.**
- 4. Christ has risen, and forever lives to challenge and to change
all whose lives are messed or mangled, all who find religion strange.
Christ is risen, Christ is present making us what he has been –
evidence of transformation through which God is known and seen.**

BENEDICTION

SONG OF COMMITMENT (*sung twice*) “Go Now in Peace”
964 *Voices United*

**Go now in peace, go now in peace.
May the love of God surround you everywhere,
everywhere you may go.**

POSTLUDE

Prelude on Vulpius

Healey Willan