

# Kincardine United Church

## 6th Sunday of Easter

May 5, 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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### **MUSIC BEFORE WORSHIP**

*...Performed by the Kincardine United Church Instrumental Ensemble*

Fantasy on an Irish Hymn Tune

traditional arranged by Larry Norred

Music for a Joyous Occasion

John Kinyon

Two Spirituals

traditional arranged by Michael Green

### **PRELUDE**

A Luther Hymn Setting

arranged by John Edmondson

### **WELCOME**

### **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST**

### **GOD GATHERS US**

### **INTROIT**

Grant Us Peace

arranged by Don Schaeffer

### **LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP AND PRAYER OF APPROACH**

Come into this worship space –

all those who want to become more than just a vessel in disguise,

all those weary of hiding their true selves for fear of judgement,

all those who long for help in becoming something more.

**We come to be loved as God loves us:**

**completely, unconditionally and through healthy relationships.**

Come to be embraced by the living Christ who also evolved,  
learning by living even when it was painfully hard.  
**We come to accept love's challenge, wondering if it is right or wrong to evolve.**  
Let us enter into prayer, then, a conversation within loving wholeness.  
**Loving God, we name you with this title without thought,  
often skipping the powerful reality of you who are as Love alive.**  
**Each moment as we pay attention, as we give you reverence,  
we evolve in our understanding and practice in following the Way of Jesus.**  
**It can be a bit terrifying,  
for it changes who we consider ourselves to be from the inside out.**  
**Walk with us in this life-long journey, we pray,  
strengthening us, encouraging us, loving us –  
evolving us to become ever more Christ-like. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 245** Praise the Lord with the Sound of Trumpet

**SHARING TIME** The Honour Drum written by Cheryl Bear and Tim Huff,  
illustrated by Tim Huff

**THE LORD'S PRAYER (#1) *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** John 15:9-17 from *The Message*  
<sup>9-10</sup> "I've loved you the way my Father has loved me. Make yourselves at home in my love. If you keep my commands, you'll remain intimately at home in my love. That's what I've done—kept my Father's commands and made myself at home in his love.  
<sup>11-15</sup> "I've told you these things for a purpose: that my joy might be your joy, and your joy wholly mature. This is my command: Love one another the way I loved you. This is the very best way to love. Put your life on the line for your friends. You are my friends when you do the things I command you. I'm no longer calling you servants because servants don't understand what their master is thinking and planning. No, I've named you friends because I've let you in on everything I've heard from the Father.  
<sup>16</sup> "You didn't choose me, remember; I chose you, and put you in the world to bear fruit, fruit that won't spoil. As fruit bearers, whatever you ask the Father in relation to me, he gives you.  
<sup>17</sup> "But remember the root command: Love one another.

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

**BIBLE READING** Mark 12:28-31 from *The Message*

<sup>28</sup> One of the religion scholars came up. Hearing the lively exchanges of question and answer and seeing how sharp Jesus was in his answers, he put in his question: “Which is most important of all the commandments?”

<sup>29-31</sup> Jesus said, “The first in importance is, ‘Listen, Israel: The Lord your God is one; so love the Lord God with all your passion and prayer and intelligence and energy.’ And here is the second: ‘Love others as well as you love yourself.’ There is no other commandment that ranks with these.”

**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** “Does God Reign from Heaven Above?”

## **ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND (#4)**

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.**

## **GOD INVITES US TO RESPOND**

## **COMMUNITY PRAYERS**

**ANTHEM**

Lead Me, Lord

Samuel Wesley

## **OFFERING INVITATION**

## **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**Christ’s command to “Love others as you love yourself” transforms.**

**Bless our loving others through the gifts we offer, O God.**

**Bless what we give that they, in turn, may love while transforming the world.**

**Evolve our hearts that we may more fully love in Christ’s name each day. Amen.**

**\*VOICES UNITED 600**

When I Needed a Neighbour

**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**

Lancer

Ralph and Jack Hale