



*Our Mission...*

*to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.*

*We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.*

Second Sunday after Pentecost  
June 6<sup>th</sup>, 2021  
96<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of Church Union

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**WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY**

**WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

*Friends, welcome to North Kildonan United Church on this Second Sunday after Pentecost, the 6<sup>th</sup> of June, 2021. This is also the Sunday on which we are acknowledging the 96<sup>th</sup> anniversary of Church Union.*

*In keeping with recent Provincial Health Orders which restrict congregational gathering for worship, our service this day is being recorded and led by Wilma, our Videographer and Office Administrator, Michael our Musician and myself, Rev. Don Johnson, Minister of the Congregation. To respect the Provincial Order, only the three of us are present in the sanctuary this day.*

*We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.*

**THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

*The light of Christ rises in glory,  
overcoming the darkness of sin and death.*

**PRELUDE: VU#402 - "We Are One"**

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*~ words by Doreen Lanksbear-Smith*

*~Michael McKay*

- 1 We are one as we come,  
as we come, joyful to be here,  
in the praise on our lips  
there's a sense that God is near.  
We are one as we sing,  
as we seek, we are found;  
and we come needful of God's grace  
as we meet, together in this place.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

*Let us worship the eternal God,  
the source of love and life, who creates us.  
Let us worship Jesus Christ, the risen one, who lives among us.  
Let us worship the Spirit, the holy fire, who renews us.  
To the one true God be praise in all times and places,  
through the grace of Jesus Christ.*

## PRAYER OF THE DAY

*(The Inauguration of the United Church, June 10<sup>th</sup>, 1925)*

*O God, who to an expectant and united church didst grant at Pentecost the gift of the Holy Spirit, and hast wonderfully brought into one fold those who now worship thee here: grant us the help of the same Spirit in all our life and worship, that we may expect great things from thee, and attempt great things for thee, and being one in thee may show to the world that thou didst send Jesus Christ our Lord, to whom, with thee and the Holy Spirit, be all honour and glory, world without end. Amen.*

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

### The Epistle

**II Corinthians 4: 13 – 5: 1**

*But just as we have the same spirit of faith that is in accordance with scripture – 'I believed, and so I spoke' – we also believe, and so we speak, because we know that the one who raised the Lord Jesus will raise us also with Jesus, and will bring us with you into his presence. Yes, everything is for your sake, so that grace, as it extends to more and more people, may increase thanksgiving, to the glory of God. So we do not lose heart. Even though our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed day by day. For this slight momentary affliction is preparing us for an eternal weight of glory beyond all measure, because we look not at what can be seen but at what cannot be seen; for what can be seen is temporary, but what cannot be seen is eternal.*

*For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens.*

### The Gospel

**John 12: 24-32**

*Jesus said: Very truly, I tell you, unless a grain of wheat falls into the earth and dies, it remains just a single grain; but if it dies, it bears much fruit. Those who love their life lose it, and those who hate their life in this world will keep it for eternal life. Whoever serves me must follow me, and where I am, there will my servant be also. Whoever serves me, the Father will honour.*

*'Now my soul is troubled. And what should I say – "Father, save me from this hour"? No, it is for this reason that I have come to this hour. Father, glorify your name.' Then a voice came from heaven, 'I have glorified it, and I will glorify it again.' The crowd standing there heard it and said that it was thunder. Others said,*

*'An angel has spoken to him.' Jesus answered, 'This voice has come for your sake, not for mine. Now is the judgement of this world; now the ruler of this world will be driven out. And I, when I am lifted up from the earth, will draw all people to myself.'*

**RESPONSE:**     *May God bless to us the reading of God's holy Word. Amen.*

**SERMON:**        **"Church Union, 96 Years On"**  
                  ~Rev. Don Johnson (see the attached sermon)

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

### **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  
forever and ever. Amen.*

#### **THE BLESSING**

*The Lord bless you, and keep you,  
the Lord make his face to shine upon you, and be gracious unto you:  
the Lord lift up his countenance upon you, and give you peace. Amen.*

#### **POSTLUDE: "We Are God's People"**

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*~music by Johannes Brahms*

*~Michael McKay*

1. We are God's people, the chosen of the Lord,  
Born of His Spirit, established by His Word;  
Our cornerstone is Christ alone,  
And strong in Him we stand:  
O let us live transparently  
And walk heart to heart and hand in hand.
2. We are the Body of which the Lord is Head,  
Called to obey Him, now risen from the dead;  
He wills us be a family,  
Diverse yet truly one:  
O let us give our gifts to God,  
And so shall his work on earth be done.