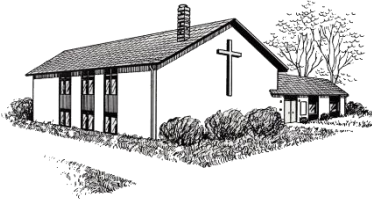


North Kildonan United Church
174 Pentland St, Winnipeg, MB R2G 2S3
Church Office: 204-667-7408
email: nkuc@mymts.net
www.nkuc.ca



Minister: *Rev. Don Johnson*
(204)885-9879
Pianist/Choir Director: *Joanne Diplock*
Office Administrator: *Wilma Fehr*
Property Manager: *Heinz Goetz*

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.

The First Sunday of Advent
November 27th, 2022

The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able. **Bold print indicates a congregational response.*

PREPARING FOR THE WORD

PRELUDE *(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)*

~Joanne Diplock

WELCOME

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we meet 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 and the UKRAINE CANDLE

*May the light of Christ, rising in glory,
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds. Amen.*

**And may the light of this Ukraine Candle
help us to be mindful of our Ukrainian sisters and brothers in need.**

GREETING

*The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the love of God,
and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.*

And also with you.

PRAYER of the DAY

**Gracious God,
your vision of peace and wholeness
comes to us in sweeping revelations
and in tiny signs of hope.
Kindle our hearts that we might be a hopeful people.**

**Keep us from growing weary of waiting,
lest we miss the glory of your appearing.
Even so, come quickly, O God. Amen.**

***HYMN: #1 VU – "O Come, O Come, Emmanuel"**

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(Neale/Willan)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 O come, O come, Emmanuel,
and ransom captive Israel
that mourns in lowly exile here
until the Son of God appear.
Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel
shall come to thee, O Israel.**
- 2 O come, O Wisdom from on high,
who orders all things mightily;
to us the path of knowledge show,
and teach us in her ways to go. R**
- 5 O come, O Key of David, come,
and open wide our heavenly home;
make safe the way that leads on high,
and close the path to misery. R**
- 7 O come, Desire of nations, bind
all peoples in one heart and mind;
O bid our sad divisions cease,
and be for us the Prince of Peace. R**

THE WORD OF GOD

LEARNING TIME and LIGHTING of the FIRST ADVENT CANDLE

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.**

*HYMN: #7 VU – "**Hope is a Star**"

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(Wren/Fogg)
~Joanne Diplock

**1 Hope is a star that shines in the night,
leading us on till the morning is bright.
When God is a child there's joy in our song.
The last shall be first and the weak shall be strong,
and none shall be afraid.**

Scripture Reader: *Liz Gauthier*

The First Lesson: **Isaiah 2: 1-5**

The word that Isaiah son of Amoz saw concerning Judah and Jerusalem.

In days to come

*the mountain of the Lord's house
shall be established as the highest of the mountains,
and shall be raised above the hills;
all the nations shall stream to it.*

*Many peoples shall come and say,
'Come, let us go up to the mountain of the Lord,
to the house of the God of Jacob;
that he may teach us his ways
and that we may walk in his paths.'*

*For out of Zion shall go forth instruction,
and the word of the Lord from Jerusalem.*

*He shall judge between the nations,
and shall arbitrate for many peoples;
they shall beat their swords into ploughshares,
and their spears into pruning-hooks;
nation shall not lift up sword against nation,
neither shall they learn war any more.*

O house of Jacob, come, let us walk in the light of the Lord!

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 122**

I was glad when they said to me,

'Let us go to the house of the LORD!'

Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

**Jerusalem—built as a city
that is bound firmly together.**

To it the tribes go up, the tribes of the LORD,
as was decreed for Israel, to give thanks to the name of the LORD.

**For there the thrones for judgement were set up,
the thrones of the house of David.**

Pray for the peace of Jerusalem:

'May they prosper who love you.

**Peace be within your walls,
and security within your towers.'**

For the sake of my relatives and friends

I will say, 'Peace be within you.'

**For the sake of the house of the LORD our God,
I will seek your good.**

Response: *This is the Word of God.*
Thanks be to God.

CHOIR ANTHEM: **"Carol for Advent"**
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(Price/Besig)
~Joanne Diplock

The Gospel: **Matthew 24: 36-44**

'There will be signs in the sun, the moon, and the stars, and on the earth distress among nations confused by the roaring of the sea and the waves. People will faint from fear and foreboding of what is coming upon the world, for the powers of the heavens will be shaken. Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in a cloud" with power and great glory. Now when these things begin to take place, stand up and raise your heads, because your redemption is drawing near.'

Then he told them a parable: 'Look at the fig tree and all the trees; as soon as they sprout leaves you can see for yourselves and know that summer is already near. So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that the kingdom of God is near. Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all things have taken place. Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

'Be on guard so that your hearts are not weighed down with dissipation and drunkenness and the worries of this life, and that day does not catch you unexpectedly, like a trap. For it will come upon all who live on the face of the whole earth. Be alert at all times, praying that you may have the strength to escape all these things that will take place, and to stand before the Son of Man.'

Response: *The Gospel of Christ.*
Thanks be to God.

*HYMN: #2 VU – **"Come, Thou Long-Expected Jesus"**
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(Cousin)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Come, thou long-expected Jesus,
born to set thy people free:
from our fears and sins release us,
let us find our rest in thee.**
- 2 Israel's strength and consolation,
hope of all the earth thou art,**

dear desire of every nation,
joy of every longing heart.

**3 Born thy people to deliver;
born a child and yet a king;
born to reign in us for ever;
now thy gracious kingdom bring.**

**4 By thine own eternal Spirit
rule in all our hearts alone;
by thine all-sufficient merit
raise us to thy glorious throne.**

SERMON

~Rev. Don Johnson

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

WELCOMING of NEW MEMBERS

**As your brothers and sisters in Christ,
we rejoice in the gifts you bring to us.
We pledge to you our love and our support.
With God's help, we will together live out
the mission and ministry of Christ's church.**

AN ADVENT STATEMENT of FAITH

By the Rev. Rebecca F. Harrison, Spanish Springs Presbyterian Church, Sparks, NV

**We are an Advent people,
a people of hope.**

**For us, Advent is a time of waiting,
and so we wait.**

**We wait for the coming of the One
who is the fulfillment of God's promise,
the fulfillment of hope,
the declaration that we have been redeemed.**

Even so, we are not a naïve people.

**We know that the world in which we live
will continue to be filled with pain and sorrow.**

We know that hatred and violence will continue to exist.

We know that death and separation will continue to be a part of our lives.

**But because we are an Advent people,
we know that none of these things will win in the end.**

**The Holy One is coming,
to make holy once again
all that was, is, and ever will be.**

**And in our waiting and our hoping,
we work and worship,
pray and play,
in all things hoping that peace, love and joy will reign
in our lives and in our world,
now and forever.**

THE PRESENTATION of our OFFERINGS

Offertory Music

*Offertory Verse: #55 VU – **"In the Bleak Midwinter"**

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(Rosetti/Holst)

~Joanne Diplock

**4 What can I give him, poor as I am?
If I were a shepherd, I would bring a lamb;
if I were a wise man, I would do my part;
yet what I can I give him - give my heart.**

*Offertory Prayer

VU #11 An Advent Prayer

**God of all wisdom,
our hearts yearn for the warmth of your love,
and our minds search for the light of your Word.
Increase our longing for Christ our Saviour,
and strengthen us to grow in love,
that at the dawn of his coming
we may rejoice in his presence
and welcome the light of his truth.
This we ask in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

PRAYERS

*HYMN: #31 VU – **"O Lord, How Shall I Meet You"**

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(Gerbrandt/Teschner)

~Joanne Diplock

**1 O Lord, how shall I meet you,
how welcome you aright?
Your people long to greet you,
my hope, my heart's delight!
O kindle, then, most holy,
a lamp within my breast,
to do in spirit lowly
all that may please you best.**

**2 Love caused your incarnation,
love brought you here to me;
your thirst for my salvation
procured my liberty.**

**O love beyond all telling,
that led you to embrace
in love all loves excelling
our lost and fallen race.**

**3 A glorious crown you give me,
a treasure safe on high,
that will not fail nor leave me
as earthly riches fly.
My heart shall bloom forever
for you with praises new,
and from your name shall never
withhold the honour due.**

THE BLESSING

CHORAL BENEDICTION

**May the Lord go with you,
let him take your hand.
Keep His love within you,
until we meet again. Amen.**

POSTLUDE:

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~Joanne Diplock