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.

Fifth Sunday after Pentecost
July 2nd, 2023

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

WE GATHER IN GOD'S NAME

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

WELCOME

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of TERRITORY

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.

*GATHERING HYMN: *#7 MV –* ***"Gather Us In"*** (Hann)

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, ground us in you.
Gather us in, gather us in,
Ground us, ground us in you.

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.

PASSING of the PEACE

May the peace of the Risen Lord be with you now and always.
And also with you.
Let us stand and greet each other with the peace of Christ.

OPENING PRAYER

O Great Creator,
cleanse our hearts of all stain from sin and brokenness,
that we may walk with you along the good road, your holy way.
Purify our minds, that we may be guided by your holy word.
Clear our eyes, that we may see the goodness you have created.
Open our ears that we may hear your voice.
Make our souls one with yours,
that we may worship you in spirit and in truth,
and love you with all our hearts, minds, bodies and souls.
May our hearts always beat as one with yours,
through your Great Messenger, your Son, Jesus. Amen.

*HYMN: *VU #509 – **"I, The Lord of Sea and Sky"*** (Schutte)

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them; they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them; my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? R

We Hear and Explore the Good News

Scripture Reader: *Peggy Latimer*

Hebrew Scripture: **Romans 7: 15-25**

I do not understand what I do. For what I want to do I do not do, but what I hate I do. And if I do what I do not want to do, I agree that the law is good. As it is, it is no longer I myself who do it, but it is sin living in me. For I know that good itself does not dwell in me, that is, in my sinful nature. For I have the desire to do what is good, but I cannot carry it out. For I do not do the good I want to do, but the evil I do not want to do—this I keep on doing. Now if I do what I do not want to do, it is no longer I who do it, but it is sin living in me that does it.

So I find this law at work: Although I want to do good, evil is right there with me. For in my inner being I delight in God's law; but I see another law at work in me, waging war against the law of my mind and making me a prisoner of the law of sin at work within me. What a wretched man I am! Who will rescue me from this body that is subject to death? Thanks be to God, who delivers me through Jesus Christ our Lord!

So then, I myself in my mind am a slave to God's law, but in my sinful nature[d] a slave to the law of sin

Responsive Reading: **Psalm 145: 8-14**

The LORD is gracious and compassionate,
slow to anger and rich in love.
The LORD is good to all;
he has compassion on all he has made.
All your works praise you, LORD;
your faithful people extol you.
They tell of the glory of your kingdom
and speak of your might,
so that all people may know of your mighty acts
and the glorious splendor of your kingdom.
Your kingdom is an everlasting kingdom,
and your dominion endures through all generations.
The LORD is trustworthy in all he promises
and faithful in all he does.
The LORD upholds all who fall
and lifts up all who are bowed down.

Response: *This is the Word of God.*

Thanks be to God. Amen

*HYMN: *VU #409 – **"Morning Has Broken"*** (Robinson/Wyeth)

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

1 Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's recreation of the new day!

The Gospel: **Matthew 11: 16-19, 25-30**

To what can I compare this generation? They are like children sitting in the marketplaces and calling out to others:

"We played the pipe for you,
and you did not dance;
we sang a dirge,
and you did not mourn."

For John came neither eating nor drinking, and they say, 'He has a demon.' The Son of Man came eating and drinking, and they say, 'Here is a glutton and a drunkard, a friend of tax collectors and sinners.' But wisdom is proved right by her deeds."

At that time Jesus said, "I praise you, Father, Lord of heaven and earth, because you have hidden these things from the wise and learned, and revealed them to little children. Yes, Father, for this is what you were pleased to do.

"All things have been committed to me by my Father. No one knows the Son except the Father, and no one knows the Father except the Son and those to whom the Son chooses to reveal him.

"Come to me, all you who are weary and burdened, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy and my burden is light."

Response: *The Gospel of Christ.*

Thanks be to God. Amen

REFLECTION: "Judge Not"
~Peter Latimer

WE OFFER OURSELVES IN FAITH

*HYMN: *VU #375 –* ***"Spirit, Spirit of Gentleness"*** (Manley)

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

Spirit, Spirit of gentleness,
blow thro' the wilderness calling and free,
Spirit, Spirit of restlessness,
stir me from placidness,
Wind, Wind on the sea.

1 You moved on the waters, you called to the deep,
then you coaxed up the mountains from the valleys of sleep;
and over the eons you called to each thing:
wake from your slumbers and rise on your wings. R

2 You swept thro' the desert, you stung with the sand,
and you goaded your people with a law and a land;
and when they were blinded with their idols and lies,
then you spoke thro' your prophets to open their eyes. R

3 You sang in a stable, you cried from a hill,
then you whispered in silence when the whole world was still;
and down in the city you called once again,
when you blew through your people on the rush of the wind. R

4 You call from tomorrow, you break ancient schemes,
from the bondage of sorrow the captives dream dreams,
our women see visions, our men clear their eyes,
with bold new decisions your people arise. R

AN INVITATION to DISCIPLESHIP

PRAYER

As the sun rises and a new day unfolds
with all of its promise and hope,
I recommit myself to join your divine mission:
to advocate for justice
to exercise compassion
to love without reserve
to work toward peace
to extend understanding
to afford second chances
to offer my generous best
to witness blessing
to seize opportunities for gratitude

to change and be changed
to regard myself with grace
to embody Jesus
in whose Spirit I live, move, and have my being
in whose love I am made whole
in whose compassion I rise
to greet this day and every day
for all my days.
Amen.

AN INVITATION to SHARE

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected* *~Joanne Diplock*

*Offertory Hymn: *#191 MV* – ***"What Can I Do?"*** (Rumbolt/McCarthy)
(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.

*THE DEDICATION of our GIFTS

For the blessings of this and all our days,
we thank you, gracious God.
Accept, we pray, not just this money
but also our lives freely offered in gratitude
for all you have done for us.
Use them both, in this place and wherever you might take us.
Amen.

PRAYERS of THANKSGIVING and CONCERN *(Bruce Prewer, adapted)*

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.

We Go in Love to Serve God's World

*HYMN: *VU #359 – **"He Came Singing Love"*** (Gibson)

(Words reproduced played with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

1 He came singing love and he lived singing love;
he died singing love.
He arose in silence.
For the love to go on we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

2 He came singing faith and he lived singing faith;
he died singing faith.
He arose in silence.
For the faith to go on we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

3 He came singing hope and he lived singing hope;
he died singing hope.
He arose in silence.
For the hope to go on we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

4 He came singing peace and he lived singing peace;
he died singing peace.
He arose in silence.
For the peace to go on we must make it our song;
you and I be the singers.

*BLESSING and SENDING FORTH

*CHORAL BENEDICTION (Price/Besig)

(Words reproduced played with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

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

POSTLUDE *(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)* *~Joanne Diplock*