

North Kildonan United Church
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Minister: *Rev. Susan Reed*
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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.

January 21st, 2024
3rd Sunday after Epiphany

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

GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

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 on 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.

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE

*As we light our Christ candle, we remember Jesus.
He was called the Light of the World.
He also told the people that they were the light of the world,
and were to let their light shine.
May we honour the light which was in Jesus
by sharing it with the world around.*

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

As we light this candle, we pray for peace:
**peace in our hearts,
peace in our homes,
peace in our world.**
*As we remember the ministry of Jesus, the Prince of Peace,
O God, we pray for peace. Amen.*

SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

CALL to WORSHIP

Let us worship the One who calls us.

(Adapted from a liturgy by Seekers Church; found online.)

**Here we are, ready or not,
called by the One who lived and died
and rose to live again among us.**

*Here we are, ready or not,
bringing our everyday selves to praise and to pray,
and to know the Holy One in the midst of our lives.*

Let us worship the One who calls us.

***OPENING HYMN: VU #567 – "Will You Come and Follow Me?"**

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(Scottish Traditional)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?**
- 2 Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?**
- 3 Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?**
- 4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?**

**5 Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.**

OPENING PRAYER

(Adapted from Wanda Winfield; from *Gathering A/C/E 2019/2020*.)

**Gracious God, we seek your Spirit,
so that we may understand the gifts you give us.
We receive your call upon our hearts,
a call to love and serve others
as Jesus loved and served among us.
We ask for your wisdom,
that we might have the mind of Christ within us.
This we pray in his name. Amen.**

CONVERSATION TIME

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Kara McMillan*

1 Samuel 3: 1-10

Now the boy Samuel was ministering to the LORD under Eli. The word of the LORD was rare in those days; visions were not widespread.

At that time Eli, whose eyesight had begun to grow dim so that he could not see, was lying down in his room; the lamp of God had not yet gone out, and Samuel was lying down in the temple of the LORD, where the ark of God was. Then the LORD called, 'Samuel! Samuel!' and he said, 'Here I am!' and ran to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call; lie down again.' So he went and lay down. The LORD called again, 'Samuel!' Samuel got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' But he said, 'I did not call, my son; lie down again.' Now Samuel did not yet know the LORD, and the word of the LORD had not yet been revealed to him. The LORD called Samuel again, a third time. And he got up and went to Eli, and said, 'Here I am, for you called me.' Then Eli perceived that the LORD was calling the boy. Therefore Eli said to Samuel, 'Go, lie down; and if he calls you, you shall say, "Speak, LORD, for your servant is listening." ' So Samuel went and lay down in his place. Now the LORD came and stood there, calling as before, 'Samuel! Samuel!' And Samuel said, 'Speak, for your servant is listening.'

Mark 1: 14-20

Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, 'The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news.'

As Jesus passed along the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake—for they were fishermen. And Jesus said to them, 'Follow me and I will make you fish for people.' And immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John, who were in their boat mending the nets. Immediately he called them; and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men, and followed him.

Words of Response:

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION

(Adapted from Scott Cervas; found on the *re:Worship* blog online.)

God... you call us...

and sometimes we duck under the table

hoping you didn't notice us when you walked into the room.

You call us...

and sometimes we grab a stapler and a stack of papers,

trying to look too busy to be bothered at the moment.

You call us... and sometimes we just say "No!"

We know that we aren't expected to do everything,

but we sometimes forget that you call us to be our selves

in the places where our very self is what is most needed.

So give us the grace to say "Yes" to your call...

SILENT PRAYER

WORDS of ASSURANCE

(Written by Frances Flook; from *Gathering A/C/E 2020-2021*.)

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Wondrous Things"

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~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "Here I Am!"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #509 – "I, the Lord of Sea and Sky"

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(Schutte)

~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**

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

***Offering Verse: #182 MV – "Grateful"** Sung 2X
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*(Tomaszek/Hart)
~Joanne Diplock*

**Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.**

*Offertory Prayer

**O God, you call us to serve you, and to follow Jesus.
In response, we offer our gifts and ourselves,
that they and we may be used for your work in the world.
Bless them, and bless us,
we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

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.**

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

***CLOSING HYMN: #209 MV – "Go, Make a Diff'rence"**

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(Angrisano/Tomaszek)

~Joanne Diplock

**Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
Go make a diff'rence.
We can make a diff'rence.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.**

- 1 We are the salt of the earth,
called to let the people see
the love of God for you and me.
We are the light of the world,
not to be hidden but be seen.
Go make a diff'rence in the world. R**
- 2 We are the hands of Christ
reaching out to those in need,
the face of God for all to see.
We are the spirit of hope;
we are the voice of peace.
Go make a diff'rence in the world. R**
- 3 So let your love shine on,
let it shine for all to see.
Go make a diff'rence in the world.
And the spirit of Christ
will be with us as we go.
Go make a diff'rence in the world. R**

***COMMISSIONING**

(Adapted from the *Seasons of the Spirit "Fusion"* curriculum.)

People of God!

*Let us listen for the voice of God in our midst,
as it calls to each one of us.*

Speak, God, for your servants are listening.

*God continues to do great things in our world,
and calls us to be a part of it.*

**Let us be ready, then, to hear God's call and,
empowered by the Spirit,
to follow the way shown to us by Jesus the Christ.**

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

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(Price/Besig)

~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