

North Kildonan United Church  
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Minister: *Rev. Susan Reed*  
Pianist/Choir Director: *Joanne Diplock*  
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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.*

March 10<sup>th</sup>, 2024  
The Fourth Sunday in Lent

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*\*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

### 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.*

### CALL to WORSHIP

OPENING REFRAIN: #7 MV – **"Gather Us In"** *(sung once)*

*(Hann)*

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*~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.**

### A TIME of GROUNDING

*(Written by Bob Root; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2020.*)*

REFRAIN: #7 MV – **"Gather Us In"** *(sung once)*

*(Hann)*

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*~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 *Patti Bews*

*We light this candle as a reminder  
that even in this season of Lent,*

*even as the shadows grow,  
God is with us,  
and the light of Christ continues to light our way.*

## 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 journey with Jesus, the Prince of Peace,  
**O God, we pray for peace. Amen.***

## SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

### OPENING PRAYER

(Adapted from Atze Veldhuis; from *Worship for All Seasons II: Year B.*)

**God of the pilgrim way:  
as we continue our Lenten journey with Jesus,  
give us an abiding delight in the extravagance of your love.**

**Free us to live your promise  
that in faithfulness is life abundant,  
and that in trusting your promises we will find peace.**

**In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

### \*OPENING HYMN: VU #333 – "Love Divine, All Loves Excelling"

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(Wesley/Prichard)  
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.**
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.**
- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;**

**let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.**

## EXTINGUISHING the FOURTH LENTEN CANDLE

### PRAYER

(Written by Jeanyne Slettom; found online.)

**Loving God,  
as we journey through this holy season of Lent,  
give us strength and courage  
to make the changes that are needed in our lives.  
Open our hearts and minds to your steadfast presence,  
and help us to put our trust in you. Amen.**

### CONVERSATION TIME

## LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Carol Billan*

### **Numbers 21: 4-9**

*From Mount Hor they set out by the way to the Red Sea, to go around the land of Edom; but the people became impatient on the way. The people spoke against God and against Moses, 'Why have you brought us up out of Egypt to die in the wilderness? For there is no food and no water, and we detest this miserable food.' Then the LORD sent poisonous serpents among the people, and they bit the people, so that many Israelites died. The people came to Moses and said, 'We have sinned by speaking against the LORD and against you; pray to the LORD to take away the serpents from us.' So Moses prayed for the people. And the LORD said to Moses, 'Make a poisonous serpent, and set it on a pole; and everyone who is bitten shall look at it and live.' So Moses made a serpent of bronze, and put it upon a pole; and whenever a serpent bit someone, that person would look at the serpent of bronze and live.*

### **John 3: 14-21**

*And just as Moses lifted up the serpent in the wilderness, so must the Son of Man be lifted up, that whoever believes in him may have eternal life.  
'For God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life.  
'Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him. Those who believe in him are not condemned; but those who do not believe are condemned already, because they have not believed in the name of the only Son of God. And this is the judgement, that the*

*light has come into the world, and people loved darkness rather than light because their deeds were evil. For all who do evil hate the light and do not come to the light, so that their deeds may not be exposed. But those who do what is true come to the light, so that it may be clearly seen that their deeds have been done in God.'*

Words of Response:

*May God bless to our understanding these readings from the Holy Scriptures.*

**Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: VU #702 – "When a Poor One"

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(Olivar/Manzano)

~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "For God so Loved"

~Rev. Susan Reed

**RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION**

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

\*Doxology: VU #541 – "Praise God from Whom all Blessings Flow"

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(Ken)

~Joanne Diplock

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise God, all creatures high and low;  
give thanks to God in love made known:  
Creator, Word and Spirit, One.**

\*Offertory Prayer (Written by Gord Dunbar; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2021.*)

**Take these signs of our covenant with you, O God,  
our time, our talents, and our treasure –  
the way we use everything you have gifted to us in abundance –  
blessing it all to become blessings for the world.  
In Jesus' name, we pray. 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.**

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

#### **\*CLOSING HYMN: VU #595 – "*We Are Pilgrims*"**

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(Gillard/Pulkingham)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 We are pilgrims on a journey,  
fellow travellers on the road;  
we are here to help each other  
walk the mile and bear the load.**
- 2 Sister, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.**
- 3 I will hold the Christ-light for you  
in the night-time of your fear;  
I will hold my hand out to you,  
speak the peace you long to hear.**
- 4 I will weep when you are weeping,  
when you laugh I'll laugh with you;  
I will share your joy and sorrow,  
till we've seen this journey through.**
- 5 When we sing to God in heaven,  
we shall find such harmony,  
born of all we've known together  
of Christ's love and agony.**
- 6 Brother, let me be your servant,  
let me be as Christ to you;  
pray that I may have the grace to  
let you be my servant too.**

#### **\*CLOSING PRAYER**

(Adapted from Gord Waldie; found online.)

*God of our coming and going,  
God of our past, our present, and our future,  
we have met, we have worshipped,*

*we have celebrated, we have remembered.  
We have also visioned, shared hopes, dreamed dreams.*

**And now we go out into the world  
in which we do most of our living and our ministering.**

*As we go out, remind us that we do not go alone.*

**As we go out, remind us that we go with a mission.**

*As we go out, fill us with love, hope, and peace  
to share with the world.*

**May our lives and our ministry  
be signs of your love and promises  
and possibility for the world.**

**In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

**\*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*