

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 17th, 2024
The Fifth Sunday in Lent
St. Patrick's Day

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.

CALL to WORSHIP

*(Adapted from Catherine Tovell; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2021.*)*

*On this fifth Sunday in Lent,
we come seeking God.*

*In this time of uncertainty in our lives and our world,
we come seeking God.*

*Quieting our minds, opening our hearts,
and waiting for the divine mystery to make itself known,
we come to worship God.*

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)

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(Hann)
~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 Lilly Miller

*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 (Inspired by Jeremiah 31:31-34)

(Adapted from the *re:Worship* blog.)

*God of love and justice,
we gather together to worship you:
to offer our thanks and praise
and to proclaim your goodness and mercy.*

**Meet us here.
Breathe your Word into our souls;
engrave your covenant of love upon our hearts.
Teach us faithfulness and compassion,
so that our lives may reflect
your love and justice to the world.
In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN: #79 MV – "Spirit, Open My Heart"**

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(Duck/Clyde)
~Joanne Diplock

**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love, may I love,
In receiving and in giving,**

Spirit, open my heart.

- 1 God, replace my stony heart,
with a heart that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
To your grace I now surrender. R**
- 2 Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word and deed,
may my living bring you glory. R**
- 3 May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. R**

EXTINGUISHING the FIFTH LENTEN CANDLE

CONVERSATION TIME

COVENANTING with NEW BOARD

(Liturgy adapted from *Celebrate God's Presence.*)

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Sven Lindsay*

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, 'Know the LORD', for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

John 12: 20-33

Now among those who went up to worship at the festival were some Greeks. They came to Philip, who was from Bethsaida in Galilee, and said to him, 'Sir, we wish to see Jesus.' Philip went and told Andrew; then Andrew and Philip went and told Jesus. Jesus answered them, 'The hour has come for the Son of Man to be glorified. 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.' He said this to indicate the kind of death he was to die.

Words of Response:

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

Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "What Love Could Remember"

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~Joanne Diplock

SERMON: "A New Covenant"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #642 – "Be Thou My Vision"

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(Irish traditional)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Be thou my vision, O joy of my heart;
naught be all else to me save that thou art,
thou my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping thy presence my light.**
- 2 Be thou my wisdom, my calm in all strife;
I ever with thee, and thou in my life;
thou loving parent, thy child may I be,
thou in me dwelling, and I one with thee.**
- 3 Be thou my battle shield, sword for the fight
be thou my dignity, thou my delight,
thou my soul's shelter, thou my high tower;
raise thou me heavenward, O power of my power.**
- 4 Riches I heed not, nor vain empty praise,
thou mine inheritance, now and always;
thou and thou only, the first in my heart,
great God of heaven, my treasure thou art.**
- 5 Great God of heaven, after victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's sun!**

**Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O ruler of all.**

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.**

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: *VU #586 – "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection"*
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~Joanne Diplock

**1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection;
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;
tales of a love that will not let us go.
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;**

**we'll weave a cloth of all the world united
within the vision of new life in Christ.**

- 2 We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,
expressive love alive in every heart.
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,
including all in circles of our love.**

***MEAL GRACE**

***SENDING FORTH** (adapted from St. Patrick's Breastplate)

May the strength of God guide us.

May the power of God preserve us.

May the wisdom of God instruct us.

May the hand of God protect us.

May the way of God direct us.

May the shield of God defend us.

May the angels of God guard us.

– against the snares of the evil one.

May Christ be with us,

may Christ be before us,

may Christ be in us,

may Christ be over all!

May thy Grace, O Lord,

always be ours,

this day and forevermore. Amen.

***IRISH 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