

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 31st, 2024
Easter Sunday

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

CALL to WORSHIP *(Adapted from Gill Le Fevre; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2022.*)*

*From our grief of Good Friday,
through the waiting of Holy Saturday,
the world emerges into Easter morn'.*

The sun is rising.

Night sheds its grip on the world.

A new day awaits.

Come and see.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

*OPENING HYMN: VU #155 – "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

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(Davidica)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!**
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!**
- 3 But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!**
- 4 Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!**

**praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!
praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!**

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 *Paula Thomson*

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 celebrate the resurrection of Jesus, the Prince of Peace,

O God, we pray for peace. Amen.

SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

RELIGHTING the LENTEN CANDLES

(Adapted from Jeanyne Slettom, found online.)

Christ is risen!

Alleluia!

OPENING PRAYER

(Adapted from Joanna MacQuarrie; from *Celebrate God's Presence*.)

**God of renewed presence,
on this Easter day,
we know that with you all things are possible.**

**May the Good News of Easter joy
fill our lives and make our hearts glad.**

In Jesus' name, we pray.

Hallelujah! Amen.

CONVERSATION TIME

*SUNG RESPONSE: VU #958 – "Halle, Halle, Halle" (sung twice) (The Iona Community)

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~Joanne Diplock

Halle, halle, Hallelujah!

Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! 2X

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Rev. Brenda Gibson*

Psalm 118 *VU p. 837 (Read responsively, with refrain)*

Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Let Israel now say:

'God's love endures for ever.'

Let the house of Aaron say:

'God's love endures for ever.'

Let those who fear God say:

'God's love endures for ever.' R

God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

**There are shouts of joy and deliverance
in the tents of the righteous.**

*The right hand of God does mighty things;
the right hand of God raises up.*

The right hand of God does mighty things.

I shall not die, but live; and I shall proclaim what God has done.

**God indeed punished me,
but did not give me over to death. R**

*Open to me the gates of the temple,
that I may enter and give thanks to God.*

**This is the gate of God;
through it the righteous shall enter.**

*I thank you for you have answered me;
you have become my salvation.*

**The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it! R**

John 20: 1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, 'They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.' Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two

were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Response to the Gospel Reading:

This is the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Because He Lives"

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~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "While it was Still Dark..."

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

INVITATION to the OFFERING

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Offertory Prayer (Adapted from Armand Houle; from *Gathering L/E/P 2006.*)

Ever-living God,

on this day of great joy, we offer our gifts.

Pour out your blessing upon them and upon us,

that they and we may be signs and symbols of new life

**to a world hungering for resurrection.
In the name of the Risen Christ, 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.**

***HYMN: VU #175 – "This is the Day That God Has Made"**

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(Sleeth)

~Joanne Diplock

**This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!**

- 1 Christ has conquered death at last,
left the tomb that held him fast!
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,
dawns the morning clear and bright! R**
- 2 Jesus lives who once was dead,
lives forever, as he said!
Risen now our Saviour, King;
songs of gladness let us sing! R**

THE
OF HOLY

SACRAMENT

The Communion liturgy includes pieces written by:
~Richard Bott, from Gathering Drama & More File Lent/Easter 2019~
~Thom Shuman, from the Lectionary Liturgies blog~
~William S. Kervin & Lillian Perigoe, from Celebrate God's Presence~
~Alydia Smith & Alison Etter; United Church of Canada online resources~

COMMUNION

INVITATION

CALL to GIVE THANKS

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

THANKSGIVING

SONG of CREATION

Holy, holy, holy Lord God of the empty grave.

Glad songs of resurrection joy are offered to you.

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is the One who comes bearing your steadfast love.

Hosanna in the highest!

REMEMBERING JESUS at TABLE

*On the night before he was taken to be killed
for sharing your message of Love and Life,
he gathered with his disciples
for a feast of freedom and hope.*

*He took bread, gave thanks to you,
broke it and gave it to those gathered saying,
"This is my body, given for you.*

Each time you eat this bread, remember me."

So we remember.

*He took a cup, gave thanks to you,
then gave it to those gathered saying,
"This is my promise in my life's blood, that sins are forgiven.*

Each time you drink this cup, remember me."

So we remember.

But we don't only remember his death.

NO!

We remember his resurrection.

YES!

We remember his destruction of death.

YES!

We remember his love!

YES!

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION of the ELEMEMENTS

CONCLUDING PRAISE

SUNG RESPONSE: *VU #958 – "Halle, Halle, Halle"* (sung twice) (The Iona Community)
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Halle, halle, Hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Hallelujah, hallelujah! 2X

BREAKING the BREAD and FILLING the CUP

COMMUNION is SHARED

PRAYER after COMMUNION

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.
We are fed by your love;
we are strengthened by your life.
We are sent forth into this world
to live your way and share your joy.
We are now commissioned to:
feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
and love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: *VU #179 – "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks"* (Fischel/Nixon)
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Hallelujah, hallelujah.
Give thanks to the risen Christ;
hallelujah, hallelujah!
Give praise to God's name.

- 1 Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
firstborn of all creation. R**
- 2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and is risen. R**
- 3 We have been crucified with Christ,
now we shall live for ever. R**

**4 Come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour. R**

***SENDING FORTH**

(Written by Fern Gibbard; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2021.*)

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Now we are an Easter people!

Now we are the people of the risen Christ!

Now we are the people who go out into the world

living the love of God,

sharing the peace of Christ,

being the community of the Holy Spirit

as we bring the new life of Easter to everyone we meet.

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

***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