

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.

April 14th, 2024
The Third Sunday of Easter

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 *Jasmine Gregg*

*We light this candle in celebration of the Risen Christ,
and as a reminder that 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 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.*

CALL to WORSHIP

(Written by Christine Jerrett; from Gathering Lent/Easter 2022.)

*Christ is risen!
He is risen indeed!*

God has raised Jesus from the dead.

God welcomes us into a new world filled with grace.

God gives new life and new hope.

Let us sing our alleluias with joy!

Come, let us worship God together.

***OPENING HYMN: VU #169 – "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing"** (Alington)
(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License) ~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!
Now is the triumph of our King!
To all the world glad news we bring:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**
- 2 The Lord of life is risen today!
Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way;
let every tongue rejoice and say:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**
- 3 Praise we in songs of victory
that love, that life which cannot die,
and sing with hearts uplifted high:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**
- 4 Your name we bless, O risen Lord,
and sing today with one accord
the life laid down, the life restored:
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!**

OPENING PRAYER (Adapted from *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009*; found on the *re:Worship* blog online.)

**Miraculous God, come to us now,
even as your Son came to those first disciples
on the shores of Galilee.
Speak your peace to our hearts.
Touch us with your Holy Spirit.
Reveal your word, that we may hear your message this day,
and live as your disciples in the days and years to come.
In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.**

CONVERSATION TIME

***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**

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Joan Knowles*

Psalm 4 *VU p. 727 (Read responsively, with refrain)*

Refrain: **In the night I can take my rest. You alone keep my life secure.**

*Answer me, when I call, O God, defender of my cause,
for you set me free when I was in distress.*

**Be gracious to me now
and hear my prayer. R**

How long, you people, will you defame my honour?

**How long will you love what is worthless
and seek lies?**

Know this, that God has chosen the faithful;

God hears me when I call.

Stand in awe, and cease from sin;

**commune with your own heart upon your bed
and be still.**

Offer the sacrifices that are appointed,

and put your trust in God. R

There are many who say,

'O that we might see prosperity!

Lift up the light of your face on us, O God.'

But you have put gladness in my heart

more than those whose grain and wine are plentiful.

Safe and sound, I lie down and sleep,

for you alone, God, make me dwell in safety. R

Gospel Reading: **Luke 24: 36b-48**

Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, 'Peace be with you.' They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, 'Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.' And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, 'Have you anything here to eat?' They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the

dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Response to the Gospel Reading:

This is the good news of Jesus Christ!

Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION (Adapted from Laura Turnbull; from *Worship for All Seasons II: Year C.*)

**God of Resurrection Promise,
we come acknowledging our doubts and uncertainties.
We want to see signs of your graciousness,
yet can be blind to the revelations before us.
We want proof of your love,
but can be unwilling to embrace your indwelling Spirit.
Open our eyes and our souls to the miracle of new life.
We pray as witnesses to the living Christ. Amen.**

WORDS of ASSURANCE

CHOIR ANTHEM

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~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "You are Witnesses. We are Witnesses."
~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: *VU #186 – "Now the Green Blade Rises"* (Crum)
(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

- 1 Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
love lives again, that with the dead has been:
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**
- 2 In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,
thinking that he would never wake again,
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**
- 3 Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,
he that for three days in the grave had lain;
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**

**4 When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
your touch can call us back to life again,
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;
love is come again, like wheat arising green.**

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Doxology: *VU #541 – "Praise God from Whom ..."*
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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

(Adapted from Frances Flook; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2018.*)

**Holy God –
you are life and light and grace.
We give you thanks,
and we offer you our lives in return.
Accept these gifts;
they represent our commitment to live as an Easter People,
and we offer them in Jesus' name.
Hallelujah! Amen.**

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

(Adapted from Susan Miller; found on the *re:Worship* blog online.)

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 #703 – "In the Bulb There Is a Flower"*
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(Sleeth)

~Joanne Diplock

**1 In the bulb there is a flower;
in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, a hidden promise:**

**butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter
there's a spring that waits to be,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**2 There's a song in every silence,
seeking word and melody;
there's a dawn in every darkness,
bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future;
what it holds, a mystery,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

**3 In our end is our beginning;
in our time, infinity;
in our doubt there is believing;
in our life, eternity.
In our death, a resurrection;
at the last, a victory,
unrevealed until its season,
something God alone can see.**

***COMMISSIONING**

(Written by Heather Blaikie; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2017*.)

**May we go out from this place rejoicing,
and proclaiming our Risen Lord –
Lord of love and light!
Lord of courage and hope!
Lord of promise and new beginnings!**

***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