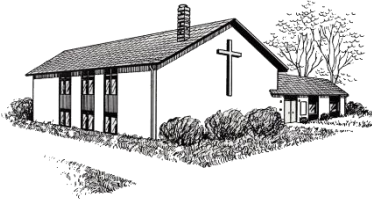


North Kildonan United Church
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Minister: *Rev. Susan Reed*
Pianist/Choir Director: *Joanne Diplock*
Office Administrator: *Wilma Fehr*
Property Manager: *Heinz Goetz*

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 21st, 2024
The Fourth Sunday of Easter
Earth 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

*A reminder of the garage sale this weekend with items being received this week.
Please see the church news for dates and times.*

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we live and work, play and worship on the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples and the homeland of the Metis nation. We acknowledge with respect, the history, spirituality and culture of these peoples and acknowledge their stories and their stewardship of the land and the water, the plants and animals, through many generations.

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE *Shirley Alleyne*

Today we light this Christ Candle to bring us out of the darkness and help us see the light to take care of the earth and each other. We are the keepers of this great creation you have given us. Shine your light on us so we will cherish and protect all of creation. The light shines in the darkness, and the darkness has never put it out.

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 Jesus, the Prince of Peace,

O God, we pray for peace. Amen.

CALL to WORSHIP

*OPENING HYMN: VU #373 – "As Comes the Breath of Spring"

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(Ritchie/Dale)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 As comes the breath of spring
with light and mirth and song,
so does your Spirit bring
new days brave, free, and strong.
 You come with thrill of life
 to chase hence winter's breath,
 to hush to peace the strife
 of sin that ends in death.**
- 2 You come like dawning day
with flaming truth and love,
to chase all glooms away,
to brace our wills to prove
 how wise, how good to choose
 the truth and its brave fight,
 to prize it, win or lose,
 and live on your delight.**
- 3 You come like songs at morn
that fill the earth with joy,
till we, in Christ newborn,
new strength in praise employ.
 You come to rouse the heart
 from drifting to despair,
 through high hopes to impart
 life with an ampler air.**
- 4 You breathe and there is health;
you move and there is power;
you whisper, there is wealth
of love, your richest dower.
 Your presence is to us
 like summer in the soul;
 your joy shines forth and then
 life blossoms to its goal.**

OPENING PRAYER

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.**

CONVERSATION TIME

***HYMN: VU #520 – "We Plough the Fields"**
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(The Iona Community)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 We plough the fields and scatter
the good seed on the land,
but it is fed and watered
by your almighty hand;
you send the snow in winter,
the warmth to swell the grain,
the breezes and the sunshine,
and soft refreshing rain.
All good gifts around us
are sent from heaven above;
we thank you, God, O holy God,
for all your love.**
- 2 You only are the maker
of all things near and far;
you paint the wayside flower,
you light the evening star;
the winds and waves obey you,
by you the birds are fed;
much more to us, your children,
you give us daily bread. R**
- 3 We thank you then, O Maker,
for all things bright and good,
the seed-time and the harvest,
our life, our health, our food;
accept the gifts we offer
for all your love imparts,
and, what from us you long for,
our humble, thankful hearts. R**

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Shirley Codd*

Genesis 1: 1-13

In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth. Now the earth was formless and empty, darkness was over the surface of the deep, and the Spirit of God was hovering over the waters.

And God said, let there be light and there was light. God saw that the light was good, and he separated the light from the darkness. God called the light day and the darkness he called night. And there was evening, and there was morning – the first day.

And God said, let there be an expanse between the waters to separate water from water. So God made the expanse and separated the water under the expanse from the water above it. And it was so. God called the expanse sky and there was evening, and there was morning – the second day.

And God said, let the water under the sky be gathered to one place, and let dry ground appear. And it was so. 10. God called the dry ground land and the gathered waters he called seas. And God saw that it was good. Then God said, let the land produce vegetation; seed-bearing plants and trees on the land that bear fruit with seed in it, according to their various kinds. And it was so. The land produced vegetation; plants bearing seed according to their kinds and trees bearing fruit with seed in it according to their kinds. And God saw that it was good. And there was evening and there was morning – the third day.

Responsive Reading: **Psalms 148: 1-14**

Praise the Lord.

*Praise the Lord from the heavens,
praise him in the heights above.*

**Praise him, all his angels,
praise him, all his heavenly hosts.**

*Praise him, sun and moon;
praise him, all you shining stars.*

**Praise him, you highest heavens
and you waters above the skies.**

*Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for he commanded and they were created.*

**He set them in place for ever and ever,
he gave a decree that will never pass away.**

*Praise the Lord from the earth,
you great sea creatures and all ocean depths,*

**Lightning and hail, snow and clouds,
stormy winds that do his bidding.**

You mountains and all hills,

fruit trees and all cedars

**Wild animals and all cattle,
small creatures and flying birds,**

*Kings of the earth, and all nations,
you princes and all rulers on earth,*

**Young men and maidens,
old men and children.**

*Let them praise the name of the Lord,
for his name alone is exalted,
his splendor is above the earth and the heavens.*

**He has raised up for his people a horn,
the praise of all his saints of Israel,
the people close to his heart.
Praise the Lord.**

Psalm 24: 1-6

*The earth is the Lord's and everything in it,
the world, and all who live in it.*

*For he founded it upon the seas
and established it upon the waters.*

Who may ascend the hill of the Lord?

Who may stand in his holy place?

*He who has clean hands and a pure heart,
who does not lift up his soul to an idol
or swear by what is false.*

*He will receive blessing from the Lord
and vindication from God his Saviour.*

*Such is the generation of those who seek him,
who seek your face, O God of Jacob.*

Words of Response:

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

Thanks be to God! Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM

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~Joanne Diplock

VIDEO: "Untangle: Plastic Pollution"

REFLECTION: ~Nancy Cosway

VIDEO: "Moderator's Earth Week Message 2024"

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #427 – "To Show by Touch and Word" (Kaan/Klusmeier)
(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) ~Joanne Diplock

- 1 To show by touch and word devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life that comes to birth,
we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.**
- 2 Renew our minds to choose the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.**
- 3 Let love from day to day be yardstick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us where we live.**

PRAYER of CONFESSION

Let us pray:

Loving God,

You have created our world and redeemed it.

We are blessed to live in a land of plentiful natural resources.

We are blessed to have rules of law that protect our human dignity.

We recognize that these blessings are not extended to others.

We recognize the harm caused by our want for more.

Heal us in our desire for ever more resources;

forgive those times when we do not speak up against injustice,

and embolden us to be agents of your change in this world,

for the building of your kingdom. Amen.

SILENT TIME of REFLECTION

ASSURANCE of PARDON

As a shepherd cares for scattered sheep, our God cares, forgives us, and calls us into community. Members of the one flock—we are forgiven.

Thanks be to God.

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

INVITATION to SHARE

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Offertory Hymn: #191 MV – "What Can I Do
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(Rumbolt/McCarthy)
~Joanne Diplock

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

*Dedication of our gifts

We give with the hope, dear God, that you would remake us in Christ's image.

Be near to us, as we draw near to you.

Let our lives praise you as surely as our gifts seek to honour you.

Take what we offer now, and use it for your glory.

Amen.

PRAYERS of the PEOPLE

SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

*As we leave this place of worship,
let us share the peace of Christ promised
through his death and resurrection using the signs we have learned.*

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

SENT INTO GOD'S WORLD

*CLOSING HYMN: VU #575 – "I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me"

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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**
- 2 I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**
- 3 I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**
- 4 I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!**

*BLESSING & SENDING FORTH

*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