

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.

September 8th, 2024
16th Sunday after Pentecost
Creation Time 1

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

CALL to WORSHIP *(inspired by Psalm 146) (From *Ministry Matters*; found on the *re: Worship* blog.)*

Praise the Lord.

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

*Happy are those whose help is from God—
the One who made heaven and earth,
the One who created the seas and all that is in them.*

**Happy are those whose hope is in God—
the One who keeps faith forever,
the One who feeds the hungry
and defends the oppressed.**

God will reign forever, for all generations.

Praise the Lord!

Let all who draw breath praise the Lord.

*OPENING REFRAIN: #130 MV – **"Rise Up, Rise Up"**

(sung 2X)

(Good)

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~Joanne Diplock

**Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.
Rise up, rise up, rise up, O my soul.
Rise up and sing this blessing to God's name.**

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 Red River Metis. We

also acknowledge that the water we use here comes from the Shoal Lake 40 First Nation. We are grateful for these first inhabitants and their stewardship of the land and its resources through the ages, and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

CREATION MOMENT "Creation Cries Out: Love Me!"

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE *Frank Leskovjan*

*(Written by Bob Root; from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2019.*)*

We are a people of light.

*We are called to bring light
into all the shadowed places of living.*

*We light this candle,
remembering that Jesus is the light of the world.*

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

Peace be with you.

And also with you.

PEACE PATTERN

(As we shift from sharing the peace to continuing in worship)

OPENING PRAYER

*(Adapted from Gord Waldie; found at *Worship Offerings* online.)*

Welcoming God,

once again we have gathered in your presence.

In this place, we affirm that everyone is welcome.

**At this time, we celebrate your presence
within and around us all.**

As we worship, may you fill our hearts with hope.

As we sing and pray, may you empower us to be your servants.

This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: #145 MV – "Draw the Circle Wide"**

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(Light/Bloss)

~Joanne Diplock

Draw the circle wide.

Draw it wider still.

**Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side.**

- 1. God the still point of the circle
'round whom all creation turns
Nothing lost but held forever
In God's gracious arms. R**
- 2. Let our hearts touch far horizons,
So encompass great and small;
Let our loving know no borders
Faithful to God's call. R**
- 3. Let the dreams we dream be larger,
Than we've ever dreamed before'
Let the dream of Christ be in us
Open every door. R**

CONVERSATION TIME

BACK to SCHOOL BLESSING

*~Children, Youth & their leaders are invited to head downstairs
for Kid Konnection (Sunday School) and Youth Group~*

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reader: *Marie Leskovjan*

James 2: 1-10, 14-17

My brothers and sisters, do you with your acts of favouritism really believe in our glorious Lord Jesus Christ? For if a person with gold rings and in fine clothes comes into your assembly, and if a poor person in dirty clothes also comes in, and if you take notice of the one wearing the fine clothes and say, 'Have a seat here, please', while to the one who is poor you say, 'Stand there', or, 'Sit at my feet', have you not made distinctions among yourselves, and become judges with evil thoughts? Listen, my beloved brothers and sisters. Has not God chosen the poor in the world to be rich in faith and to be heirs of the kingdom that he has promised to those who love him? But you have dishonoured the poor. Is it not the rich who oppress you? Is it not they who drag you into court? Is it not they who blaspheme the excellent name that was invoked over you?

You do well if you really fulfil the royal law according to the scripture, 'You shall love your neighbour as yourself.' But if you show partiality, you commit sin and are convicted by the law as transgressors. For whoever keeps the whole law but fails in one point has become accountable for all of it.

What good is it, my brothers and sisters, if you say you have faith but do not have works? Can faith save you? If a brother or sister is naked and lacks daily food, and one of you says to them, 'Go in peace; keep warm and eat your fill', and yet you do not supply their bodily needs, what is the good of that? So faith by itself, if it has no works, is dead.

Mark 7: 24-37

From there he set out and went away to the region of Tyre. He entered a house and did not want anyone to know he was there. Yet he could not escape notice, but a woman whose little daughter had an unclean spirit immediately heard about him, and she came and bowed down at his feet. Now the woman was a Gentile, of Syrophenician origin. She begged him to cast the demon out of her daughter. He said to her, 'Let the children be fed first, for it is not fair to take the children's food and throw it to the dogs.' But she answered him, 'Sir, even the dogs under the table eat the children's crumbs.' Then he said to her, 'For saying that, you may go—the demon has left your daughter.' So she went home, found the child lying on the bed, and the demon gone.

Then he returned from the region of Tyre, and went by way of Sidon towards the Sea of Galilee, in the region of the Decapolis. They brought to him a deaf man who had an impediment in his speech; and they begged him to lay his hand on him. He took him aside in private, away from the crowd, and put his fingers into his ears, and he spat and touched his tongue. Then looking up to heaven, he sighed and said to him, 'Ephphatha', that is, 'Be opened.' And immediately his ears were opened, his tongue was released, and he spoke plainly. Then Jesus ordered them to tell no one; but the more he ordered them, the more zealously they proclaimed it. They were astounded beyond measure, saying, 'He has done everything well; he even makes the deaf to hear and the mute to speak.'

Words after Scripture:

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

Thanks be to God! Amen.

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION and NEW LIFE

(Written by Cheryl A. Lindsay; from *Worship Ways*; found online.)

Holy One,

**we confess our tendency to exclude rather than to include,
to form closed groups rather than open communities,
and to prioritize comfort rather than embrace curiosity.**

Help us to truly love our neighbour;

whether family, friend, stranger;

or foe, as ourselves,

and with the love you demonstrate toward us.

WORDS of GRACE

(Adapted from Cheryl A. Lindsay; from *Worship Ways*; found online.)

CHOIR ANTHEM: VU #856 – "Behold, How Pleasant"

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*Psalm 133 (Sosa/Nixon)
~Joanne Diplock*

REFLECTION: "Faith and Works"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

***HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #326 – "O for a Thousand Tongues to Sing"** (Wesley)

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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 O for a thousand tongues to sing
my great Redeemer's praise,
the glories of my God and King,
the triumphs of God's grace.**
- 2 Jesus! the name that charms our fears,
that bids our sorrows cease;
'tis music in the sinner's ears,
'tis life and health and peace.**
- 3 He speaks, and listening to his voice,
new life the dead receive,
the mournful broken-hearts rejoice,
the humble poor believe.**
- 4 Hear him, you deaf; you voiceless ones,
your tongues again employ;
you blind, behold your Saviour comes,
and leap, you lame, for joy!**
- 5 My gracious Master and my God,
assist me to proclaim,
to spread through all the earth abroad
the honours of your name.**

INVITATION to GENEROSITY (Written by Cheryl A. Lindsay; from *Worship Ways*, found online.)

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

***Offering Verse: #191 MV – "What Can I Do?"**

sung 2X

(Rumbolt/McCarthy)

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~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.**

*Offertory Prayer

**O God, we offer you these gifts,
and we offer you our very selves.
Bless all that we offer,
and use it and us for your work in the world.
In the name and way of Jesus, 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 #593 – "Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love"

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(Colvin)

~Joanne Diplock

**Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love,
show us how to serve
the neighbours we have from you.**

- 1 Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
master who acts as a slave to them. R**
- 2 Neighbours are rich and poor,
varied in colour and race,
neighbours are near and far away. R**
- 3 These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love,
all are neighbours to us and you. R**
- 4 Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. R**

*SENDING FORTH

(Adapted from Gill LeFevre from *Gathering Pentecost 2 2020*.)

**Let us go forth from here
with a renewed sense of service to God
and a deepened awareness of God's gifts to us.
May we head into this week with replenished hearts and minds,
assured of God's love for us, for all God's children,
and for all of Creation.
Together, may we be nurtured
and inspired to grow and love and serve our God.**

*BLESSING

*CHORAL BENEDICTION

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**May the Lord go with you,
let him take your hand.
Keep His love within you,
until we meet again. Amen.**

(Price/Besig)
~Joanne Diplock

POSTLUDE *(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)*

~Joanne Diplock