

North Kildonan United Church
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Minister: *Rev. Susan Reed*
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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.

August 3rd, 2025
8th Sunday after Pentecost
Theme Series: Summer ~ Rest
Toonie 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

WELCOME

***GATHERING HYMN: VU #232 – "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"** (van Dyke/van Beethoven)
(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License) *~Joanne Diplock*

- 1 Joyful, joyful we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.**
- 2 All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
centre of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.**
- 3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,**

**let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.**

**4 Mortals join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.**

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 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.

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE ~lit by Donna Price

*(Adapted from Bob Root; from *Gathering Pentecost 1* 2025.)*

*We light a candle – this Christ candle –
to shine a light that also lives within us,
a light that calls us to share the love of Christ
in every corner of the world.*

**We give thanks for the meaning and purpose
Jesus offers to our living,
calling us to bring healing, hope,
justice, and reconciliation to others.**

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

And as we light this second candle, we pray for peace:

**peace in our hearts,
peace in our homes,
peace in our world.**

As we find rest in 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.

INTRODUCTION to the SERVICE

CALL to WORSHIP (Inspired by Matthew 11: 28-30)

(From the website of the Presbyterian Church of Aotearoa, New Zealand.)

*If you are tired from carrying heavy burdens,
come to me and I will give you rest.
Take the yoke I give you.
Put it on your shoulders and learn from me.
I am gentle and humble, and you will find rest.
This yoke is easy to bear, and this burden is light.*

**Christ calls us to come to worship
to rest from the things that are troubling us,
to learn what Christ can teach of life,
to realize what we can offer to others,
and so to return into the world to serve.
Let us worship God.**

OPENING PRAYER (Adapted from Nancy C. Townley; from *Ministry Matters*. Found online.)

**O God, we gather here this morning
with lives that can be filled with activity and movement.
Sometimes, we rush from one thing to another
as though we are going to run out of time to accomplish everything.
Help us to let go of the hectic times and the stresses
and find our rest in you.
Relax our spirits and refresh our souls.
Remind us that there will always be things to do and places to go,
but that we need the rest of spirit that you provide.
In the name of Jesus, who offers us rest, we pray.
Amen.**

*OPENING HYMN: VU #374 – "Come and Find the Quiet Centre"

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(Murray/White)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Come and find the quiet centre
in the crowded life we lead,
find the room for hope to enter,
find the frame where we are freed:
clear the chaos and the clutter,
clear our eyes, that we can see
all the things that really matter,
be at peace, and simply be.**
- 2 Silence is a friend who claims us,
cools the heat and slows the pace,**

God it is who speaks and names us,
knows our being, face to face,
making space within our thinking,
lifting shades to show the sun,
raising courage when we're shrinking,
finding scope for faith begun.

3 In the Spirit let us travel,
open to each other's pain,
let our loves and fears unravel,
celebrate the space we gain:
there's a place for deepest dreaming,
there's a time for heart to care,
in the Spirit's lively scheming
there is always room to spare!

CONVERSATION TIME

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Reading: *read by Donna Price*

This morning, we have three readings on the theme of rest. One speaks of God resting, one speaks of the rest we can find in Jesus, and one is a translation of the 23rd Psalm which includes mention of how God offers us rest.

Genesis 1: 31 – 2:3 (New Revised Standard Version)

God saw everything that he had made, and indeed, it was very good. And there was evening and there was morning, the sixth day.

Thus the heavens and the earth were finished and all their multitude. On the sixth day God finished the work that he had done, and he rested on the seventh day from all the work that he had done. So God blessed the seventh day and hallowed it, because on it God rested from all the work that he had done in creation.

Psalms 23 (New Living Translation)

The LORD is my shepherd; I have all that I need.

He lets me rest in green meadows;

he leads me beside peaceful streams.

He renews my strength.

He guides me along right paths, bringing honor to his name.

Even when I walk through the darkest valley,

I will not be afraid, for you are close beside me.

Your rod and your staff protect and comfort me.

You prepare a feast for me in the presence of my enemies.

You honor me by anointing my head with oil.

My cup overflows with blessings.

*Surely your goodness and unfailing love will pursue me
all the days of my life,
and I will live in the house of the LORD forever.*

Matthew 11: 28-30 (New Revised Standard Version)

[Jesus said] "Come to me, all you who are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me, for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light."

Response to Scripture:

Holy Wisdom. Holy Word.

Thanks be to God.

Sacred Scripture. Sacred Story.

Praise be to Christ.

REFLECTION: "Rest"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

***HYMN OF RESPONSE:** VU #626 – **"I Heard the Voice of Jesus"** (tune VU #625)

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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Come unto me and rest;
lay down, O weary one, lay down
your head upon my breast.'
I came to Jesus as I was,
weary and worn and sad;
I found in him a resting place,
and he has made me glad.**
- 2 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'Behold, I freely give
the living water; thirsty one,
stoop down, and drink, and live.'
I came to Jesus, and I drank
of that life-giving stream;
my thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
and now I live in him.**
- 3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
'I am this dark world's light;
look unto me, your morn shall rise,
and all your day be bright.'
I looked to Jesus, and I found**

**in him my star, my sun;
and in that light of life I'll walk
till travelling days are done.**

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

***Offertory Verse: VU# 540 – "Grant Us, God, the Grace"**

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~Joanne Diplock

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.**

***Offertory Prayer** (Written by Bill Steadman; from *Gathering Pentecost 1 2025*.)

**Here, God, we give our gifts to the work of your church,
for the encouragement of your people,
and with the love of Christ in our hearts.
Bless our offerings as a sign of your love,
we pray in Christ's name. 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 #635 – "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"**

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(Crosby/Lowry)

~Joanne Diplock

**1 All the way my Saviour leads me;
what have I to ask beside?
Can I doubt his tender mercy
who through life has been my guide?
Heavenly peace, divinest comfort,
here by faith in him to dwell,**

**for I know, whate'er befall me,
Jesus doeth all things well.**

**2 All the way my Saviour leads me,
cheers each winding path I tread,
gives me grace for every trial,
feeds me with the living bread.**

**Though my weary steps may falter,
and my soul athirst may be,
gushing from the rock before me,
lo, a spring of joy I see!**

**3 All the way my Saviour leads me;
O the fullness of his love!
Perfect rest to me is promised
in my Father's house above.
When my spirit, clothed, immortal,
wings its flight to realms of day,
this my song through endless ages,
'Jesus led me all the way!'**

***SENDING FORTH**

**As we go from here,
may we continue to find moments of rest in God –
rest from the burdens we carry,
rest from our weariness,
holy rest which renews us and restores us,
and re-energizes us
to continue God's work in the world.**

***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

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~Joanne Diplock