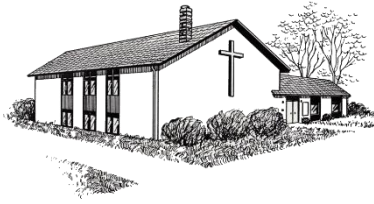


North Kildonan United Church
174 Pentland St, Winnipeg, MB R2G 2S3
Church Office: 204-667-7408
email: nkuc@mymts.net
www.nkuc.ca



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.

December 14th, 2025
“All Earth is Waiting”
Advent 3 – JOY

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 & INTRODUCTION to the SERVICE

OPENING VERSE: VU #249 – “**Rejoice in the Lord Always**”

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

(sung 2X) (traditional)

~Joanne Diplock

Rejoice in the Lord always

and again I say rejoice! *(clap, clap)*

Rejoice in the Lord always

and again I say rejoice! *(clap, clap)*

Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice! *(clap, clap)*

Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice! *(clap, clap)*

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 T’BJIGGN CANDLE

~lit by Betty Clark

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

~lit by Isla Lindsay

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

peace in our hearts,

peace in our homes,

peace in our world.

As we await the birth 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 Larry Doyle, Bob Root and Darrow Woods; from *Gathering A/C/E 2013-2014*.)

Advent is a season of waiting.

But we do not wait alone.

God is with us.

**We gather with those who have seen the signs,
heard the whispers, felt the tugs in their hearts.**

God is birthing joy into this waiting world.

Let us worship with hearts open to joy.

OPENING PRAYER (Written by Thomas Harding; from *Celebrate God's Presence*.)

**O God of angel song,
shepherd surprise, stable warmth, and birthing cry:
dawn in our darkness,
sing through our silence,
surprise us with wonder and with joy this holy season.
O come to us, Emmanuel. Amen.**

***OPENING HYMN: VU #5 – "All Earth is Waiting"**

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

(Suppe/Taulé)
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 All earth is waiting to see the Promised One,
and open furrows await the seed of God.
All the world, bound and struggling, seeks true liberty;
it cries out for justice and searches for the truth.**
- 2 Thus says the prophet to those of Israel,
'A virgin mother will bear Emmanuel.'
One whose name is 'God with us', our Saviour shall be,
through whom hope will blossom once more within our hearts.**
- 3 Mountains and valleys will have to be made plain,
open new highways, new highways for our God,
who is now coming closer, so come all and see,
and open the doorways as wide as wide can be.**
- 4 In lowly stable the Promised One appeared.
Yet, feel that presence throughout the earth today,
for Christ lives in all Christians and is with us now;
again, on arriving, Christ brings us liberty.**

ADVENT CANDLE-LIGHTING ~Lit by the Gauthier family.
(Written by Irma Nadeau, Trinity UC Winnipeg; from Gathering A/C/E 2024-2025.)

CANDLE-LIGHTING PRAYER

(Written by Irma Nadeau, Trinity UC Winnipeg; from Gathering A/C/E 2024-2025.)

**God of joy, on this third Sunday of Advent,
may we find some joy in this season –
joy in our relationships with each other,
joy in gathering in our community of faith
and being with those we love,
and the joy that awaits us in the coming of Jesus.
In his name, we pray. Amen.**

***SUNG RESPONSE: "We're Lighting our Candle"** sung to tune VU #218

(Written by Cindy Randall; from Gathering A/C/E 2016-2017.)
(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~Joanne Diplock

**We're lighting our candle, our candle of joy now,
we're lighting our candle to burn through the night.
We wait for our Saviour, we wait for his coming,
in joy this holy Advent, we wait for the light.**

CONVERSATION TIME

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings: read by Sven Lindsay

Isaiah 35: 1-10

*The wilderness and the dry land shall be glad; the desert shall rejoice and blossom;
like the crocus it shall blossom abundantly and rejoice with joy and shouting.
The glory of Lebanon shall be given to it, the majesty of Carmel and Sharon.
They shall see the glory of the Lord, the majesty of our God.
Strengthen the weak hands and make firm the feeble knees.
Say to those who are of a fearful heart, "Be strong, do not fear! Here is your God.
He will come with vengeance, with terrible recompense. He will come and save you."
Then the eyes of the blind shall be opened, and the ears of the deaf shall be opened;
then the lame shall leap like a deer, and the tongue of the speechless sing for joy.
For waters shall break forth in the wilderness and streams in the desert;
the burning sand shall become a pool and the thirsty ground springs of water;
the haunt of jackals shall become a swamp; the grass shall become reeds and rushes.
A highway shall be there, and it shall be called the Holy Way;
the unclean shall not travel on it, but it shall be for God's people;
no traveler, not even fools, shall go astray.
No lion shall be there, nor shall any ravenous beast come up on it;
they shall not be found there, but the redeemed shall walk there.*

*And the ransomed of the Lord shall return and come to Zion with singing;
everlasting joy shall be upon their heads;
they shall obtain joy and gladness, and sorrow and sighing shall flee away.*

Psalm 139 from *VU p. 898* (Read responsively, *with refrain #1*) (choir 1X cong 1X)

Refrain: **To God I lift my soul in praise;
In God my savior I rejoice.**

My soul proclaims God's greatness.

My spirit rejoices in God my saviour.

For you have looked with favour on your lowly servant.

From this day all generations will call me blessed.

You have done great things for me, O Most Mighty.

Hallowed be your Name!

You have mercy on those who fear you,

From one generation to another. R

You took action with a strong arm.

You scattered the proud in their conceit.

You pulled the mighty from their thrones.

You raised the lowly.

You filled the hungry with good things.

You sent the rich away empty.

You come to the aid of your servant, Israel,

**for you remembered your promise of mercy,
to our ancestors, Abraham and Sarah,
and to their children in every age. R**

Words of Response:

God still speaks through the words of the scriptures.

Thanks be to God!

CHOIR ANTHEM: **"Gabriel's Message"**

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

~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "Waiting in Joy"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: *VU #46* – **"Gentle Mary Laid Her Child"**

(Cook/Wilkinson)

(sung to tune of "Good King Wenceslas")

(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
there he lay, the undefiled, to the world a stranger.
Such a babe in such a place, can he be the Saviour?
Ask the saved of all the race who have found his favour.**

- 2 Angels sang about his birth, wise men sought and found him;
heaven's star shone brightly forth, glory all around him.
Shepherds saw the wondrous sight, heard the angels singing;
all the plains were lit that night, all the hills were ringing.
- 3 Gentle Mary laid her child lowly in a manger;
he is still the undefiled, but no more a stranger.
Son of God of humble birth, beautiful the story;
praise his name in all the earth; hail the King of glory!

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

INVITATION to the OFFERING

(Written by Frances Flook; from *Gathering A/C/E 2015-2016*.)

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Offertory Verse: VU #544 – **"In Gratitude and Humble Trust"** sung to tune VU #44
(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

~Joanne Diplock

**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

*Offertory Prayer (Adapted from Jane Doull; from *Gathering A/C/E 2015-2016*.)

**God of joy, we thank you for all your rare and wondrous gifts.
As we have received so abundantly, we give as we are able,
not only gifts to our families and friends,
but also gifts to help your church and your world.
May our gifts bring joy to all who receive them.
In Jesus' name, 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 #38 – "Angels We Have Heard on High"**

(Words reproduced played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

(Chadwick/Barnes)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Angels we have heard on high
sweetly singing o'er the plains,
and the mountains in reply,
echoing their joyous strains.
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!
Gloria, in excelsis Deo!**
- 2 Shepherds, why this jubilee?
Why your joyous strains prolong?
What the gladsome tidings be
which inspire your heavenly song? R**
- 3 Come to Bethlehem and see
Christ whose birth the angels sing;
come, adore on bended knee
Christ, the Lord, the newborn King. R**
- 4 See him in a manger laid,
whom the choirs of angels praise;
Mary, Joseph, lend your aid,
while our hearts in love we raise. R**

***COMMISSIONING**

*(Written by Elaine Bidgood Sweet; from *Gathering A/C/E 2025-2026*.)*

**Our God of joy is always near.
Let us allow God's joy to reign in our lives
as we go forth in Jesus' name. Amen.**

***BLESSING**

***CHORAL BENEDICTION**

(Words reproduced played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)

(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 "Ave Maria"

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

~Joanne Diplock