

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 26<sup>th</sup>, 2026  
4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter  
Good Shepherd Sunday

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*\*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*

### GREETING

\*OPENING REFRAIN: VU #822 – "All People that on Earth Do Dwell" (Théodore de Bèze)  
*(Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529 One License)* *~Joanne Diplock*

- 1 All people that on earth do dwell,  
sing out your faith with cheerful voice;  
delight in God whose praise you tell,  
whose presence calls you to rejoice.**
  
- 3 Enter the sacred gates with praise;  
with joy approach the temple walls.  
Extol and bless our God always  
as people whom the Spirit calls.**

### 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.*

### WELCOME and INTRODUCTION to the SERVICE

#### CALL to WORSHIP

*(From the Seasons of the Spirit curriculum 2007-2008.)*

#### LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE *~lit by Joan Knowles*

*We light this candle in celebration of the Risen Christ,*

*the One we call our Good Shepherd.  
We light this candle as a tangible reminder that God is always with us,  
and that 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 follow Jesus, our Good Shepherd, the Prince of Peace,  
**O God, we pray for peace. Amen.***

### SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

***Peace be with you.  
And also with you.***

### \*OPENING HYMN: VU #365 – "Jesus Loves Me"

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(Warner/McGuire)  
~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Jesus loves me, this I know,  
for the Bible tells me so;  
little ones to him belong,  
in his love we shall be strong.  
Yes, Jesus loves me! Yes, Jesus loves me!  
Yes, Jesus loves me! The Bible tells me so.**
- 2 Jesus loves me, this I know,  
as he loved so long ago,  
taking children on his knee,  
saying, 'Let them come to me.' R**
- 3 Jesus loves me still today,  
walking with me on my way,  
wanting as a friend to give  
light and love to all who live. R**

### OPENING PRAYER

(Written by Steve Garnaas-Holmes; from his *Unfolding Light* website.)

**Gentle Shepherd,  
you guide us and protect us and nourish us.  
You gather us as one flock;  
and we find grace in one another's companionship.  
Your voice leads us to abundant life;  
your steps lead us in serving.  
Speak to us now,  
so that, recognizing the voice of love,**

**we might follow. Amen.**

## CONVERSATION TIME

\*HYMN: #126 MV – "**Are You a Shepherd?**"

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(Duck/Rowan)

~Joanne Diplock

**1 Are you a shepherd, good shepherd who leads us,  
safely through danger while calming our fears  
Are you a father who shelters and feeds us,  
shares in our laughter and wipes away tears?**

**Yes, you are shepherd, parent and teacher,  
but you are greater than all that we know.  
Holy and living, loving and giving,  
God, you are with us wherever we go.**

**2 Are you a mother, good mother who bears us,  
comforts, protects us, and helps us to rest?  
Are you a teacher who daily prepares us,  
challenging students to offer their best? R**

**3 Great, gentle shepherd, forever beside us,  
lead all your children in paths that are right.  
Great, loving parent, wise teacher, you guide us.  
We want to love you and bring you delight. R**

## LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings: *read by Sylvia Banfield*

**Psalm 23** *(New King James translation)*

*The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.  
He makes me to lie down in green pastures;  
He leads me beside the still waters.  
He restores my soul;  
He leads me in the paths of righteousness for His name's sake.  
Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,  
I will fear no evil; for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff, they comfort me.  
You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;  
You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.  
Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life;  
And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.*

**John 10: 1-10** *(New Revised Standard Version)*

*[Jesus said] "Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate  
but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is*

*the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers." Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.*

*So again Jesus said to them, "Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits, but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life and have it abundantly.*

Response to the Gospel Reading:

*This is the good news of Jesus Christ!*

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia! Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Consider the Lilies"

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*~Joanne Diplock*

REFLECTION: "Shepherds and Sheep and Abundant Life"

*~Rev. Susan Reed*

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION

*(Written by Barbara Zimmerman; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2017.*)*

*God, be my shepherd,*

*teach me to be content,*

**give me rest in the freshness of creation,  
and teach me the ways of righteousness.**

*When I choose the shadowed way,*

**lead me away from evil.**

*When I do not recognize your abundance in my life,*

**bring me back to your table of grace.**

*Sit me down. Fill me up. Restore my soul.*

**Then surely, my cup of abundance will overflow.**

*Goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life*

**and I will be yours, forever.**

*May it be so!*

**Amen.**

\*HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #747 – "The Lord's My Shepherd"

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*(Scottish Psalter)*

*~Joanne Diplock*

**1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;  
he makes me down to lie**

in pastures green; he leadeth me,  
the quiet waters by.

- 2 My soul he doth restore again;  
and me to walk doth make  
within the paths of righteousness,  
even for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,  
yet will I fear no ill;  
for thou art with me; and thy rod  
and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou has furnished  
in presence of my foes;  
my head thou dost with oil anoint,  
and my cup overflows.
- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life  
shall surely follow me,  
and in God's house for evermore  
my dwelling-place shall be.

## LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

### INVITATION to the OFFERING (From *Gathering Lent/Easter/Pentecost 2007.*)

## THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

\*Offertory Verse: #191 MV – "What Can I Do" *sung 2X*  
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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.**

\*Offertory Prayer (inspired by Psalm 23, 1 John 3)  
(Adapted from Mary Petrina Boyd; found on *Ministry Matters* online.)

**God of love, you abide with us;  
you provide for all our needs and guide us in your ways.  
Out of gratitude for your care, we bring our gifts before you.  
Use them for your work of caring,  
that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear,  
and drink deeply from the cup of compassion.  
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 #635 – "All the Way My Saviour Leads Me"** (Crosby/Lowry)  
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- 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!'**

**\*COMMISSIONING** (Inspired by Psalm 23, Rev. 7, John 10)  
*(Adapted from Deborah Sokolove; from The Abingdon Worship Annual 2019.)*  
**Let us follow the voice of Jesus wherever he leads.**

**Let us trust that he will nourish and protect us,  
and fill us with the goodness of God's love.  
In the name of the One who calls and guides us,  
let us go out to love and serve the world. Amen.**

**\*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*