

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.

May 10th, 2026
Sixth Sunday of Easter
Mother's Day & Christian Family 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

GREETING

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

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(Light)

~Joanne Diplock

**Draw the circle wide.
Draw it wider still.
Let this be our song,
No one stands alone,
Standing side by side.
Draw the circle wide.**

**1. God the still point of the circle
'round whom all creation turns
Nothing lost but held forever
In God's gracious arms. R**

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND

We acknowledge that we meet on Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Anisininew, Cree, Dakota, and Dene 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

LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE ~lit by Grace Atkins

(Adapted from Fern Gibbard; from *Gathering Lent / Easter 2017*.)

*Today on Mother's Day and Christian Family Sunday,
we remember that Jesus called us family.*

*We light the Christ candle, claiming the promise
that where even two or three are gathered together,
Christ is in our midst.*

We gather today as the family of Christ.

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

As we light this second candle, we pray for peace:

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

*As we follow the Way of Jesus, our Brother,
O God, we pray for peace. Amen.*

SHARING the PEACE of CHRIST

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

CALL to WORSHIP

(Adapted from Ann Asper Wilson; found in *Celebrate God's Presence*.)

*OPENING HYMN: VU #395 – "Come In, Come In and Sit Down"

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(Duck/Klusmeier)
~Joanne Diplock

**Come in, come in and sit down,
you are a part of the family.
We are lost and we are found,
and we are a part of the family.**

- 1 You know the reason why you came,
yet no reason can explain;
so share in the laughter and cry in the pain,
for we are a part of the family. R**
- 2 God is with us in this place,
like a mother's warm embrace.
We're all forgiven by God's grace,
for we are a part of the family. R**
- 3 There's life to be shared in the bread and the wine;
we are the branches, Christ is the vine.
This is God's temple, it's not yours or mine,
but we are a part of the family. R**

**4 There's rest for the weary and health for us all;
there's a yoke that is easy, and a burden that's small.
So come in and worship and answer the call,
for we are a part of the family. R**

OPENING PRAYER

(Adapted from Fern Gibbard; from *Gathering Lent / Easter 2021.*)

*Today, Gracious God,
we think especially of what family and home mean to us,
and how important it is to each of us to have a place
where we are welcomed and accepted.*

**We are grateful to you
for the invitation you have extended to each of us
to make our home with you.**

*We are grateful that no one will be refused entry into your family,
that each of us is acceptable and accepted just as we are.*

**May we be sensitive and welcoming hosts for each other
and for all who enter this church home.**

**To you, Gracious God,
who has welcomed us unconditionally,
we give our thanks today. Amen.**

CONVERSATION TIME

*HYMN: VU #316 – "***Praise Our Maker***"

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(Hobbs/Bonner)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:
God is love, God is love!
Praise our Maker, peoples of one family:
God is love, God is love!**
- 2 Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:
God is love, God is love!
Love our Saviour, followers of Jesus:
God is love, God is love!**
- 3 Care for others, children of the Spirit:
God is love, God is love!
Care for others, children of the Spirit:
God is love, God is love!**

LISTENING FOR AND REFLECTING ON GOD'S WORD

Scripture Readings: *read by Scotty McLaren*

Acts 17: 22-31

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely spiritual you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things. From one ancestor^[a] he made all peoples to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live, so that they would search for God and perhaps fumble about for him and find him—though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we, too, are his offspring.'

"Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold or silver or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

John 14: 15-21 "The Promise of the Holy Spirit"

[Jesus said] "If you love me, you will keep my commandments. And I will ask the Father, and he will give you another Advocate, to be with you forever. This is the Spirit of truth, whom the world cannot receive because it neither sees him nor knows him. You know him because he abides with you, and he will be in you.

"I will not leave you orphaned; I am coming to you. In a little while the world will no longer see me, but you will see me; because I live, you also will live. On that day you will know that I am in my Father, and you in me, and I in you. They who have my commandments and keep them are those who love me, and those who love me will be loved by my Father, and I will love them and reveal myself to them."

Response to Scripture:

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

Thanks be to God! Amen.

CHOIR ANTHEM: **"The Gift of Love"**

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~Joanne Diplock

REFLECTION: "We are Family"

~Rev. Susan Reed

RESPONDING TO GOD IN PRAYER AND ACTION

PRAYER for TRANSFORMATION

(Written by David Sparks; from *Worship for All Seasons II: Year A.*)

**Deepen our understanding of family, God,
that we may perceive the hidden hurt,
encourage the neglected talent,
meet the unspoken need.**

**Widen our understanding of family, God,
that we may support the powerless stranger,
recognize our struggling neighbour,
identify the lonely newcomer.**

**Make holy our understanding of family, God,
that your light may shine through the shadows,
Christ's acceptance mark our relationships,
and the Spirit renew our faith community.**

In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: VU #602 – "Blest Be the Tie That Binds"

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(Fawcett/Nägeli)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the unity of heart and mind
is like to that above.**
- 2 Before our Maker's throne
we pour our ardent prayers;
our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
our comforts and our cares.**
- 3 We share each other's woes,
each other's burdens bear;
and often for each other flows
the sympathizing tear.**
- 4 This glorious hope revives
our courage on the way;
that we shall live in perfect love
in God's eternal day.**

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

INVITATION to the OFFERING

(Written by George Allan; from *Gathering Lent/Easter 2026.*)

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music as the offerings are collected

~Joanne Diplock

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

(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

(Adapted from David Sparks; from *Worship for All Seasons II Year A.*)

**Gracious God,
we offer this money as a means to serve,
and ourselves as willing partners in that service.
Bless us, and these gifts, and how they are used.
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 #556 – "Would You Bless Our Homes and Families"
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~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Would you bless our homes and families,
Source of life who calls us here;
in our world of stress and tension
teach us love that conquers fear.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles,
love's expressed in many ways.**
- 2 When our way is undemanding,
let us use the time that's ours
to delight in simple pleasures,
sharing joys in gentle hours.
When our way is anxious walking**

**and a heavy path we plod,
teach us trust in one another
and in you, our gracious God.**

**3 From the homes in which we're nurtured,
with the love that shapes us there,
teach us, God, to claim as family
every one whose life we share.
And through all that life may offer,
may we in your love remain;
may the love we share in families
be alive to praise your name.**

**4 Let us reach beyond the boundaries
of our daily thought and care
till the family you have chosen
spills its love out everywhere.
Help us learn to love each other
with a love that constant stays;
teach us when we face our troubles
love's expressed in many ways.**

***COMMISSIONING**

(Written by Bill Steadman; from *Gathering Lent / Easter 2017*.)

*We remember those who have shown us the way,
and invited us to live as part of the family of God each new day.*

**We depart to share the truth we have received,
and to live with the hope that we cherish
as part of the family of God.**

***BLESSING**

(Adapted from Paul Fayter; from *Worship for All Seasons II: Year B*.)

***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

"You Raise Me Up"

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~Joanne Diplock