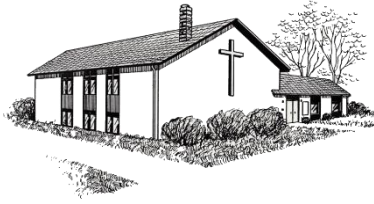


North Kildonan United Church
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Minister: *Rev. Susan Reed*
Pianist/Choir Director: *Joanne Diplock*
Office Administrator: *Wilma Fehr*
Property Manager: *Heinz Goetz*

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.

August 9, 2026

Summer Sabbath Series: The Inventions of Summer
Week Two: "String Beans – Taking Up the Offerings"

The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able. **Bold print indicates a congregational response.*

This service is adapted from resources written by Janice McLean,
found on her website *The Prayer Bench*,
and purchased for congregational use by the Prairie to Pine Regional Council.

WE GATHER

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

~Joanne Diplock

GREETING

***GATHERING VERSE: #182 MV – "Grateful"** *(chorus only, sung 2X)* (Tomaszek/Hart)

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~Joanne Diplock

**Grateful for the life you give us,
thankful for your Holy Son,
joyful in your Spirit flowing
over all, O God of Love.
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven,
thankful for your Holy Word,
joyful in your mercy flowing,
we will praise you.**

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

INTRODUCTION to the SERVICE

INVITATION to GATHER and CANDLE LIGHTING ~lit by Barrie McPherson

*In this season of long light and growing things,
we gather in the presence of the Holy.*

We come to notice, to listen, to pray.

**In the quiet work of creation, God is near –
in what delights us,
and in what troubles us.**

God meets us here, in the ordinary.

In the gifts of the earth, creation teaches us gratitude.

[The Christ candle is lit]

We open our hearts:

**to wonder,
to wisdom,
to the Spirit's gentle leading.
So we worship.**

LIGHTING of the PEACE CANDLE

*And as we worship, we light a second candle, this one for peace,
and as we do, we pray for peace:*

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

*As we follow in the ways 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.***

OPENING PRAYER

Maker of all that grows and breathes, we come to you
**in the beauty, the abundance,
and even in the disturbances of life.**

Open us to your presence in the ordinary.

**Open our hearts to receive what the moment teaches.
Open our lives to be a blessing in the world.**

In this time, may string beans teach us your way –

**the way of praise, the way of gratitude,
the way of compassion, the way of faithful prayer.**

We come in wonder, honesty, and hope.

Amen.

***OPENING HYMN: VU #291 – "All Things Bright and Beautiful"**

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(Alexander/Shaw)

~Joanne Diplock

**All things bright and beautiful,
all creatures great and small,
all things wise and wonderful:
in love, God made them all.**

- 1 Each little flower that opens,
each little bird that sings,
God made their glowing colours,
God made their tiny wings.**
- 2 The purpleheaded mountains,
the river running by,
the sunset and the morning
that brightens up the sky;**
- 3 The cold wind in the winter,
the pleasant summer sun,
the ripe fruits in the garden:
God made them every one.**
- 4 The rocky mountain splendour,
the lone wolf's haunting call,
the great lakes and the prairies,
the forest in the fall;**
- 5 God gave us eyes to see them,
and lips that we might tell
how great is God our maker,
who has made all things well. R**

CONVERSATION TIME

WE LISTEN AND REFLECT

Scripture Reading: *read by Barrie McPherson*

Colossians 3: 12-17

Therefore, as God's chosen ones, holy and beloved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, meekness, and patience. Bear with one another and, if anyone has a complaint against another, forgive each other; just as the Lord has forgiven you, so you also must forgive. Above all, clothe yourselves with love, which binds everything together in perfect harmony. And let the peace of Christ rule in your hearts, to which indeed you were called in one body. And be thankful. Let the word of Christ dwell in you richly; teach and admonish one another in all wisdom; and with gratitude in your hearts sing psalms, hymns, and spiritual songs to God. And whatever you do, in word or deed,

do everything in the name of the Lord Jesus, giving thanks to God the Father through him.

Response to Scripture:

Herein is wisdom.

Thanks be to God!

POEM: "Beans" *by Mary Oliver*

REFLECTION: "String Beans: Taking Up the Offerings"

REFLECTION QUESTION:

*What is a gift I can offer today?

BREATH PRAYER:

Thanks be to God / the Creator of all.

WE RESPOND IN PRAYER AND ACTION

*HYMN OF RESPONSE: #187 MV – "***We Give Our Thanks***"

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(Donaldson)

~Joanne Diplock

1. **We give our thanks to God,
We give our thanks to God,
We give our thanks to God,
We give our thanks to God.**
2. **We give our hands to you,
We give our hands to you,
We give our hands to you,
Because you reached for us.**
3. **We give our eyes to you
We give our eyes to you,
We give our eyes to you,
Because you looked for us.**
4. **We give our feet to you,
We give our feet to you,
We give our feet to you,
Because you walk with us.**
5. **We give our hearts to you,
We give our hearts to you,
We give our hearts to you,
Because you first loved us.**
6. **We give our thanks to God,
We give our thanks to God,**

**We give our thanks to God,
We give our thanks to God.**

LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION

INVITATION to the OFFERING

THE PRESENTATION of our TITHES and OFFERINGS

Offertory Music *as the offerings are collected*

~Joanne Diplock

*Offertory Hymn: #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 (From the *Service Book* of The United Church of Canada; found in *Celebrate God's Presence*.)
(Please remain standing, until the gifts have been placed on the table)

**We bring our gifts to you, God.
Here is the work of our hands,
and here is the love of our hearts.
Accept them and use them,
through Christ our Lord. 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.**

WE GO FORTH

*CLOSING HYMN: VU #227 – **"For the Fruit of All Creation"**
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(Green)
~Joanne Diplock

**1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God.
For the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God.
For the ploughing, sowing, reaping,**

**silent growth while we are sleeping,
future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.**

**2 In the just reward of labour, God's will is done.
In the help we give our neighbour, God's will is done.
In our worldwide task of caring
for the hungry and despairing,
in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.**

**3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God.
For the good we all inherit, thanks be to God.
For the wonders that astound us,
for the truths that still confound us,
most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.**

***CLOSING BLESSING of GRATITUDE**

*As we go from this place,
may we receive what is given,
and may we recognize the gift.*

**As we have received,
may we also return blessing –
to the earth, to one another,
and to the Giver of all good things.**

***SPOKEN BENEDICTION**

***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 "In the Garden"

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~Joanne Diplock