

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. Brenda Gibson
Pianist/Choir Director: Joan Shaw
Office Administrator: Wilma Fehr
Caretaker: 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.

The Third Sunday of Lent
March 15th, 2020

**The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able, and the double asterisk ** indicates when to be seated;
Bold print indicates a congregational response.*

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

Welcome, and the Life and Work of the Congregation

Acknowledgment of Territory

Lighting the Christ Candle

***Opening Hymn: #401 VU – “Worship the Lord”**

(Please see screen; Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529)

**Worship the Lord (worship the Lord)
worship the Father, the Spirit, the Son,
raising our hands (raising our hands)
in devotion to God who is one!**

- 1 Raising our hands as a sign of rejoicing,
and with our lips our togetherness voicing,
giving ourselves to a life of creativeness,
worship and work must be one! R**
- 2 Praying and training that we be a blessing,
and by our handiwork daily confessing:
we are committed to serving humanity,
worship and work must be one! R**
- 3 Called to be partners with God in creation,
honouring Christ as the Lord of the nation,
we must be ready for risk and for sacrifice,
worship and work must be one! R**

Call to Worship

God's love flows freely,

To all who are lost and to all who are found.

God's grace flows freely,

To all who are seeking, and to all who are comfortable.

God's forgiveness flows freely,

To all people, near and far.

Opening Prayer

Loving God,

**we gather here this day to worship you
and to meet again with friends and family.**

**As we continue our journey through Lent,
we ask that you receive the prayers of our hearts
and the hymns we sing to your glory.**

We ask all this in the name of Jesus, who is the Christ.

Amen.

Theme Conversation/Children's Prayer

(Children and teachers go to Sunday School)

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

(Please see screen; Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529)

- 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!**

Prayer of Confession

**God of the nations, hear us as we confess to you
our ignorance and neglect of what is done
to those who are far from our sight.**

**Sometimes we lack knowledge.
God of this nation, hear us as we confess to you
our pride of achievement – which is never quick to honour you.
Sometimes we lack humility.
God of this community, hear us as we confess to you
our lack of care for our sisters and brothers who live among us.
God of this church and of all churches, hear us as we confess to you:
our ignorance,
our neglect,
our pride,
and our lack of care. (*silence*).
Sometimes, these sins of ours, and many others,
go unnoticed and unfelt.
Forgive us and redeem us by your grace.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

Words of Assurance

***Sung Response: #96 MV – “And When You Call for Me”**
(Please see screen; Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529)
**And when you call for me, I have already answered.
And when you call for me, I am already there. X2**

***Passing the Peace of Christ**
***Please stand and exchange signs of peace and love with one another.*
The Peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

Anthem: “Guide Us, Lord” ~ *Mark Patterson*

WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD

Scripture Lessons

Exodus 17: 1 – 7

Water from the Rock

¹From the wilderness of Sin the whole congregation of the Israelites journeyed by stages, as the LORD commanded. They camped at Rephidim, but there was no water for the people to drink. ²The people quarreled with Moses, and said, ‘Give us water to drink.’ Moses said to them, ‘Why do you quarrel with me? Why do you test the LORD?’ ³But the people thirsted there for water; and the people complained against Moses and said, ‘Why did you bring us out of Egypt, to kill us

and our children and livestock with thirst?’⁴ So Moses cried out to the LORD, ‘What shall I do with this people? They are almost ready to stone me.’⁵ The LORD said to Moses, ‘Go on ahead of the people, and take some of the elders of Israel with you; take in your hand the staff with which you struck the Nile, and go. ⁶I will be standing there in front of you on the rock at Horeb. Strike the rock, and water will come out of it, so that the people may drink.’ Moses did so, in the sight of the elders of Israel. ⁷He called the place Massah and Meribah, because the Israelites quarreled and tested the LORD, saying, ‘Is the LORD among us or not?’

John 4: 5 – 42

⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob’s well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, ‘Give me a drink’. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, ‘How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?’ (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, ‘If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, “Give me a drink”, you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.’ ¹¹The woman said to him, ‘Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?’ ¹³Jesus said to her, ‘Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.’ ¹⁵The woman said to him, ‘Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.’

¹⁶Jesus said to her, ‘Go, call your husband, and come back.’ ¹⁷The woman answered him, ‘I have no husband.’ Jesus said to her, ‘You are right in saying, “I have no husband”; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!’ ¹⁹The woman said to him, ‘Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.’ ²¹Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the

Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth. ²⁵The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us. ²⁶Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.'

²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?' ³⁰They left the city and were on their way to him.

³¹Meanwhile the disciples were urging him, 'Rabbi, eat something.' ³²But he said to them, 'I have food to eat that you do not know about.' ³³So the disciples said to one another, 'Surely no one has brought him something to eat?' ³⁴Jesus said to them, 'My food is to do the will of him who sent me and to complete his work. ³⁵Do you not say, "Four months more, then comes the harvest"? But I tell you, look around you, and see how the fields are ripe for harvesting. ³⁶The reaper is already receiving wages and is gathering fruit for eternal life, so that sower and reaper may rejoice together. ³⁷For here the saying holds true, "One sows and another reaps." ³⁸I sent you to reap that for which you did not labour. Others have laboured, and you have entered into their labour.'

³⁹Many Samaritans from that city believed in him because of the woman's testimony, 'He told me everything I have ever done.' ⁴⁰So when the Samaritans came to him, they asked him to stay with them; and he stayed there for two days. ⁴¹And many more believed because of his word. ⁴²They said to the woman, 'It is no longer because of what you said that we believe, for we have heard for ourselves, and we know that this is truly the Saviour of the world.'

Response:

We hear these words from Scripture.

Thanks be to God.

***Hymn: #79 MV – “Spirit, Open My Heart”**

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**Spirit, open my heart
to the joy and pain of living.
As you love, may I love,
In receiving and in giving,
Spirit, open my heart.**

- 1 God, replace my stony heart,
with a love that's kind and tender.
All my coldness and fear
To your grace I now surrender. R**
- 2 Write your love upon my heart
as my law, my goal, my story.
In each thought, word and deed,
may my living bring you glory. R**
- 3 May I weep with those who weep,
share the joy of sister, brother.
In the welcome of Christ,
may we welcome one another. R**

Sermon – *Rev. Brenda Gibson* (Please see the attached sermon)

OUR RESPONSE

Presentation of the Offering

***Offertory Hymn #543 VU – “We Give Thee But Thine Own”**

(Please see screen; Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529)

**We give thee but thine own,
what e'er the gift may be;
all that we have is thine alone,
a trust, O God, from thee.**

***Offertory Prayer**

(Please remain standing, until the gifts have been placed on the table)

**Our gifts are from your hand, O, God.
Our dreams are from your mind.
Our love came from your heart.
And so we ask you to accept our gifts, and our love. Amen.**

A Prayer for HOPE and HEALING

*God of Creation, you set our lives on a planet
where both beauty and danger are found.
Hear our prayers for those who have been overcome
by the virus that spreads throughout our world – your world.
Help heal the pain of those who are infected and affected.
Strengthen with your presence
all who are numb with fear and distress.
Guide those who anxiously wait and wonder.
Be near those who are sick,
and bless them with your peace.
Sustain and uphold those who grieve.
Grant tenderness, strength and wisdom
to the doctors and nurses, and governments,
and to all who assist them to minister to human need.
As we seek to care for one another, help us to never lay blame.
May we be moved by compassion,
and share willingly and generously
in the recovery of these - your much loved people.
And Gracious God, heal all our hearts and minds,
especially those who we name before you (silence).
Guide us all to know the strength of your presence,
the peace of your healing, the gift of your love.
May your Son Jesus, who is our Saviour, guide
us in your way this day and in the coming days.
For we pray all this in his name, using the words
he taught us:*

**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 CLOSE OUR WORSHIP

***Hymn: #651 VU – “Guide Me, O, Thou Great Jehovah”**

(Please see screen; Words reproduced with permission under license #A-620529)

- 1 Guide me, O thou great Jehovah,
pilgrim through this barren land.
I am weak, but thou art mighty,
hold me with thy powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me till I want no more,
feed me till I want no more.**
- 2 Open now the crystal fountain,
whence the healing stream doth flow;
let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong deliverer, strong deliverer,
be thou still my strength and shield,
be thou still my strength and shield.**
- 3 When I tread the verge of Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside;
death of death, and hell's destruction,
land me safe on Canaan's side:
songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever give to thee,
I will ever give to thee.**

The Blessing & Sending Forth:

Gather up God's promises for the journey.

Gather up and take them with you into the world.

They are God's signs of a new world coming.

Gather up what you need,

and go proclaiming the Good News of God's living water.

As we travel through Lent,

we will lift up to God,

the stories of our journey. Amen.

*Choral Benediction

**May the Lord go with you,
let him take your hand.
Keep His love within you,
until we meet again.
Amen.**