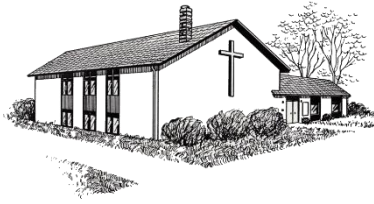


North Kildonan United Church
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Minister: *Rev. Don Johnson*
(204)885-9879
Pianist/Choir Director: *Michael McKay*
Office Administrator: *Wilma Fehr*
Property Manager: *Heinz Goetz*

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.

Sunday after the Ascension
May 16th, 2021

Bold print indicates a congregational response.

WE GATHER IN COMMUNITY

WELCOME and ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Friends, welcome to North Kildonan United Church on this Sunday after the Ascension, the 16th of May, 2021.

In keeping with recent Provincial Health Orders which restrict congregational gathering for worship, our service this day is being recorded and led by Wilma, our Office Administrator, Michael our Musician and myself, Rev. Don Johnson, Minister of the Congregation. To respect the Provincial Order, only the three of us are present in the sanctuary this day.

We acknowledge that we meet and work in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.

THE LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

*The light of Christ rises in glory,
overcoming the darkness of sin and death.*

PRELUDE: VU#213 - "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

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~ words by Charles Wesley

~ Michael McKay

- 1 Rejoice the Lord is King!
Your risen Lord adore!
Rejoice, give thanks and sing
and triumph evermore.
Lift up your heart, lift up your voice:
rejoice; again I say, rejoice!

CALL TO WORSHIP

*Alleluia! The Lord reigns!
Let the earth rejoice! Alleluia! Let us worship God.*

PRAYER OF THE DAY

VU #191

*Mighty God,
by your power you raised Jesus Christ to rule over us.
We praise you that he puts down tyrannies
that threaten to destroy us,
and unmasks powers that claim our allegiance.
We thank you that he alone commands our lives,
and gives us freedom to love the world.
Glory to you for the gift of his life!
Glory to you for his saving death!
Glory to you for Jesus Christ,
who lives and reigns as our risen Lord. Amen.*

THE WORD OF GOD

The Ascension: Part One

Luke 24:44-53

Then he said to them, 'These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.' Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, 'Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. And see, I am sending upon you what my Father promised; so stay here in the city until you have been clothed with power from on high.'

Then he led them out as far as Bethany, and, lifting up his hands, he blessed them. While he was blessing them, he withdrew from them and was carried up into heaven. And they worshipped him, and returned to Jerusalem with great joy; and they were continually in the temple blessing God.

The Ascension: Part Two

Acts 1: 1-11

In the first book, Theophilus, I wrote about all that Jesus did and taught from the beginning until the day when he was taken up to heaven, after giving instructions through the Holy Spirit to the apostles whom he had chosen. After his suffering he presented himself alive to them by many convincing proofs, appearing to them over the course of forty days and speaking about the kingdom of God. While staying with them, he ordered them not to leave Jerusalem, but to wait there for the promise of the Father. 'This', he said, 'is what you have heard from me; for John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit not many days from now.'

So when they had come together, they asked him, 'Lord, is this the time when you will restore the kingdom to Israel?' He replied, 'It is not for you to know the times or periods that the Father has set by his own authority. But you will receive power when the Holy Spirit has come upon you; and you will be my witnesses in Jerusalem, in all Judea and Samaria, and to the ends of the earth.' When he had said this, as they were

watching, he was lifted up, and a cloud took him out of their sight. While he was going and they were gazing up towards heaven, suddenly two men in white robes stood by them. They said, 'Men of Galilee, why do you stand looking up towards heaven? This Jesus, who has been taken up from you into heaven, will come in the same way as you saw him go into heaven.'

RESPONSE: *May God bless to us the reading of God's holy Word. Amen.*

SERMON: ***"Hail the Day that Sees Him Rise"***
 ~Rev. Don Johnson (see the attached sermon)

WE RESPOND TO THE WORD

PRAYERS

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.*

THE BLESSING

*God's blessing be yours, and well may it befall you;
Christ's blessing be yours, and well may you be treated;
the Spirit's blessing be yours, and well may you spend your lives,
each day that you rise up, each night that you lie down. Amen.*

POSTLUDE: *VU#192 - "Forsaking Chariots of Fire"* ~words by The Iona Community
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- 4 Let angel harmonies resound;
 let trumpets blare;
 let heaven's banquet guests applaud,
 the welcomed word,
 and earth anticipate
 her coming Lord.