

KING CITY UNITED CHURCH

*A Vibrant, Caring, Christian Family
Proclaiming the Good News of God's Love
Through Jesus Christ!*

January 8, 2023

Baptism of the Lord Sunday
(* Please rise as you are able)**
(Words in **Bold** said by all)

... WITH OPEN DOORS ...

Prelude: "Canon in D" Pachelbel

Welcome, Life & Work with King City UC

Lighting of the Christ Candle

"The people walking in darkness have seen a great light; on those living in the land of deep darkness a light has dawned." (*Isa. 9:2*) This candlelight reminds us of the coming of Jesus Christ in our midst.

Thanks be to God!

Call to Worship

*****Hymn: "Come All You People" (sung twice) MV 2**
:|| Come all you people; come and praise your maker;
Come all you people; come and praise your maker;
Come all you people; come and praise your maker;
Come now and worship the Lord! :||

Opening Prayer

Response: "Take, O Take Me as I Am" (Sung twice) MV 85
Take, O take me as I am;
summon out what I shall be;
set your seal upon my heart and live in me.

Words of Grace

Friends, hear the good news of your salvation: God freely bestows God's grace on us through Jesus Christ. In Christ we receive redemption and forgiveness of our trespasses, according to the riches of the grace that God lavishes on us. So be reconciled to God and one another.

Thanks be to God!

Response: "Don't Be Afraid"

MV 90

**Don't be afraid. My love is stronger,
my love is stronger than your fear.
Don't be afraid. My love is stronger
and I have promised,
promised to be always near.**

Ministry of Music: "Holy Is The Lord"

S. Holcomb

... WITH OPEN MINDS ...

For the Young at Heart

Hymn: "Your Love Is Amazing" MV 26

**Your love is amazing. Steady and unchanging.
Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet.
Your love is a mystery. How You gently lift me.
When I am surrounded, your love carries me**

Refrain: **Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah!**

Your love makes me sing!

And Hallelujah hallelujah hallelujah!

Your love makes me sing!

**Your love is surprising. I can feel it rising.
All the joy that's growing. Deep inside of me.
And every time I see You, all Your goodness shines
through.**

And I can feel this God song rising up in me. R

Your love is amazing. Steady and unchanging.

**Your love is a mountain, firm beneath my feet.
Your love is a mystery. How You gently lift me.
When I am surrounded, your love carries me. R**

**Yes, You make me sing!
Lord, You make me sing, sing, sing!
How You make me sing! R**

Prayer for Illumination

Our Ever-Present Hope, draw us close to your message of promise and possibility that we might discern your call to us. Enable us to accept with receptive spirits and respond with eager hearts. Stir in us a desire to love unconditionally, even as you love us unconditionally. We ask, in the name of the Ever-Present Christ, your beloved child. **Amen.**¹

Scripture Readings

Matthew 3:13-17

¹³ Then Jesus came from Galilee to John at the Jordan, to be baptized by him. ¹⁴ John would have prevented him, saying, "I need to be baptized by you, and do you come to me?" ¹⁵ But Jesus answered him, "Let it be so now, for it is proper for us in this way to fulfill all righteousness." Then he consented. ¹⁶ And when Jesus had been baptized, just as he came up from the water, suddenly the heavens were opened to him and he saw God's Spirit descending like a dove and alighting on him. ¹⁷ And a voice from the heavens said, "This is my Son, the Beloved, with whom I am well pleased."

This is the Word of God.

Thanks be to God.

**Response: Psalm 119 VU 840, R#5
Your word is a lamp for my feet and a light for my path.**

**Sermon: "Baptism - The Inauguration of New Life"
Padre Rev. Andrew K. Lee**

¹ Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.

Time for Silent Reflection

Presentation of Tithes and Offerings

*****Offeratory Hymn: "In Gratitude and Humble Trust" 544VU**

**In gratitude and humble trust
we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love
with all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day
until life's work is done.**

*****Prayer of Dedication (*Altogether*)**

O God, in baptism, you claim us as your own. We are a visible symbol of your ever-present love, a love that we remember and give thanks for this day. Therefore, we now give you symbols to represent *our* love. May the money and time we offer show our devotion and thanks to you. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.²

Baptism

*****Hymn: "Child of Blessing, Child of Promise" VU 444**

- 1 Child of blessing, child of promise,
baptized with the Spirit's sign;
with this water God has sealed you
unto love and grace divine.**

- 2 Child of love, our love's expression,
love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our spirits,
into joy and laughter lead.**

- 3 Child of joy, our dearest treasure,
God's you are, from God you came.**

² Taylor Croissant, Southminster U.C., Lethbridge, Alta.

**Back to God we humbly give you;
live as one who bears Christ's name.**

**4 Child of God your loving Parent,
learn to know whose child you are.
Grow to laugh and sing and worship,
trusting in God's love and care.**

Statement of Purpose

Presentation of Candidate

Profession of Faith and Promises

Profession of Faith in the Triune God

Do you believe in one God, Source of love; in Jesus Christ, love incarnate; and in the Holy Spirit, love's power?

I do, by the grace of God.

Commitment to Seek Justice and Resist Evil

Trusting the gracious mercy of God, will you turn from the forces of evil, and renounce their power?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment to Follow the Way of Jesus Christ

Will you turn to Jesus Christ and accept him as Saviour and Lord?

I will, God being my helper.

Commitment to the Mission and Ministry of the Church

Will you join with your brothers and sisters in this congregation to share in the life, work, and ministry of Jesus Christ?

I will, God being my helper.

*****Congregational Commitment (Please stand)**

(This is the moment of congregational commitment. Please stand, if you are able.)

King City United Church, do you commit yourselves to support and nurture this woman within a community which worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?

- All: We do, by the grace of God.

*****AFFIRMATION OF FAITH: A NEW CREED**

We are not alone, we live in God's world.

We believe in God:

who has created and is creating,

who has come in Jesus,

the Word made flesh,

to reconcile and make new,

who works in us and others

by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:

to celebrate God's presence,

to live with respect in Creation,

to love and serve others,

to seek justice and resist evil,

to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,

our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,

God is with us.

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

Prayer of Thanksgiving and the Pouring of Water

The Act of Baptism

Baptism in the Name of the Triune God

Blessing

Marking with the Sign of the Cross

Laying On of Hands

Symbolic Actions

Lighting of a Candle

Giving a Bible

Declaration and Congregational Welcome

Congregational Welcome

... WITH FAITH OPEN TO THE WEEK AHEAD ...

*****Closing Hymn: "Spirit of God" VU 378**

- 1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
stoop to my weakness, strength to me impart,
and make me love you as I ought to love.**

- 2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstacies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies,
but take the dimness of my soul away.**

- 3 Have you not bid me love you, God and King;
all, all your own, soul, heart, and strength and mind?
I see your cross: there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek you and O let me find!**

- 4 Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame,
the baptism of the heaven-descended dove,
my heart an altar and your love the flame.**

*****Commissioning / Benediction**

*****Choral Blessing: "Go Now in Peace"**

**Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know God will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe.**

**Reach out to others so all the world can see.
 God will be there watching from above.
 Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

*****Extinguishing of the Christ Candle**

Christ has been with us sharing the light of life. He says to us,
 "You are the light of the world. Let your light shine."

We go forth taking with us the light of Christ in our hearts, and we promise to let it shine in the world through our good works, to the glory of God. Amen.

Postlude: "Prelude" H. Purcell

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

Worship Schedule

Date	January 15th	January 22nd	January 29th	February 5th
Preacher	Rev. Bruce Roffey	Rev. Andrew Lee	Rev. Bruce Roffey	Rev. Andrew Lee
Church Year	Second After Epiphany	Third After Epiphany	Fourth After Epiphany	Fifth After Epiphany
Liturgical Colour	Green	Green	Green	Green

We welcome you all in the name of Jesus Christ, our Lord!

AGM Reports Due Now

Please submit your reports to Kristen ASAP for inclusion in our Annual Report

Bell Choir

King City United is hoping to re-organize the Bell Choir next year. We need at least 7 players for the bell. All ages are welcomed. If you are interested, please contact Rev. Lee.

King City United Church Sign

At this time, there is no room in our budget for a new sign. Our council wishes to extend an invitation to our members to see if anyone wants to take on the task of pricing out the costs involved in a new church sign, and start the conversation of how we can fundraise to get a new sign made, and installed. If any members would like to take on this task, please reach out to Kristen and let her know you will be taking this on, and if you have any questions, feel free to reach out to KCUC council.

York Pines Book Club

The next Book Club meeting using Zoom and in-person at York Pines format will be on Wed., Jan. 18 at 10:00 a.m. The book for discussion is: "In a Sunburned Country" by Bill Bryson. It is travel literature about Australia. Christine Gunter will facilitate the discussion.

In-Person and virtual Pastoral Counselling/ mobile communion/ mobile baptism service

Rev. Lee offers pastoral counseling and visitation including mobile communion and baptism. Please contact Rev. Lee (leeky3@mcmaster.ca) to make an appointment.

YAYA Praise Band

YAYA gathers every Saturday at 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at New Hope UC and King City UC. Next practice will be Jan. 8th (Sat.) at New Hope UC. The band is looking for a donation of an amplifier for their bass guitar. Also they need good mentors and facilitators for the gathering. If you want to support the group, please contact Rev. Lee.

Minute for Mission

March 14 is National Affirming/PIE Day.

March 14 is PIE Day. In church circles it has nothing to do with math. PIE is short for “public, intentional, and explicit.” These are the standards we hold ourselves to when we seek to be affirming, welcoming, and inclusive.

PIE Day was co-founded by Affirm United/S’affirmer Ensemble and Affirming Connections. Every year, Affirm United invites us to celebrate the full inclusion of Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+ people in faith communities and beyond. The day challenges us to widen our welcome, to embody love, and to celebrate gender and sexual diversity.

It’s critical that we do. Gender identity and sexual orientation are used to justify human rights violations around the world. Same-sex sexual activity is a crime in 71 countries; in 11 of these the death penalty can be imposed.

Here in Canada, 1 million people identify as Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+. In 2019, police reported 263 hate crimes targeting people for their sexual orientation. This was a 41 percent increase over the previous year and the highest number since 2009. Your gifts through Mission & Service sustain life-transforming advocacy and education. They support refugees fleeing for their lives because they identify as Two Spirit or LGBTQIA+. They support safe shelters, community awareness education, human rights programs, and safe spaces.

Thank you for giving through Mission & Service. God’s compassionate love knows no boundaries. Your generosity shows ours doesn’t either.