



Carlisle/Kilbride United Church

July 20, 2025

"Stories and Songs Sunday"

led by members of the pastoral charge

Kilbride 10am

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*Those who wish to do so are invited to stand for the Hymns and the Sending Forth/Benediction. Likewise, those who wish to do so are invited to respond aloud where indicated by **bold print**.*

Welcome:

Good morning and welcome to Kilbride Church.

If this is your first time here, we want you to feel relaxed and comfortable.

If you have attended a service here at Kilbride in the past, welcome back!

We look forward to spending the next hour with you united in love and faith, seeking God's guidance and wisdom.

Acknowledgement of the Land:

As we gather in the name of Christ, we acknowledge that our sacred space is on territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe, Attawandaron (Neutral) Nation, and the Mississaugas of the Credit. This is land they have cared for and considered sacred for centuries. With thankfulness and respect for their stewardship, may we honour one another and honour life itself.



The Life and Work of the Church (Announcements)

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

The light of Christ is in our midst.

Thanks be to God.

Gathering Song: MV 40 – Never Ending Joy

Dan Damon's uplifting hymn was published in the early 2000s by Hope Publishing, where Damon (b. 1955) is Associate Editor of Hymnody. It is performed by our friends at West Plains United in Oakville with Music Director Lianne Tan on organ.

Never Ending Joy

*Never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy,
never ending joy, never ending joy, never ending joy.*

- 1 God of every tribe, every language, God of every river and sea,
God of every mountain and island, you bring joy to me. R
- 2 God of every hill, every valley, God of every leaf, every tree.
God of every cloud, every raindrop, you bring joy to me. R
- 3 God of every song, every story, God of every captive set free,
God of every dance, every footstep, you bring joy to me. R

Call to Worship: (*Celebrate God's Presence*, p. 20)

Hey! Sleepy-heads and Lazy-bones,
Live-wires and Hay-wires.
God has given us another day
for joy and compassion.
God waits for our prayers
and waits for our singing hoorays.
So now, in Christly Spirit, let us pray.

Opening Prayer: (*Celebrate God's Presence*, p. 28)

**Glorious God, we come together as your people.
We come as a praising people, singing your goodness;
we come as a praying people,
bringing our needs, our joys;
we come as a listening people, opening to your Word.
Fill us with your love and empower us for faithful living, we pray.
Amen.**

Centring Hymn: MV 21 – Open Our Hearts (several times)

I challenge you to try out the French lyrics of Jim Strathdee's hymn, which was translated by David Fines: "Ouvre nos coeurs, ouvre nos pensées, / Ouvre nos vies à toi, ô Dieu d'amour." The following English-language track is from Jim and Jean Strathdee's 2007 album *Stand for What Is Right*.

Open Our Hearts

Open our hearts, open our minds,
Open our lives to you O loving God.
(last time) Open our hearts.

Prayer: "Confessions about our Holy Book" (Carol Penner, www.leadinginworship.com)

You gave us a holy book,
but we confess that sometimes
we use it in unholy ways.

Sometimes it sits on our shelf, gathering dust.
We fail to wonder at it,
the miracle of stories about you,
preserved and collected.
We forget the sacrifice that was made
to write it, copy it, translate it, protect it.
We feel guilt about not reading,
but miss the invitation to communion
it offers every day.

Sometimes the opposite happens.
We become devoted to the book itself,
knowing it backwards and forwards,
able to quote chapter and verse.
The book holds a place in our heart,
where only God should be.
We can wield it like a weapon,
wounding and pushing people away,
instead of seeing how it is a bridge
which can help us reach our neighbour.

Open us to the Spirit's movement
in the words of this book.
Help us to hear your call to repentance,
and your eternal hope for renewal.
Fill us with longing to explore scripture.
Grant us delight in our encounters
and patience with what puzzles us.

We read this book as people together,
and as per usual, we won't agree.
In the midst of conflict,
bless our bible-reading community.
Help us listen to the diversity of your people.
and not privilege the interpretations
of the loudest voices, or the most powerful.
Your Spirit gives insight
to even the lowest and the least.

Finally, may the words of our mouths
and the meditations of our hearts
and the actions of our lives

reflect the wisdom of this holy book,
which you have gifted to us all.

Sung Response: Tell Me the Old, Old Story (v. 1)

Ernest Jennings Ford (1919-1999), known professionally as Tennessee Ernie Ford, was an American radio announcer, television host, and country and gospel singer known for his rich bass-baritone voice. He even appeared in a few episodes of "I Love Lucy" in the 50s! He sings lyrics written in 1866 by Kate Hankey, an English missionary and nurse. She was a member of the Clapham Sect, a group of evangelical Anglicans (which included William Wilberforce) who promoted the abolition of slavery, helped establish a Bible society, and worked to improve the lives of the working class in England. Her text was set to music in 1869 by William Howard Doane, an industrialist and philanthropist who was also a prolific composer of hymn tunes.

Tell Me The Old, Old Story

- 1 Tell me the old, old story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
Tell me the story simply, as to a little child,
for I am weak and weary, and helpless and defiled.
*Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story,
tell me the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

Favourite Scripture #1: Galatians 3:28 (selected by Debbie Serneels)

There is neither Jew nor Gentile, neither slave nor free, nor is there male and female,
for you are all one in Christ Jesus.

Hymn Choice #1: VU 18 – There's a Voice in the Wilderness (selected by Debbie Serneels)

Baritone David Timpane performs this Advent hymn accompanied by Anne Timpane, the Director of Music Ministries at St Columba's Episcopal Church in Washington, DC. The text was written in 1930 by James Lewis Milligan, an editorial writer, editor, author, and Methodist pastor. His hymn is usually sung to a 1938 tune by organist and choir director Henry Hugh Bancroft. Both were English immigrants to Canada.

There's a voice in the wilderness crying, Hymn 75 featuring David Timpane

- 1 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!
- 2 O Zion, that bringest good tidings,

get thee up to the heights and sing!
Proclaim to a desolate people
the coming of their King.
Like the flowers of the field they perish,
like grass our works decay;
the power and pomp of nations
shall pass, like a dream, away.

3 But the word of our God endureth,
whose arm is ever strong;
God stands in the midst of nations,
and soon will right the wrong.
God shall feed the flock like a shepherd,
the lambs so gently hold;
to pastures of peace will lead them,
and bring them safe to fold.

4 There's a voice in the wilderness crying,
a call from the ways untrod:
prepare in the desert a highway,
a highway for our God!
The valleys shall be exalted,
the lofty hills brought low;
make straight all the crooked places
where God, our God, may go!

Sung Response: Tell Me the Old, Old Story (v. 2)

[Tell Me The Old, Old Story](#)

2 Tell me the story slowly, that I may take it in –
that wonderful redemption, God's remedy for sin.
Tell me the story often, for I forget so soon,
the early dew of morning has passed away at noon.
*Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story,
Tell me the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

Favourite Scripture #2: Matthew 19:14 (selected by Lois La Salle)

Jesus said, "Let the little children come to me, and do not hinder them, for the kingdom of heaven belongs to such as these."

Hymn Choice #2: VU 509 – I, the Lord of Sea and Sky (selected by Lois La Salle)

Dan Schutte's 1979 hymn (published 1981) is performed by the Plymouth Choir, the guest Chancel Choir from Our Saviour's Lutheran Church, and the congregation of First-Plymouth Congregational Church in Lincoln, Nebraska, accompanied by a beautiful piano arrangement played by Minister of Music Tom Trenney.

I, the Lord of Sea and Sky - HERE I AM

1 I, the Lord of sea and sky,
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in deepest sin
my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?
*Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.*

2 I, the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain,
I have wept for love of them;
they turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone,
give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my word to them.
Whom shall I send? R

3 I, the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame,
I will set a feast for them;
my hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? R

Sung Response: Tell Me the Old, Old Story (v. 3)

[Tell Me The Old, Old Story](#)

3 Tell me the story softly, with earnest tones and grave;
remember I'm the sinner whom Jesus came to save.
Tell me the story always, if you would really be,
in any time of trouble, a comforter to me.
*Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story,
tell me the old, old story of Jesus and his love.*

Favourite Scripture #3: Psalm 23 (selected by Jean Shaw)

A psalm of David.

¹The Lord is my shepherd, I lack nothing.
²He makes me lie down in green pastures,
he leads me beside quiet waters,
³he refreshes my soul.
He guides me along the right paths
for his name's sake.
⁴Even though I walk
through the darkest valley,
I will fear no evil,
for you are with me;
your rod and your staff,
they comfort me.
⁵You prepare a table before me
in the presence of my enemies.
You anoint my head with oil;
my cup overflows.
⁶Surely your goodness and love will follow me
all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

Hymn Choice #3: Psalm 23 – The Lord's My Shepherd (selected by Jean Shaw)

This choral performance is from the 2023 Spring Concert at St Aidan's Episcopal Church in Milton, Georgia, and is accompanied by their Director of Music Ministries, Charles Higgs, on organ. As stated on hymnary.org, the tune was originally composed in 1871 by Scottish organist Jessie Seymour Irvine as an exercise for a composition class!

The Lord's my Shepherd - CRIMOND

- 1 The Lord's my Shepherd, I'll not want;
 he makes me down to lie
 in pastures green; he leadeth me,
 the quiet waters by.
- 2 My soul he doth restore again;
 and me to walk doth make
 within the paths of righteousness,
 even for his own name's sake.
- 3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale,
 yet will I fear no ill;
 for thou art with me; and thy rod
 and staff me comfort still.
- 4 My table thou hast furnished
 in presence of my foes;

my head thou dost with oil anoint,
and my cup overflows.

- 5 Goodness and mercy all my life
shall surely follow me,
and in God's house for evermore
my dwelling-place shall be.

Sung Response: Tell Me the Old, Old Story (v. 4)
[Tell Me The Old, Old Story](#)

- 4 Tell me the same old story, when you have cause to fear
that this world's empty glory is costing me too dear;
and when the Lord's bright glory is dawning on my soul,
tell me the old, old story: "Christ Jesus makes thee whole."
*Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story,
tell me the old, old story, of Jesus and his love.*

Favourite Scripture #4: VU 800 – Psalm 84 (selected by Heather Olaveson)

How lovely is your dwelling place, God of hosts!

My soul longs, even faints for the courts of God;

my heart and my flesh cry for joy to the living God.

Even the sparrow finds a house,

and the swallow a nest where she may lay her young,

at your altars, God of hosts, my sovereign, my God.

Happy are those who dwell in your house,

ever singing your praise.

Happy are those whose strength is in you,

who have set their heart on pilgrimage.

Going through the valley of Baca

they find a spring from which also to drink;

the early rain also covers it with pools of water.

They go from strength to strength,

to appear before God in Zion.

O God of hosts, hear my prayer;

give ear, O God of Jacob.

Behold, O God, our shield, look on the face of your anointed.

Truly a day in your courts is better than a thousand elsewhere.

I would rather be a doorkeeper in the house of my God

than dwell in the tents of wickedness.

For you, God, are a sun and shield,

you will give grace and honour.

No good thing will you withhold

from those who live the upright life.

**O God of hosts,
happy are those who put their trust in you.**

Hymn Choice #4: VU 628 – Come, My Way, My Truth (selected by Heather Olaveson)
Finding inspiration in the metaphors for Jesus in John 14:6, English poet, priest, and orator George Herbert wrote these words circa 1633. Herbert's poem was later used by English composer Ralph Vaughan Williams as part of his *Five Mystical Songs* (1911) for baritone soloist with several choices for accompaniment. In an arrangement by Harry D. Bennett, "The Call" is performed by Apollo5, a five-member classical vocal ensemble based in London, UK.

[‘The Call’ by Vaughan Williams | Apollo 5 | Classic FM Session](#)

- 1 Come, my Way, my Truth, my Life:
 such a way as gives us breath,
 such a truth as ends all strife,
 such a life as killeth death.
- 2 Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength:
 such a light as shows a feast,
 such a feast as mends in length,
 such a strength as makes his guest.
- 3 Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart:
 such a joy as none can move,
 such a love as none can part,
 such a heart as joys in love.

Offering Prayer: "Song of Peace Offering Prayer" (Carol Penner,
www.livinginworship.com)

God of great gifts:

This morning we give you praise,

we give you glory,

we give you thanks!

With resurrection humming in our hearts,

our minds are tuned to your song of peace!

We joyfully present these gifts to you,

a tangible chorus of thanksgiving,

a harmony of hope for your kingdom come!

Amen.

Offertory: MV 191 – What Can I Do?

From the 2002 album *Wing and a Prayer*, this track is performed by Paul Rumbolt, co-composer of the hymn alongside Michele McCarthy.

What Can I Do?

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.

Invitation to Prayer: (*Celebrate God's Presence*, p. 52)

There is no joy that does not come from God's hand.
There is no pain that does not echo in God's heart.
Let us bring our thanksgivings and concerns
before God in prayer.

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer: "#7: Holy!" (*The Lord's Prayer – Ten Paraphrases*, Steve Garnaas-Holmes, unfoldinglight.net)

**O Infinite, Intimate One, Source of our being,
whose presence is heaven,
all Creation sings of you, "Holy!"
May your Realm unfold among us;
may our only story be the story of your grace,
this world blossoming out of your delight.
Give us the breath of life, one breath at a time.
Accept our brokenness;
give us acceptance of others who are broken.
Lead us beyond our desires
and save us from cooperating with evil.
For the world is within you;
all power is from you,
and all glory is about you,
in eternity, which is in the present moment. Amen.**

Hymn: VU 575 – I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

The musicians at Myers Park Baptist Church in Charlotte, North Carolina, have a marvelous time performing this spiritual. I invite you to join in!

"I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me" by David Kidwell | June 22, 2025

- 1 I'm gonna live* so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!
I'm gonna live* so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

**subsequent verses: "work," "pray," and "sing"*

Sung Response: Tell Me the Old, Old Story (v. 1)

[Tell Me The Old, Old Story](#)

1 Tell me the old, old story of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory, of Jesus and his love.
Tell me the story simply, as to a little child,
for I am weak and weary, and helpless and defiled.
*Tell me the old, old story, tell me the old, old story,
tell me the old, old story of Jesus and His love.*

Favourite Scripture #5: John 14:27 (selected by Helen Callaway)

"Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives.
Do not let your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid."

Sending Forth: (*Celebrate God's Presence*, 73)

Go gladly into the world.
Be filled with the love of God.
Dance to the song of the Spirit.
Befriend the Christ in each new day.

Blessing: "Embrace of God Benediction" (Carol Penner, leadinginworship.com)

New life beckons,
peace holds out its arms!
Begin your week
knowing that you are walking
straight into the embrace of God.

Hymn Choice #5 (Sung Sending Forth): Go Now in Peace (Don Besig and Nancy Price) (selected by Helen Callaway)

This beloved Besig and Price staple is performed at Trinity Presbyterian Church in York Mills, Toronto, by Michael Gomiega (Director of Music and Coordinator of Youth and Young Adult Ministries), Melvin Suwarno (Church Manager and Executive Assistant to the Minister), and Rev. Kirk T. Summers (Minister). Recorded in 2022, this sung benediction concluded the final episode of "Good Sunday Morning," a YouTube program Trinity started during the pandemic for at-home worship.

[Go Now In Peace / words and music by Don Besig and Nancy Price](#)

Go now in peace. Never be afraid.
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry 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 there, watching from above.
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.
Amen, amen, amen.

Online Postlude: Take Time to Be Holy

Part of the eleven-member family ensemble Kuykendall Music, the seven Kuykendall brothers and their father give a heartfelt performance of this beloved hymn. "Take Time to Be Holy" was composed circa 1882 by William D. Longstaff, an English philanthropist and dedicated Christian, and set to music by George Stebbins, an American singing teacher and music director. Longstaff was inspired by the words of I Peter 1:16: "Be ye holy, for I am holy."

7 Brothers (and Dad) singing the hymn "Take Time to Be Holy" by William Dunn Longstaff