



ORCHARD VALLEY UNITED CHURCH

130 Cornwallis Ave., New Minas, NS B4N 3M7

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 4, 2021

Easter Sunday

Music as We Gather

Gathering

*** Lighting of the Outreach, Unity and Christ Candles:**

In Mark's Gospel, they came to serve Jesus on Easter morning. We too are called to serve, as witnessed in our Outreach Candle.

At the first light of dawn, the women came to where Jesus had been laid and found the tomb empty. We light this Unity candle to represent Jesus going out to bring all people to himself, uniting the whole human family.

As the women searched the empty tomb, with the grave-clothes lying on the ground, they asked, "Where is Jesus?!"

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed!

Alleluia! Amen!

*** Hymn:** "Christ the Lord is Risen Today" VU #157

Recognition of the Land and Indigenous People

Welcome and Announcements

May the peace that Christ gives be with you.

And also with you!

*** Call to Worship:**

Christ is risen...

Christ is risen, indeed.

God is alive...

New birth is given.

Hope is alive...

A new age is dawning.

Joy is alive...

Redemption is here.

Love is alive...

Death cannot harm us.

We are alive...

New life is within us.

The church is alive...

God's spirit is within us.

God of life, we worship you.

God of creation, we praise you.

God of revelation, we learn from you.

God of joy, we come to celebrate you.

Hymn: "Joy Comes with the Dawn" VU #175

Opening Prayer

Listening

Children's Time / Time for all Ages

Scriptures: 1 Corinthians 15:1-11
John 20:1-18

The Word of God for the People of God.

Thanks be to God.

Anthem: "Day of Resurrection"

*Offered by Roger Bolt, Cynthia Bruce, Cupido Daniels,
Nancy Handrigan, Angela Whiteway, Marilyn Whiteway*

Sermon: Just Standing - 2 -

Hymn: "Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks" VU #179

Prayers of the People

The Lord's Prayer

Invitation to Holy Communion

Holy Communion:

Christ is Risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Creator, Redeemer, and Holy Spirit;

Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love:

We praise you for Jesus Christ,

who reminds us that even in fear-filled days,

cloaked with the powers of death,

your eternal love arises, and never leaves us.

For we rejoice with all your people

and with the angels,

because life is stronger than death!

As we proclaim the glory of your name:

Holy is Jesus, God Incarnate, the Risen Christ,

whose mercy gathers us together in community,

whose grace meets us in our brokenness,

and whose loving faithfulness gives us renewed hope.

In this meal, we remember Jesus, his promises,

and the price he paid for who he was, what he said,

and what he did; for our benefit.

On the night before Jesus died,

He took a loaf of bread,

Gave thanks, broke it, and said,

"Take and eat, this is my body, given for you.

Do this, in remembrance of me."

After supper, Jesus took the cup and poured, saying,

**“This is the cup of the new covenant,
poured out for you and for all people for the
forgiveness of sins.**

Do this in remembrance of me.”

In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**We remember Christ’s life of love, friendship, and
teaching, we remember Christ’s dying,
and rising to life again.**

Bless this bread and this cup,
the wheat and the grape,
the farmer and the harvest,
the seed and the sower.

These simple elements are shared in community,
so that we may taste and see your goodness
and become one body in Christ.

**For it is through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
that all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forevermore. Amen.**

The body of Christ,
the bread of life.

The living vine of Christ,
the cup of blessing.

The gifts of God for the people of God.
Thanks be to God.

Post Communion Prayer:

O Christ, we thank you for this feast of life.
Fed by your love,
and strengthened by your life;
we humbly accept your call to go
into this world to live with hope,
and to share your joy.

**You commission us to
feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,**

**and love as we have been loved.
Thanks be to God. Amen.**

* **Hymn:** “This is the Day That God Has Made” VU #175

* **Commissioning:**

Go, with the Easter joy deep within your hearts.
Thanks be to God!

Go, with Easter songs singing on your lips.
Thanks be to God!

Go, with the hopeful message of Easter clear in your minds.
Thanks be to God!

Go, certain that in time and beyond time,
God’s love is with you and will never leave you.
Thanks be to God!

* **Benediction:**

May God’s abiding love and hope give us new life.
May God’s unmerited grace and mercy keep us hope-filled.
And may God’s restorative justice bring to us all,
perfect peace. For Christ is risen! Praise God!

And the People said:
“Hallelujah”

Music as We Depart



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