St. Davids-Queenston United Church

March 31, 2024, 10:30am, Easter Sunday

Land Acknowledgement

There were people here long before we came to live on this land as settlers and descendants of settlers. We acknowledge these many Nations of Indigenous people who first lived and currently live here. We give thanks to this land, the territory(s) of these Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We do this to acknowledge our responsibility to enhance and promote peace among all who now share this land, as well as good stewardship of it and its resources

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: VU#155 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(The Christ candle is lit.) This candle's flame reminds us of the light of Christ present in the world. The flame represents the risen Christ and is for us a symbol of life dispelling death. Jesus Christ, the Son of God, is the light of the world. We light this candle as a sign that God, through Jesus, is always with us.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

From our grief of Good Friday, through the waiting of Holy Saturday, the world emerges into Easter morn'.

The sun is rising. Night sheds its grip on the world.

A new day awaits. Come and see. Christ is risen!

GATHERING PRAYER

Dear Creator God, we are filled with trust in your guidance. Nothing is possible without you. Our life journeys continue with you at our sides. Fears are scarce and worries few when we trust your presence.

Guide us to a place of comfort when we feel forsaken and alone. Inspire us with hope when we start believing that the world is becoming a bad place. Let our confidence in your love overcome our fears.

Your grace surrounds all people. Your love benefits everyone. Your mercy is infinite. Your compassion is unquestioning.

Help us to reflect this understanding to each other when doubt fills us. In Christ's name, we pray. Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung) VU#960)

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH

MISSION STATEMENT:

Welcoming all to: Gather in God's Grace,

Grow in Christian Faith and Go in Community Service.

LEARN TOGETHER: "It's a Happy Day" (The Sunday School Band)

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Matthew 28:1-10

This is the Word of God for the people of God Thanks be to God!

SACRED PLACES EASTER CANTATA

- Jerusalem Matthew 21: 1 11,
 Lift Up Your Heads, Jerusalem
- The Upper Room Luke 22: 7 16; 19 20, **The Remembering** – (Val Zuk, solo)
- The Garden of Gethsemane Matthew 26:36 39,

The Midnight Garden – (Bob Prentice, Allan Cobham, soloists)

Golgotha - Matthew 27: 33 -37,
 The Garden of Resurrection Luke 24:1 - 6
 Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

SERMON: "Christ is Risen!!"

*HYMN: VU#158 "Christ is Alive"

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

* If you are at home, please have your own baptism elements.

- * The bread should be "taken" as received and the wine together as a congregation (the wine is in the red side of the tray, the grape juice is in the other side.)
- * In response to the words of the servers, you are invited to respond, 'Amen' or 'Thanks be to God'.

HYMN: # MV 202 "Bread for the Journey" (three times)

Bread for the journey, food for the way. Cup of God's blessing, tomorrow today.

God is with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to God, our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(Refrain only)

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

God, most holy, we do give you thanks as we gather at Christ's table, as we remember your love, holy and whole, a love that has held us from the beginning of the beginning, and a love that will hold us for as long at time exists.

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

We need your Wisdom, God. We need your guidance. We need your invitation – your calling – your whispers and your shouts – through the voices of prophets and priests, grandmothers and grandfathers, children and infants, all who listen and speak your love.

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

Wholly God and wholly human, a tiny baby, a youth, an adult, a teacher, a healer, a challenger, a saviour, he laughed with those who laughed and cried with those who cried, but, most of all, he loved us with a love that never, ever, ends, a love that surpasses even death, a love that brings new life – not only to us... but to all creation! Alleluia!

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION continued

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

On the night before he was taken to his death on a cross, Jesus gathered with his disciples. No... he gathered with his friends. He shared with them a meal of remembrance and freedom. After an act of utmost humility and hospitality – washing their feet – he blessed the bread and broke it, saying,

"Take this and eat it. This is my body, given for you. Each time you eat bread, remember me!"

As the meal drew to a close, he blessed a cup of wine and passed it to them, saying,

"Take this and drink it. This is my covenant, that sins are forgiven. Each time you drink, remember me!"

So we eat, we drink, and we remember! Holy God, send your Spirit upon us, and upon these gifts, that they – and we – might truly be Christ's body alive in the world! Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all glory is yours. God most holy, now and forever. **Amen.**

Sing: Rejoice! Rejoice! Emmanuel shall come to thee, O Israel.

The gifts of God, for all Creation!

Thanks be to God!

Jesus Christ, the bread of life. Amen.

Jesus Christ, the cup of blessing. Amen.

(The bread and juice are shared.)

Prayer after communion:

With this taste of the bread of Life, with this taste of the cup of Love, send us into the world, God – so that we might whisper your coming, so that we might sing your love, so that we share it with others, now and forever! Amen!

*OFFERTORY HYMN VU#540 "Grant Us God the Grace of Giving"

Grant us, God, the grace of giving, with a spirit large and free, that ourselves and all our living we may offer faithfully.

*OFFERING PRAYER

Generous and Loving God, you gave us this world and all that we have. Jesus, you gave us all of you, even to the point of laying down your life for us. Now we give what we have decided in our hearts to give, not reluctantly or under compulsion, but cheerfully as an act of worship. For you, God, love a cheerful giver. Receive and bless our tithes and offering. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN VU#183 "We Meet You, O Christ"

*COMMISSIONING AND VESPER

Our worship time has ended and we rejoice in the miracle of the resurrection. With faith we proclaim, "Christ has risen! Alleluia!"

May all you do and share, all that you are, declare this Good News! "Christ has risen! Alleluia!" May God's love radiate through you. May the glory of the risen Christ be revealed within you. May the mystery of the Holy Spirit guide you, this day and always. "Christ has risen! Alleluia!" Amen.

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 he 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. Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

Please join us for coffee, cake and fellowship in the CE Hall following the Worship service this morning as we celebrate those who have a birthday in March.

Thank you to Elma Gardner for being the greeter, to Marianne McRae for being the Lay Reader, to Lisa and the choir with soloists Valerie Zuk, Bob Prentice and Allan Cobham for their musical contribution. Thank you also to Christina Travers for playing the flute and violin as well as leading the Sunday school band, who we thank for sharing their talent with us today and to Steve Hardaker for livestreaming the Worship service this morning.

The Worship and Faith Life committee will meet next Sunday, April 7th. following the Worship service.

The Property Committee will meet next Sunday, April 7th following the Worship service.

Next Sunday, April 7th, will be Tooney Sunday. There will be a collection box in the narthex and on the table outside the kitchen. All money collected will go to support local mission outreach projects.

Continuing prayers have been requested for, Bob Kerr, Owen Calhoun, Isobel Griffiths, Eleanor MacDonald, Roy & Jennie Harwood, Michael Antoniuk, Sandi Sinclair, Neil Foss, Ginny Slingerland, Elizabeth Whan, Margaret Ballantyne, Anthony Logan Siconolfi and Marcia Tyrrell.

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

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Administrative Secretary: Darlene Romanowsky

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Jesus Christ Is Risen Today



Lyra Davidica 1708, et al.

Lyra Davidica 1708, desc. Derek Holman 1971

155 **EASTER** Praise the Son and Ho - ly Ghost. le - lu - jah! Hal_ suf - fer to re - deem our loss. sin - ners to re - deem and save. Hal le - lu - jah! where the an - gels ev - er sing. praise the Son and Ho - ly Ghost.

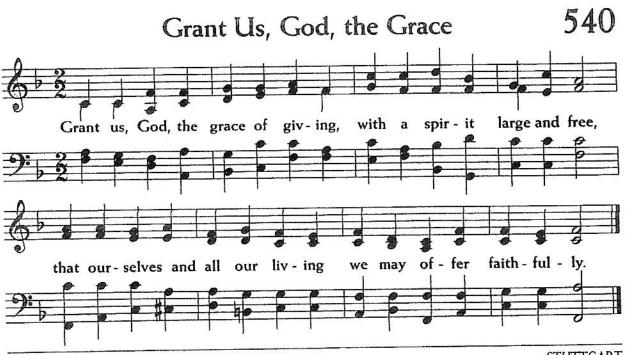


158

Christ Is Alive



- 4 Women and men, in age and youth, can feel the Spirit, hear the call, and find the way, the life, the truth, revealed in Jesus, freed for all.
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring good news to this and every age, till earth and sky and ocean ring with joy, with justice, love and praise.



cords: anonymous

Lusic: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmodia Sacra 1715, adapt. Henry John Gauntlett 1861

STUTTGART

8787

183

We Meet You, O Christ



* or "Christ"

Words: Fred Kaan 1966

Music: Peter D. Smith 1969, arr. Peter R. Walker 1993

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LIFE

10 10 11 11 Alt. tune: Laudate Dominum