First United Church

March 31, 2024 10:30 a.m.

Easter Sunday



Purpose: Building Relationships,
Living God's Transforming Love.

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Bulletin Art: "The Empty Tomb" by Jennifer Greene

Easter Sunday **March 31, 2024**

- **Is a request to stand in body or in spirit**

Prelude Christ the Lord is Risen Today (LLANFAIR) and Christ is Alive Mary McDonald
Trumpet Prelude: This Joyful Eastertide (VRUECHTEN) Arr. David Lasky
John Granger, trumpet

Listening as We Gather

Welcome and Land Acknowledgement

ONE: We are bound on this land by relationships.
ALL: We are bound to God's creation and to one another.
ONE: Those relationships have benefitted this community.
ALL: Those relationships have blessed us and cost others.
ONE: We speak acknowledgement of our presence.
ALL: Our presence is at the expense of others.
ONE: We must learn to share, as God has shared with us. In this land of the Haldimand Tract, and upon the traditional territory of Chonnonton, Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee people, we are bound to Indigenous neighbours and their fate.
ALL: Where we have failed in this relationship, forgive us and give us the wisdom to repair.
ONE: May we learn to live into our commitments to Truth and Reconciliation and to the United Nations Declaration on the Rights of Indigenous Peoples, and cast a better future for all.

Tony Snow, Indigenous Minister, Chinook Winds Region, Alta.

ONE: We aspire to create a safer space for everyone. We welcome you and the gifts you bring as part of your sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, age, race, cultural background, or abilities.

Opportunities for Ministry and Fellowship

- **Introit:** Halle, Halle, Halle VU 958

- **Lighting the Christ Candle**

- **Call to Worship**

ONE: Children of the Creator -
ALL: gathered in this place!
ONE: Followers of Jesus -
ALL: from all around the world!

ONE: People of the Spirit – living Christ's call:
ALL: in prayer, in action, in love.
ONE: Now?
ALL: Always!
ONE: Christ is risen!
ALL: Christ is risen, indeed!
ONE: Alleluia!
ALL: Alleluia! Amen! *Richard Bott*

- **Hymn** Jesus Christ is Risen Today VU 155

Prayer of Approach

Ministry of Music - Family Choir Jesus is Alive Lynn Shaw Bailey & Becki Slagle Mayo

Listening For God's Word

The Story for the Young at Heart Kristin Snell

Scripture Readings (Reader: Shirley Irish)

Responsive Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (VU 837 Part 1, 2 & 3)

John 20:1-18
ONE: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

Ministry of Music - Gallery Choir O Christians, Sing! Lee Dengler

Reflection Rev. Hoeun Lee

- **Hymn** Who is There on This Easter Morning VU 176

Moderator's Easter Message

Responding to God's Word

Time of Offering

Trumpet Offertory Aria "Auf, freue dich, Seele" J. L. Bach, arr. M. Rondeau

- **Dedication of Offering** Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow
  tune: LASST UNS ERFREUEN

- **Prayer of Dedication**

ONE: O God, we meet you in worship.
ALL: You bless our offerings for prayer and praise.
ONE: O God, we meet you in the needs of those suffering among us in our local faith community.
ALL: You bless our offering for pastoral care.
ONE: O God, we meet you in the work of education and in providing resources for people across Canada and around the world through Mission and Service.
ALL: You bless our offering for people whose names we will never know.
ONE: Our offerings are effective when our money is used carefully and faithfully.
ALL: You bless all our gifts, Loving God. Amen.

David Spark, Summerland, B.C.

Call to Prayer Jesus, Stand among Us (verses 1 & 2) VU 396

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer *[New Zealand Prayer Book]*
Eternal Spirit, Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.
With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

- **Sending Hymn** Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing VU 169

- **Sending Forth and Benediction**

- **Benediction Response** Halle, Halle, Halle VU 958

Recession of the Light and Word

Postlude Sinfonia in D Major G. F. Handel
John Granger, trumpet