





# Sunset United Church

April 12, 2020-

## Easter Sunday



Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard

Children & Youth Minister: Michelle McConkey

Soloist: Michelle McConkey

Pianist: Shirley Hill

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Sunset United, located on Treaty 4 Territory,  
is an Affirming community of faith. All are welcome here.

### **Intro to worship:**

Greetings,

My name is Tricia Gerhard,

And I am the minister here

At Sunset United church,

Where I work in team ministry

With Michelle McConkey

Who ministers to our children and youth,

And Shirley Hill, who is our talented pianist.

Welcome to worship...

At least welcome to worship

In the time of pandemic

And physical distancing.

It is strange being here in this place

Without all of you joining us,

But we know you are with us

In spirit and out there in the city.

You have the order of service,

Follow along, speak the unison pieces,  
Sing the hymns....  
Do all the things that we would usually do together.  
And most importantly,  
Know that what we do here,  
And in your homes,  
Is indeed worship,  
And is indeed community.

So, let us center ourselves into this time.  
Get your coffee cups,  
Center yourself in a comfortable spot,  
And make sure you can see your screen.  
Take a deep breath in,  
And let it go,  
Know that God is as close to us as the air we breath.

### **Centering Music:**

#### **Tenebrae:**

Lent historically is a time when we are called to journey to the harder emotions and places within us. This Lent, we have had to journey

Alone, separated from our community of faith by the reality of pandemic. This time has caused us to think about, attune ourselves more closely to the relationships we hold, and how we give them life, to think about what it is that shapes our faith and our relationship with God.

**It was and is not always easy. We've had moments of doubt, and were unsure of what we were and are doing. And as the light grew ever dimmer, and Good**

**Friday loomed, we listened to the story, and tried to remain hopeful.**

Then a few kept vigil. Through the long hours of night they kept watch, refusing to sleep as the disciples slept, refusing to allow the night to pass without anyone noticing. And, in the deep shadows of Christ's death, something amazing happened.

**Bit by bit, the sun started to rise. Bit by bit, light seeped in.**

*(Christ candle is either lit or brought lit to the communion table.)*

And then the unbelievable happens...

**The world explodes in cascading beauty; death is destroyed and new life assured. This is Easter morning! The desert is behind us, the tomb is empty, and it's time to rejoice.**

**Hymn: VU#155 Jesus Christ is Risen Today \***

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, Hallelujah!  
Our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!  
Who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!  
Suffer to redeem our loss, hallelujah!
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing, hallelujah!  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!  
Who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!  
Sinners to redeem and save, hallelujah!

3. But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!  
our salvation have procured, hallelujah!  
now above the sky he's king, hallelujah!  
where the angels ever sing, hallelujah!
  
4. Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!  
Praise eternal as God's love, hallelujah!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!  
praise the Son and Holy Ghost, hallelujah!

## Welcome

### Opening Prayer:

Holy God, source of all that is, we celebrate you. Your love. Your presence. Your life! We rejoice that you share all this with us. Even in our doubts. Even in our wonderings. Even in our disbelief! Hallelujah! Amen.

### Sharing the Story: Good News, Bad News

**Hymn:** VU#169 Good Christians, All Rejoice and Sing \*\*

1. Good Christians all, rejoice and sing!  
Now is the triumph of our King!  
To all the world glad news we bring:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
  
2. The Lord of Life, is risen today!  
Bring flowers of song, bedeck the way;  
Let every tongue rejoice and say:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

3. Praise we in songs of victory,  
That love, that life, which cannot die,  
And sing with hearts uplifted high:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!
  
4. Your name we bless, O Risen Lord,  
And song today with one accord,  
The life laid down, the life restored:  
Hallelujah, hallelujah, hallelujah!

**Scripture:** Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24  
John 20:1-18

### Reflection

**Hymn:** VU#166 Joy Comes with the Dawn \*\*\*

Refrain:

Joy comes with the dawn,  
Joy comes with the morning sun,  
Joy springs from the tomb  
And scatters the night with her song,  
Joy comes with the dawn.

1. Weeping may come

Weeping may come in the night,  
When dark shadows cloud our sight.

*Refrain*

2. Sorrow will turn,  
Sorrow will turn into song,  
And God's laughter make us strong.

*Refrain*

3. We will rejoice,  
We will rejoice, and give praise,  
To the One who brings us grace.

*Refrain*

### **Dedication of Offering**

God, this is a morning of celebration -the chocolate has been found, family and friend have and will connect over phone and internet, and within our current context celebration will happen. It is a day of joy. As we celebrate the gifts we have in our lives, and the gift of new life, we share. We have and do share our talents, our treasure, our time. Take what we have offered and continue to offer to this community of faith and use these gifts as a reminder of your steadfast and enduring presence in the world. Now and always. Amen.

### **Prayer and The Lord's Prayer (sung)**

### **Blessing and Sending Forth**

### **Sung Amen**



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