



# Sunset United Church

April 17, 2022 – Easter Sunday

*Full to the Brim: An Expansive Life*

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

## WE GATHER

Prelude

Words

Hymn VU#155 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today<sup>1</sup>

(Choir only) Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!  
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!  
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!

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!

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!

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!

## Call to Worship

This day is not like any other day.

**Today we slow down.**

**Today we take it all in.**

**Today we rest in good news.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today we are singing.**

**Today we are full to the brim.**

**Today joy cannot be contained.**

This day is not like any other day.

**Today the stone was rolled away.**

**Today the women saw the empty grave.**

**Today we know – death does not win.**

Today is not like any other day.

**Hallelujah! Amen**

## Lighting the Christ Candle<sup>2</sup>

We are here on this Easter morn,

Surrounded by the promises of faith,

And alive to the opportunities yet

To be experienced.

**Hallelujah! Thanks be to God!**

Hymn VU#958 Halle, Halle, Halle<sup>3</sup>

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Halle, halle, hallelujah!**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

## Affirmation of Faith

We believe in a God who can astound us –

**A God who created the mountains,**

The stars on a clear night,  
And the green of the prairie fields.

We believe in Jesus, whose example changes us –

An example of love for those on the fringes,  
Healing the sick, and welcome for the lonely.

We believe that Jesus was abandoned by his friends,  
Wounded, mocked and killed by the state.

And in the garden, three days later, we believe  
that life began again –  
The stone was rolled back,  
as death lost its sting.

Ever since that day, we believe the Spirit has been inviting us  
into an expansive life

A life not measured by wealth or accolades,  
But a life full to the brim with joy,  
Overflowing with laughter,  
Saturated with hope,  
And decorated with good news.

Death has lost its sting.

We believe, and are set free.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Sung Response** MV#121 Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah<sup>4</sup>

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus loved people and he made them friends.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.  
He called to the children and the women and men.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus healed people and he helped them be well.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.  
He taught about God in the stories he'd tell.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus loved people and they said he was a king.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.  
He turned all the tables on everything.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus had power and they took him away.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.  
They nailed him to a cross and they killed him one day.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

Jesus loves people and he lives again!  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.  
Calls us disciples and he calls us his friends.  
Hey now, the tomb was empty.

Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
Hey now! The morning has come!  
Hey now! Singing hallelujah!  
The tomb was empty at the rising sun.

### Sharing the Story

Hymn VU#167 Christ Is Risen from the Dead<sup>5</sup>  
Christ is risen from the dead, glory, hallelujah!  
Jesus Christ is risen, glory, hallelujah!

## WE LISTEN

### Prayer for Illumination

Scripture Isaiah 65:17-25

Hymn VU#713 I See a New Heaven<sup>6</sup> (v. 1 & 3)

*Refrain* I see a new heaven.  
I see a new earth  
as the old one will pass away,  
where the fountain of life flows  
and without price goes  
to all people who abide in the land.

There, there on the banks  
of a river bright and free,  
yielding her fruit, firm in her root,  
the Tree of Life will be.

*Refrain*    I see a new heaven.  
                  I see a new earth  
                  as the old one will pass away,  
                  where the fountain of life flows  
                  and without price goes  
                  to all people who abide in the land.

There, there where the darkness  
brings visions from above.  
There where the night, bearing new light,  
reveals the promise of love.

Scripture    Luke 24:1-12

Special Music

Reflection

Prayers of the Community and the Lord's Prayer

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, Thy will be done on earth as it is in  
heaven. Give us this day our daily bread; and forgive us  
our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us;  
and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.  
For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

Hymn    VU#187 The Spring Has Come<sup>7</sup>

The spring has come, let all the church be part of it!  
The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!  
New light, new day, new colour after winter grey.  
                  New light, new day,  
the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!  
The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it!  
New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ.  
New leaf, new thrust,  
the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it.  
Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it.  
New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit.  
New bud, new shoot,  
the spring has come, new people are the flowers of it!

## Sending Forth and Blessing

Amen (Traditional threefold Amen)

### Postlude



**Minister:** Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

**Children & Youth Minister:** Michelle McConkey (she/her)

**Choir Director:** Corinne Groff (she/her)

**Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)



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<sup>2</sup> Prayer adapted from one written by Juanita Austin found in *Gathering: L/E 2022 (year C) Prayers for Worship*, page 30. Used with permission.

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