



# Sunset United Church

April 18, 2021- Easter 3

Minister: Rev. Tricia Gerhard (she/her)

Children & Youth Minister:

Michelle McConkey (she/her)

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her)

Pianist: Shirley Hill (she/her)

Special Music: Chris Fensom



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

## WE GATHER

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements.

Centering Music

Lighting the Christ Candle

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer\*

Come to settle into the comfortable rituals

Of worship,

Gathering from a physical distance,

Or within a distance of time.

**We come longing for the familiarity**

**Of life's rhythms when so little is familiar.**

Come to celebrate our faith story  
Of resurrection joy and of new life –  
Of hope lived into a future  
Where the Risen one blazes hope into the gloom.

**We come to breath deeply  
The fresh air of renewed faith  
Welling within us.**

Christ is risen!

**Christ is Risen, indeed!**

Woo-hoo! Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah! God is good!**

With trust in the Spirit's leading

And in the story we treasure,

Let us pray:

**God who gathers us, who upholds us,**

**And who enlivens us,**

**We praise you for your joy**

**That springs out of challenge;**

**We honour you as we open ourselves**

**To your compassion and grace,**

**We follow your path of radical love**

**Proclaimed in the ministry**

**and person of Jesus.**

**In our separation, unite us.**

**In our isolation, connect us.**

**In our loneliness, embrace us.**

**Into the hope and joy of the resurrection,**

**Lead us in the dance of possibility.**

**Be with us today as we worship,**

**And everyday as we live into your call.**

**Amen.**

**Hymn:** VU#179 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks \*\*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.*

*Give thanks to the risen Christ;*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Give praise to God's name*

1. *Jesus is Lord of all the earth,  
Firstborn of all creation.*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.*

*Give thanks to the risen Christ;*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Give praise to God's name.*

2. *Spread the good news o'er all the earth:  
Jesus has died and is risen.*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.*

*Give thanks to the risen Christ;*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Give praise to God's name.*

3. *We have been crucified with Christ,  
now we shall live forever.*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.*

*Give thanks to the risen Christ;*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

*Give praise to God's name.*

4. Come let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour.

*Hallelujah, hallelujah.  
Give thanks to the risen Christ;  
Hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Give praise to God's name.*

### **Prayer of Doubt and Faith:**

**Sung Refrain:** VU#278 In the Quiet Curve of  
Evening (verse 3 only) \*\*\*

*In the mystery of my hungers,  
in the silence of my rooms,  
in the cloud of my unknowing, you are there.  
In the empty cave of grieving,  
in the desert of my dreams,  
in the tunnel of my sorrow, you are there.  
You are there, you are there, you are there.*

### **Sharing the Story**

**Hymn:** VU#229 God of the Sparrow \*\*\*\*

1. *God of the sparrow God of the whale  
God of the swirling stars  
How does the creature say Awe  
How does the creature say Praise*

2. *God of the earthquake God of the storm  
God of the trumpet blast  
How does the creature cry Woe  
How does the creature cry Save*
  
3. *God of the rainbow God of the cross  
God of the empty grave  
How does the creature say Grace  
How does the creature say Thanks*
  
4. *God of the hungry God of the sick  
God of the prodigal  
How does the creature say Care  
How does the creature say Life*
  
5. *God of the neighbour God of the foe  
God of the pruning hook  
How does the creature say Love  
How does the creature say Peace*
  
6. *God of the ages God near at hand  
God of the loving heart  
How do your children say Joy  
How do your children say Home*

## WE LISTEN

**Scripture:** 1 John 3: 1-7  
Luke 24: 36b-48

**Hymn:** VU#477 I Come with Joy (verses 1,2,4,5) \*^\*

*I come with joy, a child of God,  
forgiven, loved and free,  
the life of Jesus to recall  
in love laid down for me,  
in love laid down for me.*

*I come with Christians far and near  
to find, as all are fed,  
the new community of love  
in Christ's communion bread,  
in Christ's communion bread.*

*The Spirit of the risen Christ,  
unseen, but ever near,  
is in such friendship better known,  
alive among us here,  
alive among us here.*

*Together met, together bound  
by all that God has done,  
we'll go with joy, to give the world  
the love that makes us one,  
the love that makes us one.*

## Reflection

**Special Music:** Chris Fensom (trumpet solo playing  
*Morning Has Broken*)

## Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer\*

**Hymn:** VU#186 Now the Green Blade Rises 

1. *Now the green blade rises from the buried grain,  
wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;  
love lives again, that with the dead has been:  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.*
2. *In the grave they laid him, love by hatred slain,  
thinking that he would never wake again,  
laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green*
3. *Forth he came at Easter, like the risen grain,  
he that for three days in the grave had lain;  
raised from the dead, my living Lord is seen;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.*
4. *When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,  
your touch can call us back to life again,  
fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been;  
love is come again, like wheat arising green.*

**Lenten Benediction\*:**



## Postlude



\* Adapted from a prayer written by Gord Dunbar. *Gathering L/E 2021 (year B)*, page 44. Used with permission

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