



Sunset United Church

April 9, 2023

Easter



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

Hymn VU#155 Jesus Christ Is Risen Today¹

**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!**

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship and Opening Prayer

One: May the love of God be with you all!

All: **And also with you!**

One: The stone has been removed from the tomb;

All: **the power of death is at an end.**

One: The grave clothes have been abandoned;

All: **fear and hesitation are over.**

One: The Risen Christ is encountered in the garden;

All: **the community of faith will be restored; we are the
people of Easter!**

One: Let us pray:

All: God of rebirth, we come together in this community to give thanks for the unquenchable spirit of life - the spirit that was a part of your son Jesus and that is a part of us. We give thanks for the opportunity that we are given each day of our lives to be reborn into something greater than we were before. Bless our gathering and bless us as we wipe the tears from our eyes, roll away the stone, and celebrate the risen Christ - Easter is here!
We pray to you who is our mother and 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, the power and the glory, forever and ever. Amen.

Hymn VU#175 This Is the Day That God Has Made²

Refrain **This is the day that God has made!**
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!
This is the day that God has made!
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!

Christ has conquered death at last,
left the tomb that held him fast!
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,
dawns the morning clear and bright!

Refrain

Jesus lives who once was dead,
lives forever, as he said!
Risen now our Saviour, King;
songs of gladness let us sing!

Refrain

Theme Time

Anthem

Scripture Reading John 20:1-10

Message Part 1

Hymn VU#186 Now the Green Blade Rises³

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

**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.**

Scripture Reading John 20:11-18

Message Part 2

Hymn VU#179 Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks⁴

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

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
firstborn of all creation.**

Refrain

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

Refrain

**We have been crucified with Christ,
now we shall live for ever.**

Refrain

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

Refrain

Minute for Mission

Response Hymn VU#958 Halle, Halle, Halle⁵

**Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!
Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Prayers for the World

Response Hymn MV#115 Behold, Behold, I Make
All Things New⁶

**Behold, behold, I make all things new,
beginning with you and starting from today.
Behold, behold, I make all things new,
my promise is true, for I am Christ the way.**

Hymn VU#158 Christ Is Alive⁷

**Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.**

**Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.**

**In every insult, rift, and war,
where colour, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.**

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.

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.

Blessing and Sending



Minister: Rev. Jim Tenford (he/him)

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

Choir Director: Corinne Groff (she/her) **Pianist:** Shirley Hill (she/her)



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