

May 1, 2022



We acknowledge that we meet and live on the traditional territories of the Mississauga Anishinaabe People. We give thanks for their care for the land over thousands of years and for their deep spirituality and honouring of the Creator and the creation. May we live with respect in God's creation and in harmony with our neighbours



*Welcome to worship during the Great Fifty Days of Easter.
May you encounter a spirit of hope and encouragement.*

PRELUDES: Arioso Gerhard Krapf
Solo: "Flocks in Pastures Green Abiding" J.S. Bach
(Margaret Marris, Alto)

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

WELCOME

LIFE and ACTION of the COMMUNITY OF FAITH

MEMORY MOMENTS: Junior Choir

CHOIR INTROIT: "I Am the Resurrection and the Life"
Eleanor Daley

CALL TO WORSHIP:¹ *(Responsive)*

We gathering for worship this morning,
aware of many blessings.

Praise be to God!

We are blessed to be God's people.

As our voices join in celebration and praise,
may God's Spirit fill and transform us.

**Come, Holy Spirit! Make us your people;
and remake us in your image.**

Young and old and in between, from near and far,
we "come home in worship,"
for God is our true home.

Thanks be to God.

PRAYER OF APPROACH

◆ **HYMN: VU234**² "Let Us with a Gladsome Mind"

Let us with a gladsome mind
praise our God, forever kind;
**whose great mercies still endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.**

God, with all-commanding might,
filled the newmade world with light;
for God's mercies still endure, R

God has with a gracious eye
looked upon our misery;
for God's mercies still endure, R

All things living God does feed,
with full measure meets their need;
for God's mercies still endure, R

Let us then with gladsome mind,
praise our God, forever kind;
whose great mercies still endure,
ever faithful, ever sure.

HEBREW SCRIPTURE READING:³ Psalm 30

Paraphrased by James Taylor, "A Second Chance"

Refrain:

**"Though tears flow for a night,
the morning brings new joy."**

My life has turned around

God has shown me a better way to live.

I know how it feels to be down and out;

I know doubt and depression too well.

But these things are like clouds passing over the sun;
their shadow pales when the light breaks through.

Like an alcoholic freed from addiction,

Like a prisoner pardoned,

I must tell my tale over and over. R

When things went well, I took all the credit.

When things went wrong, I fell apart.

I blamed myself for my failure.

I blamed God for punishing me.

I asked God, "Does it make you feel good

To make me feel bad?

Would you rather have me praise you or curse you?

Who else will people listen to-the dust or the wind?

Give me another chance!" R

It worked!

I started feeling better.

I looked for the goodwill around me,
instead of the ill;
I quit moping and started dancing.
Now I know I owe my good fortune to God,
and I thank God every chance I get. R

CHOIR ANTHEM: "We Have Seen the Risen Lord" Stan Pethel

CHRISTIAN SCRIPTURE READING: Acts 9: 1-20

◆ **HYMN: VU310⁴** "God Who Touches Earth with Beauty"

God, who touches earth with beauty,
make my heart anew;
with your Spirit recreate me
pure, and strong, and true.

Like your springs and running waters,
make me crystal pure;
like your rocks of towering grandeur,
make me strong and sure.

Like your dancing waves in sunlight,
make me glad and free;
like the straightness of the pine trees
let me upright be.

Like the arching of the heavens
lift my thoughts above;
turn my dreams to noble action,
ministries of love.

Like the birds that soar while singing,
give my heart a song;
may the music of thanksgiving
echo clear and strong.

God, who touches earth with beauty,
make my heart anew;
keep me ever by your Spirit
pure, and strong, and true.

REFLECTION: *"On the Road to Transforming Aggression"*

HYMN: VU567⁵ "Will You Come and Follow Me"

Will you come and follow me
if I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
and never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
will you let my name be known,
will you let my life be grown
in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
if I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
and never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
in you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
if I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
and never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
and do such as this unseen,
and admit to what I mean
in you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
if I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
and never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
to reshape the world around,
through my sight and touch and sound
in you and you in me?

Christ, your summons echoes true
when you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you

and never be the same.
In your company I'll go
where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
in you and you in me.

PASTORAL PRAYER
LORD'S PRAYER (VU 916)

**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 echo
through the universe!
The way of your justice be followed
by peoples of the world!
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, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, 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 for ever. Amen**

ANTHEM: "With a Voice of Singing" Martin Shaw

DEDICATION OF OFFERING

◆ **HYMN: VU187⁶** "The Spring Has Come"

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!

◆ **BENEDICTION**

◆ **SUNG BLESSING: VU958**⁷ “Halle, Halle, Halle”

POSTLUDE: Paraphrase on a Chorus from Handel's
“Judas Maccabeus” Alexandre Guilmant

Leading in worship today are Rev. Joanna MacQuarrie; Robert
Grandy, Minister of Music & Karla Buckborough, Worship Leader.

Credits:

¹ Rob Fennell, Gathering 2009 LEP, 36.

² Text by John Milton (1608-1674). All rights reserved under One License A726544.

³ Taylor, James, Everyday Psalms, 1994, Woodlake, P. 45-46.

⁴ Mary S. Edgar. Text: © 1990, Sacred Music Press. All rights reserved under One License A726544.

⁵ Words, Arrangements: © WGRG, The Iona Community (Glasgow, Scotland), G.I.A. Publications Inc., exclusive agent. Permission has been obtained by Voices United, UCC.

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TODAY'S MUSIC

PRELUDE: Canadian composer Gerhard Krapf (1924-2008) wrote a set of Five Biblical Prayers in 1976 while he was Professor of Organ at the University of Iowa. His “Arioso” from this set is based on John 21:17, a verse from one of the readings in the lectionary for this day: “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you”.

“Flocks in Pastures Green Abiding” is an arrangement of a soprano aria from Bach's “Hunting Cantata”, BWV 208, often sung to the

words “Sheep May Safely Graze”. In John 21:16 and 17, Jesus asks Simon to both tend his sheep and feed his sheep – we are the sheep in this reference. Bach’s solo places the sheep safely with their shepherd, who feeds them and gently leads them.

Flocks in pastures green abiding, safely with their Shepherd rest. Cooled by waters swiftly gliding, flocks in pastures green abiding, safely with their Shepherd rest. With the food of life he feeds them. To the fold he gently leads them, there to dwell forever blest.

INTROIT: “I Am the Resurrection and the Life” by Eleanor Daley comes from her third set of “Choral Moments – We Worship in Song”. The words come from the Burial Service in the 1662 *Book of Common Prayer*. Jesus spoke these words to Martha after the death of her brother Lazarus, as found in John 11:25-26.

“I am the resurrection and the life,” saith the Lord. “Whosoever believeth, believeth in me shall never, never die.”

ANTHEMS: The post-Easter Sundays feature the biblical stories of the resurrected Jesus as he appeared to the women at the tomb, to the disciples on the road to Emmaus, and again while the disciples were fishing. These resurrection scenes are beautifully depicted in Stan Pethel’s anthem “We Have Seen the Risen Lord”, made more meaningful by a powerful refrain between the verses.

In the darkness, in the quiet, we had come to anoint him; heavy hearted, drenched in sorrow, how could we live without him? Suddenly we saw there an angel all in white, then we knew that he had risen. We have seen the risen Lord, we have heard his gentle voice saying, “Be not afraid.” We have felt his conquering power, known the glory of this hour, we have seen the risen Lord. We were walking to Emmaus, we were speaking about him; things had happened, we were helpless, there was no hope without him. Then another joined us, and strangely warmed our hearts, and we knew that he had risen. We have seen the risen Lord...We were fishing, catching nothing, wondering what to do without him. In the misty light of morning, our lives were empty without him. Then a man called to us, standing on the shore, and we knew that he had risen. We have seen the risen Lord...

Martin Shaw's "With a Voice of Singing" has been a staple in the choral repertoire for almost 100 years. Written for the 1923 Annual Festival of the Rochester Diocesan Church Choirs Association, this celebratory anthem features easy-to-sing harmonies, strong unison passages, and a direct "Alleluia" quote from the hymn "For All the Saints".

With a voice of singing declare ye this, and let it be heard, Alleluia. Utter it even unto the ends of the earth. The Lord hath delivered his people. Alleluia. O be joyful in God, all ye lands, O sing praises to the honour of his name, make his praise to be glorious. With a voice of singing...

POSTLUDE: One of the great Easter hymns surely must be "Thine Is the Glory", with a text by the Swiss Protestant minister Edmond Budry and set to a tune from Handel's Oratorio "Judas Maccabaeus". The famous French organist and composer Alexandre Guilmant (1837-1911) wrote an exciting and dramatic Paraphrase on this tune in his *18 New Pieces*, from 1904, which clearly showcases the hymn.