



Sunday, April 4, 2021

~ Resurrection Sunday – Easter Day ~

Virtual Service

Theme: The Hero of Easter Morning - Mary Magdalene

Worship Team: Rev. Pirie Mitchell, Dan Leaver, Liz Dunlop,
Tara Pegg, Oliver & Jacob Horak

Music Team: Karen Schuessler, Hymn Leader: Tony Haworth

Musicians & Choristers: Shawn Spicer, Rob Larose, Linda Olson,
Jen Paterson, Richard Yake

VU = Voices United hymnal MV = More Voices hymnal
Please sing along at home; we have provided the lyrics!

Prelude: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today (arr. Mitchell-Wallace and Head)

Karen Schuessler and Shawn Spicer

Welcome and Life & Work of the Church

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Call to Worship

Dan Leaver

Friday was a tumultuous day of pain and agony on the cross and the loss of one we all loved. Jesus died on the cross and was buried in a tomb with a round stone blocking the entrance. He was now dead and gone, and perhaps soon to be forgotten. Then came that first Sunday morning when Mary Magdalene discovered the stone had disappeared and his body gone.

Come let's join Mary and this amazing and mystical happening of yesterday and today! Let us worship the God of love, forgiveness and renewal. Let us join Mary and search for the vanished Jesus.

O God, sometimes it's hard to get our head around the impossible. Jesus lived! Jesus lives now! He has been alive for 21 centuries in the hearts of men and women and children. Help us this Easter Sunday to relive that first Easter morning and the spiritual resurrection of this Child of God which continues to live with us today.

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Dan Leaver

Indigenous Land Acknowledgement

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

VU 155 verses 1 & 4

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!
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!

Learning with Children

Dan Leaver

Lord's Prayer (in unison) (VU page 921)

Oliver and Jacob Horak

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed by 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.**

Readings

Scripture reading: Isaiah 25: 6-9

Liz Dunlop

Secular reading: "The First Mourning" by Ethel Gillespie

Liz Dunlop

Scripture reading: John 20: 1-18

Tara Pegg

Anthem: Christ Is Arisen (Lotti, English by John Cozens)

WKUC Quartet

Message: The First Visitor!

Re. Pirie Mitchell

Hymn: Now the Green Blade Rises

VU 186 verses 1, 3, & 4

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.
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.

Offertory Prayer

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Your continued financial support is most gratefully appreciated. <https://wesleyknox.com/givings/>

O God, we have so much to be thankful for. We truly live in the world's Garden of Eden. We have food enough while many in the world go hungry. Accept our gifts of treasure and service for the good of humankind in a world not so fortunate as our world here in Canada. Amen

Prayers of the People

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

O God of that miraculous Easter morning, hear our prayers today. We celebrate this morning the annual reawakening of the spirit of Jesus which has been with humankind for nearly two millennia. The resurrection of Jesus happens again and again each year as we remember his service to the people of Judea, Galilee and Samaria, and when we take time to renew ourselves as we respond to the call from Jesus. His work is ongoing and must be renewed each year to meet the goals of the mission where all are equal and supported in a world of inequality.

Today we pray for our congregation, a mission centred community of believers who are involved in local and far-reaching mission work. We are now on a path to new leadership in our faith community. It is a challenge today. Whereas in years past, we were able to simply choose a good speaker, and a good man, from a plentiful supply of candidates; today the supply has shrunk and the qualifications we need are very different from those in the past. Help us be open to a plethora of qualified people from all spectrums of society. Help us find a spiritual leader who can share our positive values in our Christ centred labours, and help us identify and change those habits which work against us and the fulfillment of Jesus' Kingdom.

And finally, we pray for ourselves. Keep us open to positive changes within us. Help us grow in wisdom and faith, and help us let go of the sacred cows of yesterday. We are all on a journey of belief. Help us be strong in that belief and open to learning and growing. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

Hymn: The Day of Resurrection

VU 164 verses 1 & 3

1. The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness, the passover of God!
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
3. Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph, and all that is therein;
let all things seen and unseen their notes of gladness blend,
for Christ indeed is risen, our Joy that has no end.

Commissioning & Benediction

Rev. Pirie Mitchell

Represent the risen Christ in all you do. Remember to pick yourself up after you stumble. Recall that Jesus did not find us perfect and therefore we should not expect it from ourselves or others. Amen.

Response (in unison)

VU 298

**When you walk from here,
when you walk from here,
walk with justice, walk with mercy,
and with God's humble care.**

Postlude: Trumpet Tune & March (Jeremiah Clarke, arr S. Drummond Wolffin)

Karen Schuessler, Shawn Spicer, Rob Larose

WK Coffee Time: Stay tuned to find out who Glen or Jane speaks with this week!

PLEASE NOTE: WE WILL BE EXPERIENCING
TELEPHONE AND INTERNET UPGRADES ON WEDNESDAY, APRIL 7, 2021.

THERE MAY BE INTERRUPTIONS IN OUR ABILITY TO COMMUNICATE BY
TELEPHONE AND INTERNET.
YOUR PATIENCE IS APPRECIATED.