

Sunday 04 April 2021 - Easter Sunday



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Land Acknowledgement

We gather here mindful of the many who, for millennia, have called this valley home or depended on its trails for safe passage. We know this community as Fernie; it is also the unceded territory of the Ktunaxa people. May we be good and gracious guests of this corner of Creation.

Lighting the Christ Candles

Let the light of Christ and the flame of the Affirming candle draw us together as we ready ourselves for worship, with the assurance that we are not alone and all are welcome.

Dora White, Minnedosa, MB

Call to Worship

Easter joy is for you and for all.
Easter hope stirs in creation.
Let your spirit swell.
Let the borders of your compassion expand.

**We join our voices and our lives
to share this joy and hope
as we worship together!**

Robin Wardlaw, Toronto, ON

Opening Prayers

O Holy One - we come, puzzling at your mystery,
yet in adoration and wonder.

Creator God, we wonder at your mighty works.

O Holy One - we come in quiet breathing.

Spirit we breathe in your gifts with gratitude.

O Holy One -- we come in silent movements.

Beloved Christ, we follow you into the quiet space. Amen

Jani Francis, Indian Head, SK

Opening Hymn – VU164 v.1 The Day of Resurrection

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!

Prayer of Confession

Easter morning takes us by surprise, awakening us
to the doubt and despair that have been rooted in
our lives. Let us now confess to God.

**Come to us, O God, like fresh water,
softening the soil of a parched and weary land.
We confess that hurts and disappointments
harden our heart, frustration and failures dry us out.
Come to us, God, with life-giving power.
Free us from resentment, reluctance and reserve.
Remind us that in your forgiveness, we are free.
Forgiven, may we be forgiven.
In Jesus' name we pray. Amen**

Words of Assurance

The stone is rolled away -- we are released!
The tomb is empty -- we can be free!
Christ is risen -- life can be full!
Thanks be to God!

The Proclamation of the Word

Reader: Danna Burgess

Reading: Mark 16.1-8

The Resurrection of Jesus

When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. They had been saying to one another, 'Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?' When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. But he said to them, 'Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.' So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

Hymn – VU179 v.4 Hallelujah Hallelujah, Give Thanks

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

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.

Sermon: The Reverend Andrea L. Brennan

Call to Offering

God of resurrection and new beginnings, we bring our gifts to you, our hearts filled with the wonder of Easter miracles. We pray that by your grace, our gifts will be used to perform miracles for you. Amen

Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC

Please support our ministry by sending a cheque or e-transfer to:

Christ Church Anglican
Box 279, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0
christchurchfernie@gmail.com

Knox United Church
Box 1808, Fernie, BC V0B 1M0
knoxferniefinance@gmail.com

Your Generosity Matters - Bill's Story - Read by Mary Elson

Communion Hymn - VU466 Eat this Bread

Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and never be hungry
Eat this bread, drink this cup, come to me and you will not thirst.

Communion Liturgy

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to God.

We must give thanks to God our Creator!

God's creation blesses us all.

All that is sacred, all that is holy, come from You, our living God.
When we cannot be physically together because of pandemic, you are there.

You created order from chaos, your children from clay, and blessed us
with minds to think, hearts to love and mouths to speak.

Even when we fail you; even when we disappoint ourselves, you are there.

Loving us through the chaos, standing us up when we fall down.

Protecting us from the evil in the world; you are there.

And so, we join with the chorus of heavenly bodies as we say;

Holy, holy, holy God, Holy and blessed are you.

Heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Glory to you, O God most high.

And so, as we gather from around this fragile earth
our island home to celebrate the night you made the ordinary, extraordinary.

That fateful night, at supper with his friends,

Jesus took the ordinary bread,

bread they had shared many times before.

He took it, blessed it, broke it and said:

"This is my body, broken in love for you".

Jesus took the cup, what was left from the meal,
a meal shared many times before.

He raised it, blessed it and said
“This is my blood, shed for eternity.
When you take this bread and this cup,
remember that I am with you always.
A covenant and promise I make, to never forsake you”.

And so, as we take this ordinary made extraordinary
this bread and cup, God's promise and love,
broken and poured, blessed and shared,
joining us together as a spiritual family.

**Christ has died,
Christ has risen,
Christ will come again.**

We take our bread, or that which represents Christ's body.
We take our cup, or that which represents Christ's blood.
When we consume these, we will never be the same.
We will become closer to you, dear God, and to each other.

We thank you God, for the many blessings of this Earth.
We ask you to pray for those we carry on our hearts this day.
We ask you to be with those who need your strength,
and to those you call home today,
may those they leave behind always know your love.

Joining our prayers and praises together,
Let us pray the prayer our Saviour taught us...

**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, for ever and ever. Amen**

**Distribution of Communion
Taking the Bread, Pouring the Cup**

The bread of Christ
Broken in love for us.

The cup of salvation.
Our way to eternal life.

These are the gifts of God, for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

The elements are consumed.

Commissioning

Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Now we are an Easter people!

Now we are the people of the risen Christ!

Now we are the people who go out (safely) into the world

living the love of God,

sharing the peace of Christ,

being the community of the Holy Spirit

as we bring the new life of Easter

to everyone we (safely) meet.

Christ is risen! Hallelujah!

Fern Gibbard, Penticton, BC

Extinguishing the Christ Candle

As we celebrate the resurrection, may we share that joy and hope,

knowing that one day, we know not yet what day,

we will be together again, not necessarily as we wish,

but as we are able. Amen

Sending Song - MU90 Don't Be Afraid

Don't be afraid, my love is stronger,

My love is stronger than your fear.

Don't be afraid, my love is stronger,

And I have promised, promised to be always near.

Upcoming this Week

Andrea+ will be on a mental health week from the 7th to the 14th of April.

Worship on Sunday 11 April will be livestreamed from St. Michael and All Angels Cathedral in Kelowna, B.C. YouTube link to follow.

Zoom link for virtual coffee hour to follow.

There will be no Wednesday Worship for the next two weeks.

Wednesday Worship will resume Wednesday 21 April 2021

There will be no mid-week check-in email for 13 April 2021

Mid-week emails will resume Tuesday 20 April 2021

Credits:

The liturgy today has been compiled with resources from Gathering: Lent/Easter 2021, Voices United, and More Voices. Communion Liturgy and extinguishing prayers written by Reverend Andrea L. Brennan ©2021.

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