

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church
Easter Sunday
The Celebration of the Resurrection
Sunday, April 4, 2010 10:30am

ORDER OF SERVICE

*Congregation please stand, as you are able, and join congregational responses in **bold print**. (Listening aids are available in the narthex, large print bulletins with hymns are available from the usher's table.)

The Worshippers Approach God

PRELUDE:

Fanfare

Healey Willan

THE EASTER PROCLAMATION:

Rejoice! Hallelujah!
Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.
Come, let us rejoice in God together!

LIFE AND WORK OF THE CHURCH

(the Christ Candle is lit)

INTROIT: While Christ lay dead

Text: Christina Rossetti
Music: Stanley Vann

While Christ lay dead, the widowed world wore willow green for hope undone:

Till, when bright Easter dew's impearled the chilly burial earth,
All north and south, all east and west, flushed rosy in the rising sun:
Hope laughed, and Faith resumed her rest, and Love remembered mirth.

***CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Without Easter...

We would never know about Jesus.

Without Easter...

He would have been forgotten.

Without Easter...

Death would not be conquered.

Without Easter...

God's love would be vanquished.

Without Easter...

We cannot imagine life without Easter.

***PRAYER OF APPROACH:**

Living God, we lift our hearts in praise.

We thank you for the joy and the mystery of Christ's resurrection.

**We are in awe of your power over death,
of your love for us,
of your desire to bring all people together
in a world of joy and peace.**

**Help us rejoice and celebrate this day
as your Easter People.**

**Raise us to new lives
of joyful worship and service to you. Amen.**

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN: 155**

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

EASTER HYMN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION:

Christ, you shed light into our darkened world.

**Yet we choose to walk in shadows of indifference and fear;
forgive us Risen Christ.**

*From the cool, refreshing waters of a deep well, you offer us
a drink of life-giving water.*

**Yet we choose to drink from wells of bitterness and anger;
forgive us, Risen Christ.**

*With songs of celebration, you invite us to join the dance of
God's tomorrow.*

Yet we choose, to sit, ignoring the music.

(silent confession)

Take our hands, O Christ,

And lead us into new life. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

***HYMN: 177**

This Joyful Eastertide

VRUECHTEN

CHILDREN'S TIME:

(Following the Children's Time, the children and youth are
invited to go to Sunday School)

We Listen for the Word of God

ANTHEM: Christ the Lord is risen again Text: Michael Weisse
Translated by Catherine Winkworth

Christ the Lord is risen again!
Christ has broken death's strong chain!
Hark, the angels shout for joy
Singing evermore on high: Hallelujah!

He who gave for us His life.
Who for us endured the strife,
Is our Paschal Lamb today.
We, too, sing for joy and say: Hallelujah!

He who bore all pain and loss
Comfortless upon the cross
Lives in glory now on high,
Pleads for us and hears our cry: Hallelujah!

Now He bids us tell abroad
How the lost may be restored,
How the penitent forgiven,
How we, too, may enter heaven. Hallelujah!

Thou our Paschal Lamb indeed,
Christ, today Thy people feed;
Take our sins and guilt away
That we all may sing for aye: Hallelujah!

OLD TESTAMENT READING: Isaiah 65:17-25 read by Bill Craddock
This is the Word of God.
Thanks be to God.

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24 (VU p.837)

***HYMN: 169**

Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing

VULPIUS

THE GOSPEL READING: Luke 24:1-12 read by Doreen Craddock

This is the Gospel of Christ.

Praise to you, O Christ.

SERMON: "Grace notes"

SOLO: I know that my Redeemer liveth from Messiah G. F. Handel

(Soloist: Heather Kozak) Text: Job 19: 25-26; 1 Corinthians 15: 20

I know that my redeemer liveth, and that he shall stand at the
latter day upon the earth.

And though worms destroy this body, yet in my flesh shall I see God
For now is Christ risen from the dead, the first fruits of them that
sleep.

We Respond to the Word

THE RECEIVING OF THE GIFTS

THE OFFERTORY:

Prelude on "Vulpius" (Good Christians all, rejoice and sing)

Healey Willan

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE: 538**

For the Gift of Creation

GIFT OF CREATION

CHORAL INTRODUCTION TO PRAYER: **377** (verse 3)

Holy Spirit, Hear Us

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

THE LORD'S PRAYER:

**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.**

Sending Forth

***HYMN: 173**

Thine Is the Glory

JUDAS MACCABAEUS

***BENEDICTION**

***ANTHEM:**

Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah"

HANDEL

POSTLUDE:

Paraphrase on "Judas Maccabeus" (Thine is the glory)

Alexandre Guilmant

Members of the congregation are invited to
join the choir to sing the *Hallelujah* Chorus

Thank you to everyone involved in the preparation of the
Easter breakfast at St. Andrew's this morning.

Welcome to Worship

We extend a special welcome to all our guests and newcomers. Please sign our guest register and introduce yourself to an usher so that we may help you feel at home. Would you like someone to phone you about St. Andrew's River Heights United Church? Please leave your phone number in the register and a representative of the Fellowship and Pastoral Care Committee will be happy to contact you.

You are welcome to take this bulletin home with you. If not, please place your bulletin in the paper-recycling bin.



The Introit and Anthem this week

The Introit: The English Romantic poet Christina Rossetti has a wonderful facility for reaching to the heart of a central event in the Christian faith (e.g. *In the bleak mid winter*). Here she captures, in spare, eloquent verse the despair and ecstasy of the early Easter morning. This setting is by English organist, conductor and composer, Stanley Vann, who died last week at the age of 100.

The Anthem: This Easter anthem was published in 1971 while English composer, John Rutter was still in his mid twenties. It features frequent changes of metre, and is one of his more inventive pieces.

Sunday School

The Sunday School will be starting a new unit as we enter the most important season of the Christian year – the 50 days of Easter. We are reminded that Easter is a season, not a single day.

The United Church of Canada

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