

ORDER OF SERVICE
17 April 2022
Easter Sunday

GATHER			
Call to Worship			Rev Allan Smith
Hymn/Song	Jesus Christ is Risen today!	TIS 362/CCLI# 4715616	Fiona Binney
Prayer of Invocation			Rev Allan Smith
Praise Time (10min)	Come people of the risen king At the Cross [Love ran red]	CCLI# 5232617 CCLI# 7017786	Fiona Binney
Welcome & Visitors candles, Celebrations, Green Cards			Rev Allan Smith
Prayer: Adoration, Confession, Declaration of Forgiveness			Rev Allan Smith
Passing the Peace			
Children's Story			Emily/Selena
Song	Blessing Honour and Glory	P&W 529/SCE 55/CCLI# 1001179	Fiona Binney
HEAR THE WORD			
Bible Readings	Isaiah 65: 17-25; Acts 10: 34-43; Luke 24: 1-12		Emily Field
Message	<i>An Idle Tale</i>		Rev Allan Smith
Song (Optional)	King of Kings [Praise the Father, Praise the Son]	CCLI# 7127647	Fiona Binney
RESPOND			
Affirmation of Faith	AFFIRMATION OF FAITH (<i>from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20</i>)		
Offering Dedication			Rev Allan Smith
Notices & Concerns of the Church			Rev Allan Smith
Prayers of the People			Rev Allan Smith
Communion Song	Behold the Lamb	CCLI# 5003372	Fiona Binney
Communion	Rev Allan Smith & Elders		
Song (after Communion)	This is Amazing Grace	CCLI# 6333821	Fiona Binney
BLESS			
Mission/Benediction			Rev Allan Smith
Benediction/Going Out Song	This is Amazing Grace	CCLI# 6333821	Fiona Binney

Preaching	Rev Allan Smith
Worship Introduction	Rev Allan Smith
Notices of the Church & Prayers of the People	Rev Allan Smith
Bible Reader	Emily Field
Song Selector	Fiona Binney
Piano	Craig Binney
Backup Singers	
Additional Music	
Sound System	Isaiah Kafoa
Data Operator	Ian Anderson
Power Point Producer	Ian Anderson
Offering Collectors	NA
Communion Bread	NA

Blessed is the kingdom of the Father, and of the Son, and of the Holy Spirit, now and ever, and unto the ages of ages.

CALL TO WORSHIP (*Psalm 118:1,2, 14-24*)

Give thanks to the LORD, who alone is good;

whose steadfast love is everlasting!

The LORD is my strength and my might;

the LORD is my salvation.

Let the gates of righteousness be opened

that I may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD.

This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it.

I thank you that you have answered me

and have become my salvation.

The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.

This is the LORD's doing; it is marvellous in our eyes.

This is the day that the LORD has made;

let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Let us worship God.

SONG [Jesus Christ is Risen today!](#)

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lord God - we gather in the name of the Risen Christ to pour forth our praises in glad Easter Celebration. We rejoice that you have not left us without hope - but have come back to us in the victory of the resurrection and given us the assurance of eternal life with Christ Jesus, the one whom you lifted from the tomb and have made Lord of all. Praise be to your name for your everlasting mercy - both now and forevermore. Amen.

SONG [Come people of the risen king](#)

[At the Cross \(Love ran red\)](#)

PRAYER OF ADORATION

Very early on that first day you caught chaos unawares, Astounding God:
planting grace in a garden, setting love loose on creation,
flinging joy into the air.

Very early on that first day, Jesus, Son of Justice:
you staggered sin, throwing its weight off the world;
you confounded death, leaving it alone in the grave;
you opened the gates of the kingdom, so all could follow you into life.

Very early on this first day of the week, while we were washing sleep from our eyes and trying to make sense of our lives,
you sang glad songs to us, Scarred Spirit:
rolling away fears from our hearts so we can see the Risen Lord.

God in Community, Holy in One,
very early on this first day of the week,
as we do on every day of our lives,
we lift our prayers to you. Amen.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

On this morning of hallelujahs, we must confess how human we are, O God. We haven't done any great evil, but we have failed to do good when we had the chance. We have not intentionally hurt anyone, nor have we offered healing to the broken. We easily accept the witness of the angel in the tomb, but find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbours.

Bring us new life, O God. Where we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation; transform our hardened hearts into fountains of grace; forgive us of all the damage we have done, and fill us with the joy of your Spirit. In the name of Jesus Christ, who gives us new life, we pray. Amen.

DECLARATION OF FORGIVENESS

Jesus Christ died for our sins
and has been raised by God
as judge of the living and the dead.
Everyone who trusts in him
receives forgiveness of sins through his name.

Brothers and sisters in Christ,
be at peace for your sins are forgiven.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

SONG [Blessing Honour and Glory](#)

BIBLE READINGS

[Isaiah 65:17-25](#)

[Acts 10:34-43](#)

[Luke 24:1-12](#)

SERMON [An idle tale](#)

SONG [King of Kings \(Praise the Father, Praise the Son\)](#)

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH *(from 1 Corinthians 15:1-6 and Colossians 1:15-20)*

This is the good news
which we have received,
in which we stand,
and by which we are saved:

Christ died for our sins,
was buried,
was raised on the third day,
and appeared first to the women,
then to Peter and the Twelve,
and then to many faithful witnesses.

We believe Jesus is the Christ,
the Anointed One of God,
the firstborn of all creation,

the firstborn from the dead,
in whom all things hold together,
in whom the fullness of God
was pleased to dwell
by the power of the Spirit.

Christ is the head of the body, the church,
and by the blood of the cross
reconciles all things to God. Amen.

from The United Methodist Hymnal

OFFERING

Loving God, we thank you for this Easter Day - with its promise of new life, and new opportunities. Use us, and our gifts, to love and to serve you, and to witness to Christ whom you have raised, and in whose name we pray. Amen.

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Lord of hosts, you are our God. We have waited for you so that you might save us. You provide everything we need: home, family and friends, clothing and food and blessings beyond measure. You swallow up death forever and promise us a place with you where your mercy will never end. Let us rejoice in your salvation. (Isaiah 25:6-9)

Lord of abundant life, you have provided us with the greatest story ever told, the life death and resurrection of your Son, Jesus the Christ. Raise up for your Church faithful leaders, willing volunteers and eager learners so that we might joyfully proclaim your amazing message of love for all people to hear. (1 Cor 15:1-11)

Lord of all nations, you sent your Son as judge of the living and the dead. Everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name. Yet, WE often take judgment as our OWN privilege, deciding whom you should love and whom you should reject. Help us to overcome our prejudice and fear and to live together with all people, each one redeemed by the death and resurrection of your Son. (Acts 10:34-43)

Lord of early morning and deep, dark nights, you alone can replace fear with calm, grief with hope, sadness with joy. You are the way, the truth and the life. Each day we struggle to believe what the world tells us is an impossible story. You loved us and all creation so much that you redeemed us all through the resurrection of your Son, Jesus. Help us to overcome doubt, to push away fear, to cling to your message of eternal love with our whole being. Strengthen our faith and keep us in your grace, and like Mary Magdalene, give us courage to share your good news with each one we meet. (John 20:1-18)

Steadfast Lord, your love endures forever. You are our strength and our might. You provide everlasting life. Yet, in this life, your children suffer pain in body, mind, and spirit. We lift in prayer your hurting children:

This morning, we pray especially for...

Help us all to live our lives in thanks for your precious gift of life and to rejoice in each new day you give us, even into eternity. (Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24)

Into your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting in your mercy; through your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

COMMUNION SONG [Behold the Lamb](#)

SONG [This is Amazing Grace](#)

WORD OF MISSION AND BLESSING

Go now as God's chosen witnesses
to testify that Christ has been raised
and that we are raised with him.
Do not look for him among the dead,
but be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

And may the grace...

HOLY COMMUNION: Easter Sunday Year C

It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God,
for you have raised Jesus Christ from the dead
and swallowed up death forever.

You made the world and all that is in it;
you made this day and we will be glad and rejoice in it!
For this is the day your prophets testified about
when you destroy the shroud of death
and open the gates of salvation to all who believe.

You sent your Son, Jesus, among us,
anointed with your Holy Spirit and power
to preach peace and heal all who were oppressed,

When he was put to death and buried,
you broke open the tomb and raised him on this day.

Now we need never again search for him
in the places of buried dreams,
for he is alive and reaches out to us,
wiping away our tears and calling us by name.

And so we praise you...

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

We give thanks that this has been no ordinary meal. It
has been one in which we have been fed and nourished
with the life of Jesus, our crucified and risen Lord. May
we go from here, refreshed and eager, to share that life
with others. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

WORD OF MISSION AND BENEDICTION

And may the grace...