

Quispamsis United Church

April 9th, 2023 - Easter Sunday

Liturgical Colour: White

Presider: Rev. Richard Bowley

Director of Music: Stephen Alexander

Reader: Heather Alward

Centering Passage: *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.*

-Psalm 118:21-24

GATHERING TOGETHER

Lighting of the Christ Candle: We light this candle with joy this day, because the Light of Christ has overcome the darkest of darkness. It shines not just in this place, but in our lives, and through each one of us. May this light - within us and before us - guide us in our worship and in our lives.

Opening Music Trumpet Tune on "Lyra Davidica" - David Lasky

Welcome & Lighting of Affirm Candle

Acknowledgement of Territories

Easter Flowers "In Memoriam"

Celebrations & Announcements

Introit:

This is the Day

MV 122

This is the day that God has made, we will rejoice and be glad!

This is the day that God has made, we will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, Singing hallelu, Singing hallelu,

We will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, Singing hallelu, Singing hallelu,

We will rejoice and be glad!

Greeting

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

And also with you.

Call to Worship (Responsive):

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed! HALLELUJAH!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Risen One.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God for life made new in Christ.

It is right to give our thanks and praise. HALLELUJAH!

Prayer of Thanksgiving (Responsive):

Hallelujah, thanks and praise to you, the ever-living God, worker of wonders, maker of miracles, author of all life and giver of life eternal! Out of chaos and fear you bring beauty and hope. Out of despair and death you create courage and new life.

With the risen Christ, who makes all things new by the power of his resurrection, we join in the song of a new day, to sing your praise:

**Holy, holy, holy Lord,
God of power and might,
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.
Hosanna in the highest.**

Hymn:

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

VU 155

**Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss, hallelujah!**

**Hymns of praise then let us sing, hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save, hallelujah!**

**But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured, hallelujah!
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
where the angels ever sing, hallelujah!**

**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!**

LISTENING FOR TRUTH

Play: The Empty Tomb

Remembering Jesus at Table (Responsive):

Let us remember together that vision of God's reign shown to us in Jesus at table:

he shared food with followers and friends,

with saints and sinners,

with crowds of thousands on the hillside,

and a few friends in an upper room.

On the night before he died, he had supper with his companions.

He took a loaf of bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it, and gave it to them, saying:

"Take, eat. Do this in remembrance of me."

Then, he took a cup, and after giving thanks, he passed it among them, saying:

"Drink this. Do this in remembrance of me."

Through this loaf and cup, Jesus lives within us.

In word and deed, Jesus lives among us.

Loving God, in the face of pain, (...) that our lives may proclaim the mystery of faith:

Christ has died.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Christ will come again.

Prayer of Illumination (Unison):

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the light of eternity. Kindle our hearts with the presence of your Spirit, that we may hear your words of comfort and challenge in the reading of the scriptures, through Jesus Christ our Lord. AMEN.

Reading: Matthew 28:1-10

After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. Suddenly Jesus met them

and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

This is the Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ.

Praise be to you, O Christ.

Gift of Music Now the Green Blade Rises - Senior Choir

Message What a morning!

RESPONDING TO GOD'S WORD

Hymn:

Sing a Happy Hallelujah
**Sing a happy hallelujah,
sing it out with heart and style,
we're the echo of God's laughter,
we're the image of God's smile.**

VU 224

[Refrain:]

**Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah, everyone!
Hallelujah, all creation,
hallelujah everyone!**

**We're the proof of God's good humour,
we're the twinkle in God's eye,
made to shine, reflect the glory,
given light and space to fly. R**

**Sarah laughed at God's good timing,
Mary sang and David danced,
Jesus smiled and hugged the children,
so is life for us enhanced. R**

**Every day sing hallelujah!
We are loved, though so absurd,
human, foolish, chosen people,
God still takes us at our word! R**

Welcoming New Members

Charlene Stoddard
Adele McDonald
Doug McDonald
Heather McDonald

How Can I Give?

1/ If you have internet banking, you can E-transfer funds to QUC by sending the funds to QUC@nb.aibn.com. Do not forget to send a separate email with the answer to your security question.

2/ Go to www.CanadaHelps.org and search for Quispamsis United Church. You can give to the church by using your credit card. The address says Gondola Point, do not worry, that is us.

3/ Mail or deliver your giving's to our treasurer, Brion Crossman, 22 Country Crescent, Quispamsis, E2E 1T2

4/ You can sign up for a pre-authorized remittance (PAR) donation which comes out of your bank account or credit card once a month. You can cancel this at any time. Contact Brion Crossman at 849-6003 for details.

5/ if you come for in-person worship, there is a plate as you enter the church where you can place your offering.

6/ As we consider the greater work of the United Church consider giving to Mission and Service Fund through your regular offering or at <https://united-church.ca>

Offertory Dedication Hymn: In Gratitude and Humble Trust

VU 544

**In gratitude and humble Trust we bring our best today
to serve your cause and share your love with all along life's way.**

**O God, who gave yourself to us in Jesus Christ, your Son,
teach us to give ourselves each day until life's work is done.**

Prayer of Dedication (Unison):

Send your Holy Spirit, God, on us and what we do, that as we break bread and drink wine, we may be united with Christ, he in us and we in him, that we who are many may be one in him. Bless the gifts we bring and us as a people as we strive to be bearers of your love in the world. Make us strong in faith and love, that we may become truly human, as Christ was truly human. AMEN

Prayers of the People & Lord's Prayer

Invitation & Instructions

Breaking of the Bread and Pouring of the Cup:

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ...This is the body of Christ, bread broken in love for you.

Through the cup of blessing, we participate in the new life Christ gives...This is the cup of joy, flowing as a gift of God's spirit into our lives.

Sharing of the Meal (Responsive):

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

Thanks be to God.

Come now for all has been made ready.

sharing the meal

Hymn:

Thine is the Glory

VU 173

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.**

[Refrain:]

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son,
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.**

**Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb!
lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]**

**No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
Life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. [Refrain]**

SENDING FORTH

Commissioning (Responsive):

Christ is with us in this place.

HALLELUJAH!

Christ goes with us into the world.

HALLELUJAH!

The peace of Christ is with us always because He is risen!

He is risen indeed! HALLELUJAH!

Benediction

Go now with the love of God in your hearts, the Peace of Christ in your hands, and with the power of the Holy Spirit at your backs to share the great news you've heard this day. AMEN

Choral Closing:

Hallelujah, Hallelujah

VU 179 (vs 2)

Refrain:

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ.

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, give praise to God's Name.

Spread the good news o'er all the earth:

Jesus has died and is risen. R

Closing Music

Fanfare on "Diademata" - Rebecca te Velde