

**St. Mark's United Church  
Cannifton, Ontario  
March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2024**

**Minister: Rev. Ryan McNally, MDiv.**

**Organist/Pianist: Mark Bond**

**Technical Team: Sheila Parks, Elaner Pound, Mary Milligan, Julie McNally,  
Alfreda Rupert and Lois MacDonald**

***Easter Sunday***

***Gathering to Worship God***

**Prelude**

**Video**

**“Alive the Resurrection”**

**Welcome**

We extend a warm Easter welcome to all of you. At St. Mark's, we hold a deep love for Jesus, and today, we come together to celebrate His resurrection. We welcome you all, whether you're here in person or watching from home. We are so glad that you are part of this community of faith.

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

We light this Christ candle to remind us of the light of truth. May this light enflame our hearts with God's grace; keep us in the radiance of Christ's presence; and fill our hearts with the Spirit of hope.

**Call to Worship**

Christ has risen.

**Christ has risen indeed.**

Hope is alive . . .

**a new age is dawning.**

Joy is alive . . .

**redemption is here.**

Love is alive . . .  
**death cannot harm us.**

We are alive . . .  
**new life is within us.**

The church is alive . . .  
**God's Spirit is within us.**  
**We celebrate the God of resurrection!**

*Celebrate God's Presence p. 191.*

**† Hymn # 155 VU      "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"**

- 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!
- 2      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!
- 3      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!
- 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!

**Approaching God Through Prayer**

*Adapted from Bankson & Sokolove, Calling on God:  
Inclusive Christian Prayers for Three Years of Sundays.  
SkyLight Paths Publishing. p. 177-8.*

**Hymn # 175 VU "This Is the Day That God Has Made" (remain seated)**

**This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!  
This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!**

- 1 Christ has conquered death at last,  
left the tomb that held him fast!  
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,  
dawns the morning clear and bright! R

### **Theme Time**

**Hymn # 175 VU “This Is the Day That God Has Made” (remain seated)**

**This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!  
This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!**

- 2 Jesus lives who once was dead,  
lives forever, as he said!  
Risen now our Saviour, King;  
songs of gladness let us sing! R

### **Prayer of Illumination**

*Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C.  
www.gatheringworship.ca*

## ***Living into God’s story***

### **Scripture**

**1 Corinthians 15: 1 - 11**

**Read by: Alexandra Reid**

**Responsive Psalm # 118**

**Page 837**

**Led by: Alexandra Reid**

**Refrain: Hallelujah! hallelujah!**

**Part One (1 – 4)**

Let Israel now say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

Let the house of Aaron say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

Let those who fear God say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.” R**

## **Part Two (14 – 18)**

God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

**There are shouts of joy and deliverance  
in the tents of the righteous.**

The right hand of God does mighty things;  
the right hand of God raises up.

**The right hand of God does mighty things.**

I shall not die, but live; and I shall proclaim what God has done.

**God indeed punished me,  
but did not give me over to death. R**

## **Part Three (19 – 24)**

Open to me the gates of the temple,  
that I may enter and give thanks to God.

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

I thank you for you have answered me;  
you have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected  
has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is God’s doing, marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it! R**

## **John 20: 1 - 18**

**† Hymn # 179 VU      “Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks”**

**Hallelujah, hallelujah.  
Give thanks to the risen Christ;  
hallelujah, hallelujah!  
Give praise to God’s name.**

- 1     Jesus is Lord of all the earth,  
firstborn of all creation. **R**
- 2     Spread the good news o’er all the earth:  
Jesus has died and is risen. **R**

- 3 We have been crucified with Christ,  
now we shall live for ever. **R**
- 4 Come let us praise the living God,  
joyfully sing to our Saviour. **R**

## ***Responding to God***

### **Message**

### **Prayers of Concern & Thanks**

### **Lord's Prayer**

#### **† Hymn "Christ is Alive!"**

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.  
The cross stands empty to the sky.  
Let streets and homes with praises ring.  
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.  
**Alleluia, allelu!**  
**Alleluia, allelu!**
- 2 Christ is alive! No loner bound  
to distant years in Palestine  
but, saving, healing, hear and now,  
and touching every place and time. **R**
- 3 In eery insult, rift and war,  
where colour, scorn or wealth divide,  
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,  
And lives, where even hope has died. **R**
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth  
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,  
and find the way, the life and truth,  
revealed in Jesus, freed for all. **R**
- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring  
good news to this and every age,  
till earth and sky and ocean ring  
with joy, with justice, love and praise. **R**

## Sharing our Gifts

### Moderator's Easter Message

### Offering Prayer

*Gord Dunbar, Kincardine P.C., Kincardine, Ont.  
www.gatheringworship.ca*

#### † Hymn # 173 VU      “Thine is the Glory”

- 1      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.  
         **Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:**  
         **endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**
- 2      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. **R**
- 3      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. **R**

### Blessing & Sending Forth

Like the woman who ran to share the Good News  
of the empty tomb,  
**let us go forth with joy.**

Like the travellers walking on the Emmaus Road,  
**let us go forth with opened eyes.**

Like the disciples receiving the Holy Spirit,  
**let us go forth with peace.**

Like Thomas, filled with doubt,  
**let us go forth with faith.**

Like fishers pulling heavy nets,

let us go forth with abundant life.

*Celebrate God's Presence p. 201.*

## Postlude

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