

# CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 9, 2023

EASTER DAY

REV. IAN R. MACKAY

"EASTER EVENT: EVER SO REAL"

## COVID PRECAUTIONS

1. Self-screening guidelines: If you have Covid symptoms or are isolating due to close contact, you should not attend in person. Services are also live-streamed.
2. Masking is encouraged but no longer mandatory.  
Many will still choose to remain masked for their own or for others' safety. We welcome this choice and urge everyone to respect individuals' choices - each according to their own personal situation.
3. Social distancing still continues in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

**Bold Text** *indicates the parts that everyone reads together.*

## WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

### PRELUDE

*Aria - Noel Rawsthorne*

### WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

#### ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

#### LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: Christ is risen. Light comes and shines through the darkness.  
Christ risen and real is alive and lightens our way.  
In the glory of God's perpetual light, let us be as Christ's light to each other.

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: This is a great and glorious festive day. Come, let us celebrate good news.  
**All: We gather for worship in awe and wonder.  
The tomb is empty. Christ is alive.**  
One: Sing songs of praise for God is good.  
God's steadfast love endures forever.  
**All: God has answered our deepest prayers with salvation.  
Christ is alive and we share in this everlasting gift.**  
One: Open wide your hearts and minds to Christ, risen and real.  
God, in Christ, is present in our midst.  
**All: We praise God. We rejoice and sing 'Alleluia'!**

### CENTERING PRAYER

Amazing and surprising God, we come to this festive day with great rejoicing. Show us your love in the depth of our beings so we can never again be the same. Roll away the stones that keep us from all that is true, righteous that we may live without pretense or fear as beloved followers of Jesus. Amen.

#### HYMN VU 155 *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!

Words: Lyra Davidica 1708, et al

Music: Lyra Davidica 1708, desc. Derek Holman 1971© desc. 1971 Derek Holman  
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### A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

#### A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

Ever present God, whom we worship with joy on this resurrection day, show us the places of death where you grieve for your children that we might reflect the spirit of Christ whose love risked all for others. Take away our fear so we may grow in discipleship and devote ourselves in service, in Christ's name. Amen.

READINGS

VU pg. 837 Psalm 118: 14 – 24

Psalter 837

**Refrain:**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

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

All: **here 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**

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, marvelous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made,**

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it! R**

John 20: 1 - 18

Rev. Ian R. Mackay

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**Thanks be to God.**

**HYMN VU 159** *The Strife Is O'er*

1 The strife is o'er, the battle done,  
the victory of life is won;  
the song of triumph has begun, hallelujah!

2 The powers of death have done their worst,  
but Christ their legions has dispersed:  
let shouts of holy joy outburst, hallelujah!

3 He closed the ancient gates of hell,  
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;  
let hymns of praise his triumphs tell, hallelujah!

4 On the third morn he rose again,  
glorious in majesty to reign;  
O let us swell the joyful strain, hallelujah!

Words: from Latin 17<sup>th</sup> century, trans. Francis Pott 1861

Music: William Henry Monk 1861, from melody by Giovanni Palestrina 1591

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## SERMON

*Easter Event: Ever so Real*

Rev. Ian R. Mackay

### COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE ANNOUNCEMENT OF THE OFFERING

#### DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING

VU 211, tune: Dlademata

Worship the risen Christ who calls each one by name,  
give thanks to God who loves us all, and chooses to reclaim  
our loyalty and trust, and joyous servanthood.  
This is the day that the Lord has made and we have found it  
good.

God is our strength and might: salvation is God's gift. God's  
work in Christ is marvelous, our spirits to uplift. God's grace is  
not in vain, for we are filled with power to heal and witness in  
Christ's name, beginning in this hour. Amen.

#### OFFERTORY PRAYER

All: All praise to you, O God, for your mighty deeds. We join the  
chorus of trumpets, pipes and bells to acknowledge your  
greatness. Receive these gifts of thanksgiving for raising Jesus  
Christ to be our hope and salvation. Let all our gifts and our  
time give praise to your holy name. Amen.

#### PASTORAL PRAYER

#### THE LORD'S PRAYER

All: Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.  
Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Send us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.  
For the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever. Amen.

**HYMN VU 173** *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.

**Refrain:**

**Thine is the glory, 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**

Words: Edmund Louis Budry 1884, trans. Richard Birch Hoyle 1923  
Music: Harmonia Sacra ca. 1733, arr. from George Frideric Handel 1747  
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**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BLESSING**

**HYMN VU 179** *Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks*

v.4

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

**4** Come let us praise the living God,  
Joyfully sing to our Saviour. **R**

Words: Donald Fishel 1971, alt.  
Music: Donald Fishel 1971, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987, alt. Desc. Betty Pulkingham  
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People Descant © 1979 Maranatha Music  
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**POSTLUDE**

*Prelude in e minor - J.S. Bach*

BWV 533

## THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

### **Minister**

**Rev. Ian R. Mackay** has been an ordained Minister of the United Church for 50 years having served pastorates in northern Manitoba (Flin Flon), south-western Ontario (London and Chatham), eastern Ontario (Edith Rankin Memorial, 1983-1993) and Montreal (St. Lambert, 1994-2010). In their retirement years, he and his wife Jane live near Verona where they regularly attend and offer services to Trinity United Church. They have 3 sons and 3 grandchildren. Two of the families live on the west coast, in the Seattle area and in New Westminster, and their youngest son lives in Halifax. This, alone can keep them active, travelling to both sides of the country! They also enjoy cycling, but only for much shorter distances and close to home!

### **Reader**

Jane MacEwen

### **Co-Liturgist**

Linda Steinberg

### **Organist**

Juliet Milsome

### **Hymn Singers**

Members of Chalmers Choir

### **Media Techs**

Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

### **Refreshments**

Heather Faris, Jane MacEwen

### **Counters**

Murray Anderson, Janice Moncrieff



**To submit materials for the bulletin** please use:  
[bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com](mailto:bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com) and Linda Steinberg  
[hpsesp14@gmail.com](mailto:hpsesp14@gmail.com)

Please send announcements by end of day Monday, or  
late editions by end of day Tuesday for inclusion the  
following Sunday.

**At 10:30 join us in person at Chalmers or watch live-streamed** on Chalmers' YouTube channel. The service  
will also be posted later to the same channel.

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwjzP2Q>

The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be found  
on the home page of the Chalmers website  
[www.chalmersunitedchurch.org](http://www.chalmersunitedchurch.org)

**After the service,** you are invited to share refreshments  
and conversation.

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Flowers in the sanctuary today are in

***Celebration of Easter***

From Chalmers' congregants.

