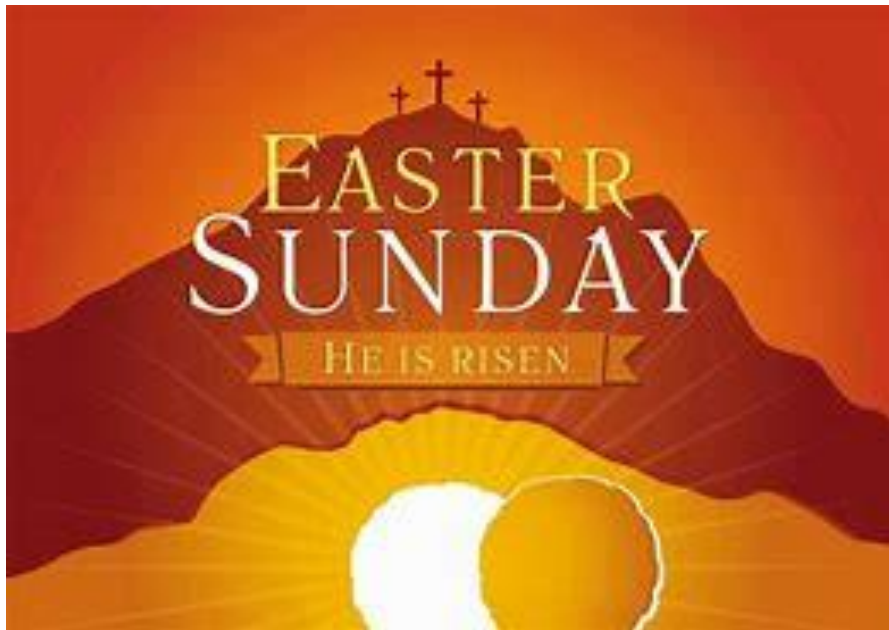


CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM EASTER SUNDAY, MARCH 31, 2024

REV. NADENE GRIEVE-DESLIPPE

"WHILE IT WAS STILL DARK"

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 is encouraged in the sanctuary and MacCallum Hall.

Bold Text indicates the parts that everyone reads together.

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE

Prelude (op. 15 no. 1) - Gustav Merkel

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND

The lands on which we are gathering today are the traditional territories of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee Peoples. We acknowledge their enduring presence on this land, as well as the presence of the Huron-Wendat, Metis, Inuit and other First Nations from across Turtle Island. We deeply respect the many generations of people who have cared for this land and whose spiritualities, teachings and ways of knowing are closely tied to it. We seek to build right relations with these Peoples, to learn from them and to live together on this land with respect and gratitude.

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

One: We light this candle to remind us that Christ is the light of the world and present in our midst.

All: **May the life and words of Jesus enlighten us on our way.**

HYMN VU 37 *Gloria*

Gloria, gloria, in excelsis Deo! Gloria, gloria, alleluia, alleluia!

Music: trad. Liturgical setting Music: Jacques Berthier, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987
Music © 1978, 1980, 1981, 1987 Jeeva Sam Les Presses de Taizé (France)
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CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are a resurrection people. We have walked from the darkened hill of death into the dawn of a new day; a day filled with hope. We greet one another in the name of the risen Christ.

All: **We celebrate the return of the alleluia; the triumph of resurrection and the promise of a new beginning. Let us worship God with a lightness in our step and with a spirit of awe of thanksgiving. Let us worship our life-giving Lord.**

CENTERING PRAYER

All: Gracious and powerful God, life of all that lives, Creator and Keeper of the universe, we praise you. Resurrected Lord, who comforted Mary and showed your wounds to Thomas to encourage his faith, renew us. Present Lord, who hovers near in the Spirit to encourage and inspire, challenge us. Creator God, Risen Lord and Holy Presence bless us now and always. 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© Descant 1971 Derek Holman
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A WORLD ENGAGED WITH GOD

A PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

All: Holy One, Sacred Mystery, greater than words can express;
whose love for us and all creation exceeds our capacity to
imagine, open our hearts and minds to hear afresh your Word to
us today. Amen.

READINGS

John 20: 1 - 18

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 17th century, trans. Francis Pott 1861

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

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SERMON

Rev. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe

While it Was Still Dark

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE
OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT AND OFFERTORY DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY

HYMN VU 540 *Grant Us, God, the Grace of Giving*

Grant us, God, the grace of giving,
with a spirit large and free,
that ourselves and all our living
we may offer faithfully.

Words: anonymous Music: attrib. Christian F. Witt, Psalmodia Sacra 1715,
adapt. Henry John Gauntlett 1861
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PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(sung)*

HYMN VU Page 959

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.
Save us from the time of trial,
and deliver us from evil,
for the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever.

Music: David Haas 1986 © G.I.A. Pub. Inc.
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HYMN VU 166 *Joy, Comes with the Dawn*

**Refrain: Joy comes with the dawn;
joy comes with the morning sun;
joy springs from the tomb
and scatters the night with her song,
joy comes with the dawn.**

1 Weeping may come;
weeping may come in the night,
when dark shadows cloud our sight. **R**

2 Sorrow will turn,
sorrow will turn into song,
and God's laughter make us strong. **R**

3 We will rejoice,
we will rejoice, and give praise,
to the One who brings us grace. **R**

Words: Gordon Light 1985 Music: Gordon Light 1985 arr. Nan Thompson 1995
Words and Music: 1985 © The Common Cup Co. arr. © 1995 Nan Thompson
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COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

One: Our worship has ended, our service begins. Go in the power of the resurrection to live your lives in faith, hope and love.

All: **God bless our going out as our coming in. May we live as resurrection people in the light of the fresh dawn and in the challenges. Thanks and praise to God the Creator, Redeemer and Sustainer. Amen.**

CHORAL BENEDICTION

HYMN VU 179 *Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks* Chorus and vs. 1

Refrain:

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**

Words: Donald Fishel 1971, alt.

Music: Donald Fishel 1971, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987, alt. Desc. Betty Pulkingham

Words and music © 1973 The Word of God Music: arr. © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People

Descant © 1979 Maranatha Music Used by permission. #A715424 OneLicense.net

POSTLUDE

Minuet in Classical Style - C. Armstrong Gibbs

THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Rev. Nadene Grieve-Deslippe

Nadene was born and raised in Hamilton. She did her undergraduate work at McMaster and studied theology at Queen's. She completed a Doctor of Ministry at McMaster Divinity College. She has served pastorates in Manitoba and Eastern Ontario and retired on September 30, 2020 from Cooke's-Portsmouth Church, Kingston. She is married to Michael and they have three living daughters and are proud grandparents to three grandchildren.

Co-Liturgist

Linda Steinberg

Organist

Juliet Milsome

Hymn Singers

Members of Chalmers Choir

Media Techs

Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung

Reader

Gerald McGrath

Refreshments

Linda and Nick Steinberg

Counter

Jan Trites

After the service

you are invited to share in refreshments and fellowship at the back of the Sanctuary.



To submit materials for the bulletin please use:
bulletin@chalmersunitedchurch.com and Linda Steinberg
hpsep14@gmail.com.

Please send announcements by end of day Monday,
or late additions 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/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwj2P2Q>

The link for Chalmers YouTube channel can also be
found on the home page of the Chalmers website
www.chalmersunitedchurch.org

Chalmers United Church

212 Barrie St. Kingston, K7L 3K3

t 613-546-3263 x 221 e office@chalmersunitedchurch.com

w www.chalmersunitedchurch.com