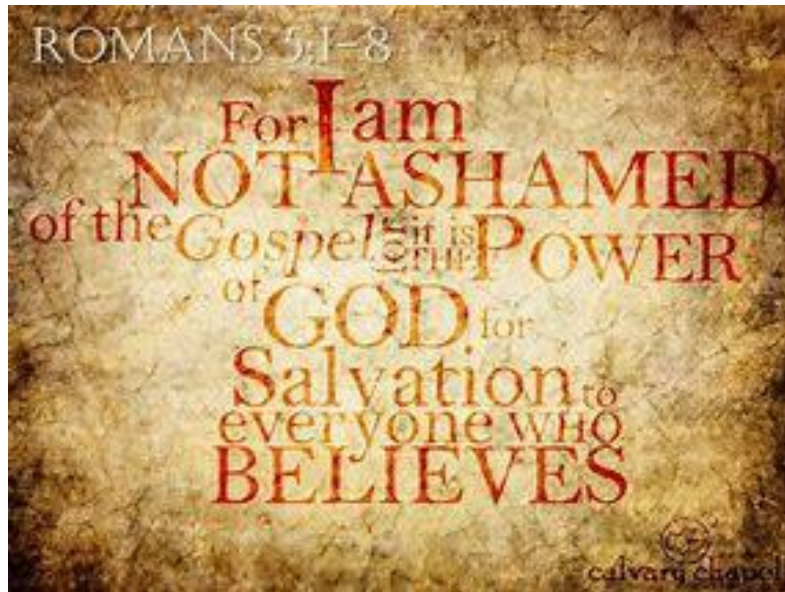


CHALMERS UNITED CHURCH



10:30 AM SUNDAY, APRIL 21, 2024

REV. DR. ORVILLE JAMES

"THE GOD I KNOW"

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

Larghetto - William Boyce

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: It is a beautiful day and it is easy to see the spirit of God in the flowers and trees and the land and the sky around us.
But we have come into God's house to think about other things: about sin and forgiveness, about love and acceptance, about death and eternal life.

All: And because we are here, the whole world outside should look even more enchanting when we return to it.

One: Therefore, let us rejoice in one another's presence, and in the presence of the Holy Spirit. Let us worship 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 songs 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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PRAYER OF APPROACH

We lift our hearts to you, O God, after the rest of the night.
We thank you for the beauty of the day and the opportunity of
coming to this place of worship. We pray for all who are here with
special needs today. May they experience your presence and feel
their burdens lightened. Help us to worship you in spirit and in
truth, through him who instructed us to pray, saying...

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name.
Thy Kingdom come,
thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.**

**Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil,
for thine is the Kingdom,
the power and the glory,
forever and ever. Amen.**

AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH FOR THE EASTER SEASON

I believe in God, whatever storms may rage about me. I believe in Christ, whatever the world may say about him; I believe his death atones for sin, and that he lives forevermore, present to all believers.

I believe in the Holy Spirit, however hard it is to understand such things; I believe the Spirit teaches, guides, and comforts me, and that it will lead me into the fullness of God.

I believe in the Church, whatever others may think about it; I believe it is still the fellowship of the faithful. I believe in the forgiveness of sins. I believe that God's forgiveness allows me to relax as myself, and that it helps me to be more generous about the sins of others.

I believe in the life everlasting, whatever science may think about it; I believe that knowing this casts everything in a different light.

I believe in saying what I believe, I believe that knowing what one believes is important in this age, and that it helps me to keep my thinking in order at all times. Amen.

Prof. John Killinger (retired),
Princeton Theological Seminary

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

Romans 5: 1-8

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN VU 168 *The Risen Christ*

- 1** The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
from garden tomb through darkened city street,
unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.
- 2** The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe.
new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.
- 3** The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand
the bread for those who fail to understand,
reveals himself, despite their lingering tears,
enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.

4 May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
with the oppressed in this and every land,
till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
restored in Christ to true humanity.

Words: Nigel Weaver 1993 Music: Walter Greatorex 1916
Words: 1993 Nigel Weaver Music: © Oxford University Press
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SERMON
The God I Know

Rev. Dr. Orville James

COMMITTING TO THE FUTURE

OFFERING ANNOUNCEMENT AND OFFERTORY DEDICATION

DOXOLOGY

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

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

HYMN VU 232 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You*

1 Joyful, joyful, we adore you,
God of glory, life and love;
hearts unfold like flowers before you,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the gloom of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

2 All your works with joy surround you,
earth and heaven reflect your rays,
stars and angels sing around you,
center of unbroken praise.
Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain,
sound their praise eternally.

3 You are giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
wellspring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Source of grace and fount of blessing,
let your light upon us shine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

4 Mortals, join the mighty chorus
which the morning stars began;
God's own love is reigning o'er us,
joining people hand in hand.
Ever singing, march we onward,
victors in the midst of strife;
joyful music leads us sunward
in the triumph song of life.

Words: Henry Van Dyke 1907, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges 1864, desc. Hal Hopson 1979 ©desc. 1979 GIA Pub.

COMMISSIONING AND BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

HYMN VU 179 *Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks*

Refrain:

Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Give thanks to the risen Christ;

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

Give praise to God's name.

2 Spread the good news o'er all the earth:
Jesus has died and is risen. **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

Praeludium in G major -J.S. Bach, BWV 557

Flowers in the Sanctuary are from
the McGrath family in Kingston,
Oakville, Ajax, Auckland, and
the Kerr's in Aberdeen and Edinburgh
in memory of

Joan (Nyonya) and her parents



THANK YOU FOR TALENTS SHARED

Minister **Rev. Dr. Orville James**

Born in Ottawa, Orville grew up in a family steeped in the faith, and church. His father was a minister, and 2 uncles were pastors. Orville was educated at Queen's and Princeton and was a 'student intern' at Chalmers under the tutelage of Rev. Dr. Stan Lucyk. Ordained in 1978, Orville has served United Churches in New Brunswick and S. Ontario, and a Methodist Church in Maine. He has also done 2 'exchanges' with the British Methodist Church, serving congregations in Wales and England.

He now considers himself a 'free-agent for Jesus', and is enjoying supporting the next generation of ministers (his daughter Heather Joy is a minister in Vancouver). He also delights in playing with six grandchildren spread from Vancouver to London, U.K.

He is hopefully eager that the church will continue to find ways to reach spiritually hungry Canadians; And... he remains confident that a Canadian team will win the Stanley Cup once more in his lifetime!

Co-Liturgist	Linda Steinberg
Organist	Juliet Milsome
Hymn Singers	Members of Chalmers Choir
Media Techs	Brigitta Holzschuh, Aidan McClung
Reader	Anja Troje
Refreshments	Anja Troje
Counter	David Yen
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/UCUgl1tZaiRji18sFwjzP2Q>

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