

St. Paul's United Church

(Kindersley, Saskatchewan)

March 31st, 2024

Worship Leader: The Rev. Piotr Strzelecki VDM Musician: Clayton Braybrook and Helen Barclay

The Leader will read the parts in regular type. Please join in the parts in **bold type.**

WE GATHER AS PEOPLE OF THE STORY For EASTER SUNDAY to reflect on RESURRECTION OF JESUS

WELCOME TO THIS COMMUNITY OF FAITH:

GREETING:

The grace of our Lord, Jesus Christ, the love of God and the presence of the Holy Spirit be with you all **And also with you**

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Christ is risen! What a glorious day! Christ is risen, indeed!
Our lives are forever changed!

New life is all around us.

Stop and experience the beauty.

Where once there was death, now there is life!

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Hallelujah!

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.41. Used with permission.

WE ARE NOT ALONE:

The lighting of the Christ Candle ((Matthew 18:20/John 8:12)

WE SING: "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" (VU# 155)

OPENING PRAYER:

We gather this holiest of days, Living God, to remember one moment in time that changed everything.

Thousands of years ago, your Spirit burst out of the grave and placed into our hands the promise of resurrection.

Through Jesus' resurrection, you gifted us with freedom, not just from death, but from sin, fear, uncertainty, and loneliness.

You moved and shattered the shadows of death.

Today we rejoice!

Even though we so often forget, today we remember.

We remember you are here among us.

We remember you are more than just a story.

We remember that, in you and because of you, we are not alone.

Move among us and lift our hearts as we praise your name this glorious Easter morning.

Amen.

Nora Vedress, Calvary U.C., Prince Albert, Sask. Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.43. Used with permission.

CHOIR ANTHEM:

WE LEARN TOGETHER

(time for our younger brothers and sisters)

WE SING: "Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!" (MV# 121)

-- the offering and prayers are brought forward --

DEDICATION OF OFFERING:

O God, we meet you in worship.

You bless our offerings of prayer and praise.

O God, we meet you in the needs of those suffering among us in our local faith community.

You bless our offerings of pastoral care.

O God, we meet you in the work of education and in providing resources for people across Canada and around the world through Mission and Service.

You bless our offerings for people whose names we will never know.

Our offerings are effective when our money is used carefully and faithfully.

You bless all our gifts, Loving God. Amen.

David Sparks, Summerland, B.C Gathering, L/E, 2024, p.43. Used with permission.

WE LISTEN TO OUR STORY

Mark 16:1-8, John 20:19 Luke 24:13-35, John 21:1-20 (Appearances of Jesus – excerpts)

This is the story of our faith.

Faith of our ancestors,
faith that sustains us.

SERMON:

WE SHARE A SIMPLE MEAL

These are the earliest known instructions on how to celebrate Lord's Supper, as contained in Didache 9-10

WE ASK: "Bread of Life, Feed my Soul" (MV# 194)

We share the Bread for the Journey, And the Cup of Arrival

POST-REFLECTION:

"We Meet You, O Christ" (VU# 183)

WE LEAVE INSPIRED, CHANGED, CHALLENGED OR PUZZLED BUT CONTINUING ON OUR STORY

PASTORAL BLESSING:

... and may the blessing of God, The Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit Be with you now and always Amen!

PASSING OF THE PEACE:

As you go from here, to share the Good News with all those you will encounter, as you go from here ... may the Peace of the Lord be with you all.

Also with you.

WE SING: "Joy Comes with the Dawn" (VU# 166)