St. Davids-Queenston United Church

May 4, 2025, 10:30am, Third Sunday of Easter Holy Humour Sunday

Land Acknowledgement

There were people here long before we came to live on this land as settlers and descendants of settlers. We acknowledge these many Nations of Indigenous people who first lived and currently live here. We give thanks to this land, the territory(s) of these Haudenosaunee and Anishinaabe peoples. We do this to acknowledge our responsibility to enhance and promote peace among all who now share this land, as well as good stewardship of it and its resource.

GATHERING AND MUSICAL PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS (SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS)

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN: VU# 232 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

(The Christ candle is lit.) Each new day reminds us of the light that dwells within us—the light God has placed deep within our hearts.

We light the Christ candle, remembering that we are made of light and love, remembering that we are called to bring joy and laugh to others and the world.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Welcome on this Holy Humour Sunday! Holy Humour Sunday was celebrated by the early Christians. It was their tradition to share laughter and song on the Sunday after Easter.

As we continue to celebrate the Season of Easter, let us also celebrate the time when God played a joke on death by raising Jesus from the cross!

Let us share the joy and laughter! Christ is risen. Hallelujah!

GATHERING PRAYER

On this Holy Humour Sunday, we come to giggle, laugh, and sing! Alleluia! God Creator! Alleluia! Christ the King! Let the Spirit of the laughter push away our doubts and sin! Dear God, we recall the Easter story; death has lost its fearful sting! Amen.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Sung) VU#960

ST. DAVIDS-QUEENSTON UNITED CHURCH MISSION STATEMENT:

Welcoming all to: Gather in God's Grace, Grow in Christian Faith and Go in Community Service.

SACRED MUSIC: "In Faith" (Choir)

<u>LEARN TOGETHER:</u> "I Love It"
(Youth and Children's time)

I Love It (X 4) Jesus Said, Let the Children Come to Me Do Not Stop Them I Love It (X 4) Jesus, Took the Children in His Arms Blessed Them!
I Love It (X 4) I Love you Jesus, I Love It (X 5)!!!

SCRIPTURE LESSON: VU #850 Psalm 126 (Refrain 1)

John 15: 9-12

This is the Word of God for the people of God Thanks be to God!

SERMON: "Holy Laughter: The Joy of the Lord is Our Strength"

* HYMN: VU# 213 "Rejoice, the Lord is King"

SHARING JOY AND LAUGHTER

(Responsive Hymn VU#575 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me)
"I am gonna laugh so God can use me anywhere Lord anytime"

PRAYER FOR JOY AND LAUGHTER:

*OFFERTORY HYMN: (to the tune of Edelweiss)

God of love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you. May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever. Give us the courage to stand for truth, help us care for others. God of love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you.

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*OFFERING PRAYER:

Take and bless these offerings, O God, that, through them, we may find connection with our aching world. In our joyful giving, may we find hope and healing for ourselves. In our offering, may we foster delight in others, which brings healing laughter. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN VU #45 "Joy is Now in Every Place"

*COMMISSIONING AND VESPER

May the Force be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Force.

Let us give thanks to God Most High.

It is right to give God our thanks and praise. So be it!

Keep on asking those questions so that you may discover God's world and God's word. Keep on joyfully renewing and transforming your faith, for, as long as we remember him, Jesus still remains among us. May the force be with you, Hallelujah! Amen.

Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of ev'ry day;
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true,
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see;
God will be there, watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love. Amen

* ORGAN POSTLUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Please join us for coffee and fellowship in the CE hall following the Worship service this morning.

The Flowers today are in loving memory of Mary Brown, beloved Mother of Cindy Milner and family.

Thank you to Sue Foss for being the greeter, to Melanie Kelch for being the Lay Reader, to Christina Travers for leading the Sunday School, to Lisa Brillon and the choir for their musical contribution, to the Ladies in the Kitchen for preparing coffee and goodies for the coffee hour and to Allen Zhang/Bill Utting/Steve Hardaker for livestreaming the Worship Service this morning.

Today is "Tooney Sunday." There is a collection box in the narthex and on the table outside the kitchen. All money collected will be going to support local mission outreach projects.

When anyone chooses to make a donation thorough (donate@stdavids-queenstonuc.ca) please be sure you indicate where you want the donation to go t,o Either Boiler/AC or Local. There is an area to make a note when you are making the e-transfer. If there is no choice made, it is assumed you want the donation to go "Local"

In support of our church, Sandi Salewytsch will be doing a Handmade Greeting Card Fundraiser in 2025 for special occasions cards. The occasions will include Mother's Day, Father's Day, Thanksgiving, and Christmas. This Sunday and next, Mother's Day cards will be available at a cost of \$4 each. There will be some for mom, daughters and daughter-in-law, and perhaps granddaughters too. Please see her after church.

Doug McArthur and the activities committee welcome all to the Beef-on-Bun/games night this Friday, May 9th at 6pm. Adults \$13 and children (12 & under) \$5 Please let Doug know if you are able to donate a pie.

We will be having a clothing drive for the Migrant workers. Suggestions: used men's clothes, baseball hats, jeans, socks, Hoodies, shirts and towels etc. Donations can be put on the stage for the yard sale.

In support of our new **Boiler Fundraising**, we want your scrap metal! Old pots, pans, utensils, old bikes. chairs, pipes, fittings etc...anything metal including aluminum and copper. We can recycle it and raise funds at the same time. We are coordinating this with our Spring Bazaar Saturday May 31st. You can bring your metal and drop it off at the marked spot behind the church building. We will take care of the recycling. Unfortunately, no appliances. Any questions please contact Rev. Doug Jones 289-668-1628. Thanks in advance for your support.

Our choir will be singing at the 100 th. Centennial Celebration Concert at Welland Central United Church tonight, May 4th at 4pm. Over 10 choirs in the Niagara Region will be participating and the concert will culminate in a massed choir presentation. All are welcome to attend.

Continuing prayers have been requested for Bob Kerr, Owen Calhoun, Jim Griffiths, Roy & Jennie Harwood, Michael Antoniuk, Sandi Sinclair, Neil Foss, Ginny Slingerland, Elizabeth Whan, and Anthony Logan Siconolfi.

Continuing prayers have also been requested for Josephine Weatherall, Lenore Cardif-Hinchliffe, Mary Kolbuc and family, Michael Fisher, Marcia Tyrell, Gary Hunt and family, Ray & Chris Smith, Sandra Dunn, Patti Pozebon, the Vandenburg family and Paula Chant.

St. Davids-Queenston United Church

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Rev. YongSeok Baek Email:sdqminister@gmail.com

Organist and Choir Director: Lisa Brillon

Sunday school Teachers: Sue Foss, Christina Travers, Amanda Xo, Nikole Amato, Enoch Cho

> Administrative Secretary: Darlene Romanowsky (sdqsecretary@bellnet.ca)

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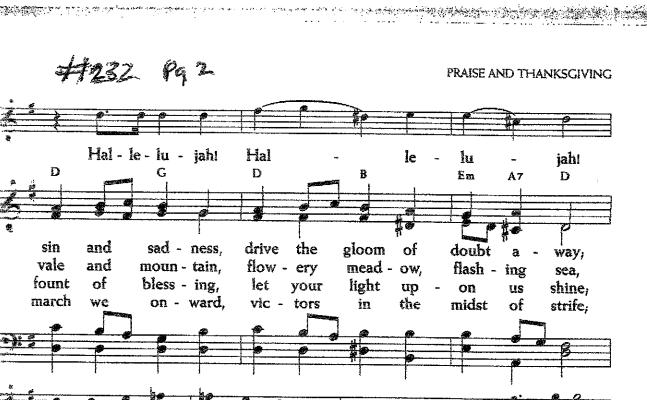
Joyful, Joyful We Adore You



Words: Henry van Dyke 1907, alt.

HYMN TO JOY

Music: Ludwig van Beetboven 1824, adapt. Edward Hodges 1864, desc. Hal Hopson 1979



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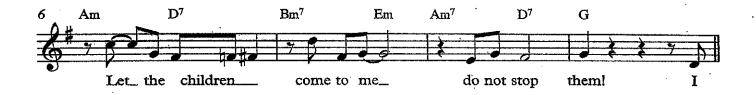
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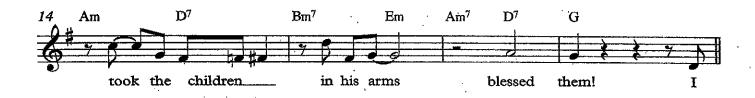
I Love It!

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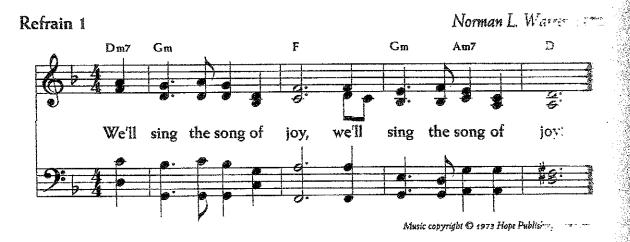


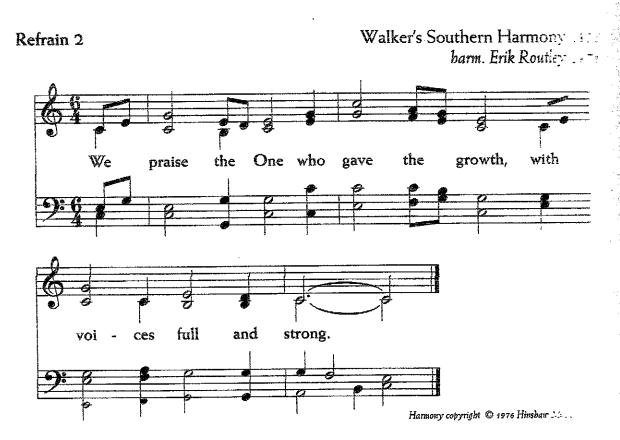






Psalm 126





When God brought Zion's captives home, it seemed to us like a dream.

But then our mouths were full of laughter, and our tongues uttered shouts of joy.

Then they said among the nations:

"God has done great things for them."

Truly God has done great things for us, and therefore we rejoice. R

Restore our fortunes, O God, as streams refresh the Negev.

Those who sow in tears shall reap with shouts of joy.

Those who go out weeping, carrying seed for sowing,

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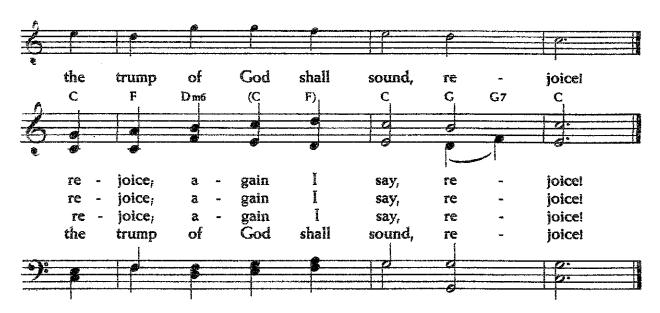
Rejoice, the Lord Is King



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REIGN OF CHRIST



OFFERTORY HYMN: (To the tune of Edelweiss)

God of Love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you. May our lives do your will, guide and guard us forever. Give us the courage to stand for truth, help us care for others. God of love, hear our prayer, bless this offering we bring you.



Words: Author unknown

Sanker Land

Music: German carol melody ca. 1500, arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams 1906

Arrangement by permission of Oxford University Press.

RESONET IN LAUDIBUS

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