



# Mountainside United Church

3520 Rue University Montreal, Qc, H3A 2A7

Sunday Worship, 10:30 am

Tel: (514) 486-1165 [www.mountainsideunited.ca](http://www.mountainsideunited.ca)

*EASTER II, Year A*

**April 12, 2026**

**Deep Spirituality, Bold Discipleship, Daring Justice**

## **Territorial Acknowledgement:**

McGill University is on land which has long served as a site of meeting and exchange amongst Indigenous peoples, including the Anishinabeg and Kanien'kehá:ka. We acknowledge and thank the diverse Indigenous peoples whose presence marks this territory on which peoples of the world now gather.

## **Prelude:**

Dou way, Robin / Veni mater gracie - Anonymous  
Voice: Leah Weitzner

## **Holy Greeting**

The grace of our Sovereign Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you!

**And also with you!**

## **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**

## **Opening Prayer:**

Holy One, we gather today with open hearts, may we acknowledge our affinity with the Apostle Thomas for we too have questions about the Easter stories.

**Help us to be honest in our questioning, earnest in our quest for a connected spirituality, and hopeful for a deeper encounter with you.**

As Jesus met Thomas in his searching, meet us in ours.  
Strengthen our faith where it feels fragile,  
and remind us that you never turn away those who seek you with sincerity.

**May we, like Thomas, move from doubt to declaration—  
from “I cannot believe” to “My Lord and my God.”**

Open our hearts, our minds, and our spirits,

so that we may perceive your presence in our lives  
and walk with renewed hope and a stronger witness to your way of love.

(silence)

God in your love, **Hear our prayer.**

**Amen**

## **Hymn: VU#178 *Because You Live, O Christ***

1. Because you live, O Christ,  
the garden of the world has come to flower,  
the darkness of the tomb  
is flooded with your resurrection power.

**The stone has rolled away  
and death cannot imprison.  
O sing this Easter Day,  
for Jesus Christ has risen,  
has risen, has risen, has risen!**

2. Because you live, O Christ,  
the spirit bird of hope is freed for flying,  
our cages of despair  
no longer keep us closed and life-denying. **R**

3. Because you live, O Christ,  
the rainbow of your peace will span creation,  
the colours of your love  
will draw all humankind to adoration. **R**

## **Epistle: 1 Peter 1; 3 – 9**

**Reader:** Rich Neufeld

Blessed be the God and Father of our Lord Jesus Christ! By his great mercy he has given us a new birth into a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus Christ from the dead, and into an inheritance that is imperishable, undefiled, and unfading, kept in heaven for you, who are being protected by the power of God through faith for a salvation ready to be revealed in the last time.

In this you rejoice, even if now for a little while you have had to suffer various trials, so that the genuineness of your faith—being more precious than gold that, though perishable, is tested by fire—may be found to result in praise and glory and honor when Jesus Christ is revealed. Although you have not seen him, you love him; and even though you do not see him now, you believe in him and

rejoice with an indescribable and glorious joy, for you are receiving the outcome of your faith, the salvation of your souls.

This is the witness of the Early Church.

**Thanks be to God!**

**Psalm: 16 VU# 738 with Refrain (R)**

**Reader:** Rich Neufeld

**Refrain:** Protect me, God: I trust in you.

Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.

I have said to God, "You are my God;  
from you alone comes all my prosperity."

**All my delight is in the faithful who dwell in the land,  
and in those who excel in virtue.**

But as for those who run after Other gods,  
their troubles shall be multiplied.

**Libations of blood I will not Offer to those gods,  
nor will I take their names upon my lips. R**

You, God, are my allotted portion and my cup;  
**you yourself have cast my lot.**

My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
**indeed I have a noble heritage.**

I will thank you, God, for giving me counsel;  
**at night also you teach my heart.**

I keep you always before me;  
**you are on my right hand,  
therefore I shall not fall. R**

So my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
for my shall also rest in safety.

**For you will not surrender me to the Grave,  
nor suffer your beloved to see the Abyss.**

You will show me the path of life.

**In your presence is fullness of joy;  
and from your right hand flow delights  
for evermore. R**

**@Gospel: John 20: 19 – 31**

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe."

A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church!

**Write these words on our hearts, dear God!**

**Hymn:** MV#139 *True Faith Needs No Defence*

1. True faith needs no defence,  
it echoes in the soul;  
a faithful life gives evidence  
of grace that makes us whole.
2. True faith, like music, soars  
beyond cathedral walls;  
on city streets and ocean shores,  
from age to age faith calls.
3. Expect your faith to grow;  
begin by being still,  
and in the quiet come to know  
God's living, breathing will.
4. To live the faith we find,  
is all that love can ask;  
to sing God's praise with heart and mind,  
and rise to meet the task.

**Sermon** What Will it Take?

Rev. Dr. Douglas Throop

**Music for Spiritual Centering:**

Canticorum Jubilo - Georg Frideric Handel  
Voices: Leah Weitzner, Colleen Bartley, Joseph Grenier & John Johnston

**Silent Prayer:**

**The Prayer of Jesus**

**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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Hymn:** VU#420 *Go to the World*

1. Go to the world! Go into all the earth.  
Go preach the cross where Christ renews life's worth,  
baptising as the sign of our rebirth.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
2. Go to the world! Go into every place.  
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.  
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
3. Go to the world! Go struggle, bless and pray;  
the nights of tears give way to joyous day.

As servant Church, you follow Christ's own way.  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

4. Go to the world! Go as the ones I send,  
for I am with you 'til the age shall end,  
when all the hosts of glory cry "Amen!"  
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

**Benediction:**

**Postlude:**

Songs Without Words, op. 62, no. 6 (Spring Song) - Felix Mendelssohn  
Piano: Alberto Santos

**Reference and Information**  
**for the week of April 12, 2026**

- ❖ April 12. TODAY we Worship in BHC and invite you for Lunch and the Celebration of April birthdays on Level 1 after the service.
- ❖ April 19. Worship Service in BHC. Following the Service we ask all to join on Level 1 for the Annual Congregational Meeting, initiating new staff, a light lunch, and a group discussion of our experience to lead us forward.
- ❖ You should have received your 2025 Annual Report by email this past week. Last chance to request a hard copy - please call the office at 514-486-1165

Please consider giving to the church. Your gift will help serve our local community and far beyond. For that, we are grateful. You may leave your offering in the plate at the back of the sanctuary. If you are at home, you can send a cheque, e-Transfer funds, or arrange for Pre-Authorized Remittance (PAR). See details on giving at [www.mountainsideunited.ca](http://www.mountainsideunited.ca).

**The service is livestreamed on Zoom on Sunday Mornings.**

**In the event of poor reception, the Service may be viewed later on our YouTube Channel:**

**Please visit our website for regular updates and more information!**[www.mountainsideunited.ca](http://www.mountainsideunited.ca)