

Order of Worship for April 11, 2021

Watch the livestream at 10:00 am here <https://www.youtube.com/channel/UC-aWw0Tc165vh6Epdr-XBxw>

## WE APPROACH OUR GRACIOUS GOD

PRELUDE

WELCOME

LIFE & WORK OF THE CONGREGATION

CALL TO WORSHIP

May the Peace of Christ be with you!

**And also with you!**

As we still stay physically separated to keep each other safe,

**God invites us to join together in this virtual space**

Connected by the Holy Spirit, and by technology, we continue to celebrate the reality of Resurrection

**Let us worship together as followers of the Risen Christ.**

WE GREET EACH OTHER WITH THE PEACE OF CHRIST

~ you are invited to use the chat box on YouTube to share words of Peace with each other

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

In this Season of new growth, new life, new hope,

**We light a candle to remind us of the Light which could not be put out, the light that shines from the Empty Tomb.**

Let us centre ourselves for worship....

OPENING PRAYER

God, we gather here together in spirit, though separated in space,

**in this time together speak to our hearts, bring us hope, energize our souls.**

Remind us of the power of Easter to bring life that conquers death.

**And push us to live as people of hope, help us live as those who have been transformed.**

We pray in the name of the Risen Christ as we share together words he once taught his closest friends.

LORD'S PRAYER

Gathering Hymn VU 625 I Feel the Winds of God Today (PD)

## WE SHARE AS GOD'S CHILDREN THE BIBLE'S STORY IN WORD AND IN SONG:

A TIME FOR THE YOUNG AT HEART

PRAYER FOR AND ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Death-defeating God, in the Resurrection you challenge us.

**You reveal a new world, you call us to move beyond what we once called normal**

To be honest, sometimes it is hard to be transformed.

**Like Peter we want to go back to what we once knew, to the familiar and the comfortable.**

Still you meet us where we are, with our grief and our guilt and our fear,

**so that we can live into the new reality, so that we can take the risk of being changed.**

God when we are hesitant to be transformed, when we want to remain where it is comfortable,

**give us strength, forgive our reluctance, push us to be Easter people, we pray**

...time of silent prayer...

In the Risen Christ we meet God's power to transform death into life, defeat into victory, despair into hope. Through Christ God brings us forgiveness and grace, new life and new hope. We ARE Easter people.  
**Hallelujah! Amen.**

#### SCRIPTURE LESSONS

John 21:1-19

#### A MOMENT OF REFLECTION

~ trusting that God is at work in our midst we allow the words we have heard to settle and stir in our souls

#### SERMON *New Normal?*

Hymn VU 563 Jesus, You Have Come to the Lakeshore (1L)

#### **WE EXPRESS OUR GRATITUDE TO GOD AND PREPARE FOR MINISTRY IN THE WORLD**

#### THE OFFERING

Mission Minute *Rainbow Camp Receives Governor General's Award*

(<https://united-church.ca/stories/rainbow-camp-receives-governor-generals-award>)

The Invitation:

Sharing of Celebrations and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Hymn MV 150 Spirit God, Be Our Breath (1L)

#### COMMISSIONING:

God calls us to live as Easter people!

**We go out to share the promise of new life.**

God calls us to be transformed by our encounter with the Risen Christ!

**We go out to live in a new world, changed by history and changed by faith.**

Go now to share God's love,

Go to share God's promise of life,

Go to share God's transforming word of hope.

And go knowing that God: Creating Parent, Risen Christ, and Empowering Spirit

**Is with us through all life's changes. Hallelujah!**

SUNG BENEDICTION: Let Our Earth Be Peaceful (1L)

#### POSTLUDE