

St James United Church

400 Burnhamthorpe Road, Etobicoke M9B 2A8 416-622-4113

www.stjamesunitedchurch.com

SUNDAY, APRIL 4, 2021

10:30 am

Easter Sunday

Welcome!

*We are glad you have joined us in worship.
May you feel the warmth of God's presence.*

Our Mission:

To live God's love through our actions: Seek, Serve, Challenge.

Reflection Questions: "How is your prayer life?"

"In what ways do you speak with God every day?"

WE GATHER AND APPROACH GOD

***Bold** indicates words said by All

PRELUDE

Thine Be the Glory (arr. Joan J. Pinkston)
J.-C. Coolen, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Mhairi Godley

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

Behold! Jesus declares, "I am the living One;
I was dead, and now I am alive for evermore!"

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

See the Light which darkness cannot overtake?

CALL TO WORSHIP

The stone has been rolled back.

The wrappings unbound, lay askew.

The head cloth discarded, no longer hiding Jesus' face.

Look, look again. The body is missing.

Oh Mary, why do you weep?

For whom are we looking?

Is not the One for whom we search, here?

No! He is not here.

He is risen.

Let us then proclaim, as we remember:

We know the risen Christ!

Christ knows us!

Christ is risen! We know this!

Hallelujah, hallelujah!

OPENING HYMN*Jesus Christ Is Risen Today***VU 155**

Cantor: Nicholas Gryniewski, Baritone Choral Lead/Soloist Scholar

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!
- 3 But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!

now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!
 where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!

- 4 Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
 praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!
 praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!
 praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

Words: Lyra Davidica, et al. Public Domain.

OPENING PRAYER

Incarnate God, so often we search for you and fail to see,
 hear, and feel that you are forever with us.

**Help us on this morning, of all mornings,
 to welcome you into our hearts.**

As you welcome us, bidding us to be not alarmed;
 help us to be with you this Easter season, unafraid.

**We pray for an Easter that restores us
 and reinvigorates us into a renewed life with you.**

At this moment of hope and joy, at this present time,
 regardless of our individual conditions and circumstances,

**expose the tombs that we have created
 and show us again, O Loving God,
 the boundless opportunities found in spaces
 that are open, that are full of holy wonder. Amen.**

MUSICAL OFFERING *Easter from Five Mystical Songs* (Ralph Vaughan Williams)
 Nicholas Gryniewski, baritone
 J.-C. Coolen, piano

A TIME OF WONDER

LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD

THE GOSPEL

Mark 16.1-8

CHORAL ANTHEM*Christ Has Arisen, Alleluia* (arr. Hal H. Hopson)

Junior & Youth and Senior Choirs

Wendy Simone, Junior & Youth Choir Director

J.-C. Coolen, Senior Choir director/piano/audio editor

Gord Burrell, additional audio recording

Rod Lord, additional video recording

SERMON*How Terrifyingly Awesome!*

Rev. Maya Douglas

RESPONDING TO GOD**SERMON HYMN***Christ Is Alive***VU 158**

Cantor: Nicholas Gryniewski, Baritone Choral Lead/Soloist Scholar

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

- 1 Christ is alive! Let Christians sing.
The cross stands empty to the sky.
Let streets and homes with praises ring.
Love, drowned in death, shall never die.
- 2 Christ is alive! No longer bound
to distant years in Palestine,
but saving, healing, here and now,
and touching every place and time.
- 3 In every insult, rift, and war,
where colour, scorn, or wealth divide,
Christ suffers still, yet loves the more,
and lives, where even hope has died.
- 4 Women and men, in age and youth,
can feel the Spirit, hear the call,
and find the way, the life, the truth,
revealed in Jesus, freed for all.

- 5 Christ is alive, and comes to bring
good news to this and every age,
till earth and sky and ocean ring
with joy, with justice, love and praise.

Words: Brian Wren, alt. © 1975 Hope Publishing Company. Reproduced under One License #A-622413.

OFFERTORY PRAYER

AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

A New Creed (1968; rev.1980, 1995)

The United Church of Canada

**We are not alone,
we live in God's world.**

**We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others by the Spirit.**

We trust in God.

**We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.**

**In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.**

We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

PASTORAL PRAYER & THE LORD'S PRAYER

CLOSING HYMN *Hallelujah Chorus from Messiah* (George F. Handel)

Cantors: Members of the Senior Choir

Piano/Audio Editor: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Additional Audio Recording: Gord Burrell

Hallelujah!

For the Lord God omnipotent reigneth.

The kingdom of this world is become

The kingdom of our Lord and of his Christ.

And he shall reign for ever and ever.

King of Kings and Lord of Lords.

Hallelujah!

Words: Scripture. Public Domain.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH**CONGREGATIONAL BLESSING***Halle, Halle, Halle***VU 958**

Cantor: Nicholas Gryniewski, Baritone Choral Lead/Soloist Scholar (sung twice)

Piano: J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!**Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!****Hal-le, hal-le, hal-le-lu-jah!****Hal-le-lu-jah! Hal-le-lu-jah!**

Words: Caribbean traditional. Public Domain.

POSTLUDE*Lift High the Cross* (arr. Larry Shackley)

J.-C. Coolen, piano

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Giving leadership in today's service:

J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister

Rev. Maya Douglas, Minister of Pastoral Care, Word & Sacrament

Renee Fajardo, Alto Choral Lead/Soloist

Mhairi Godley, Presider

Nicholas Gryniewski, Baritone Choral Lead/Soloist Scholar

Wendy Simone, Junior & Youth Choir Director

St. James Junior & Youth Choir

St. James Senior Choir

Jamie Tuttle, Supply Tenor Choral Lead/Soloist (Hallelujah Chorus)

Anna Wojcik, Soprano Choral Lead/Soloist

We are also thankful for those serving as tech support:

Gord Burrell, Don Munday, Karen Munday, Andrew Paley.

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NEXT WEEK: Easter 2 Sunday, April 11

Scripture Readings: Psalm 133; John 20.19-31; Acts 4.32-35; 1 John 1.1-2.2.

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ANNOUNCEMENTS

We will be receiving our Lenten and Easter Outreach Offering on Palm Sunday and throughout the month of April. Our offering gifts will be used to support United Church Camps. The following YouTube video, Heaven among Stars, Trees and Lakes, describes some of camping' gifts. Please give generously. Thank you.

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=J64MyxwkeE8>

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PLEASE NOTE: Our Church Office will be **CLOSED** on Easter Monday, April 5.

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Worship Service Coffee Hour: To join Rev. Maya after worship at 12:30 p.m. on Sundays over Zoom in lieu of "meet and greet", please use one of the following options.

Using the link below:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81414121724?pwd=S1lJakFPSnM5UEx1UWVUNHI5MktSUT09Using>

Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724

Passcode: 555637

OR

If you wish to phone in, please use the following information. Dial by your location:

+1 647 558 0588 Canada +1 647 374 4685 Canada
 Meeting ID: 814 1412 1724 Passcode: 555637

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Our Bible Study group meets Mondays via ZOOM at 1p.m. We will read through the four lectionary readings for the week and discuss each one as well as how they may impact our lives and the world. Newcomers are always welcome!

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87231297360?pwd=NzVubjZnbjZsUEdmRG84MzFPaTZlQT09>

Meeting ID: 872 3129 7360
 Passcode: 983213

Dial by your location:

+1 647 374 4685 Canada +1 647 558 0588 Canada

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We've posted a new episode in our series of YouTube videos to help introduce new congregational song, introducing VU 888 Earth and All Stars. You may view it at <https://youtu.be/kEoLEVy-OUI>. You can also view the full list of videos on the church website, here:

<http://www.stjamesunitedchurch.com/music/introducing-new-congregational-song/>

Please feel free to enjoy and review these introductory videos as much as you desire, and do feel free to sing along! If you'd like to receive automatic notifications whenever we release a new video, go to the red Subscribe button directly to the right of the YouTube video window, then click on the Notifications bell.

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The new church Telephone Directory is now ready! Addresses, phone numbers and emails have been updated. A copy can be picked up in the church office (\$3) or mailed to you (\$5). Price is to cover printing costs and postage. Please let Matty know if you need one mailed to you. Not to be used for any commercial purpose!

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Sunday School every Sunday at 1:30 p.m. over Zoom. If you have a child/grandchild from JK to Grade 9 who would like to participate please contact Karen at karen_forgrave@hotmail.com so that she can be sure that you are included in the mailing list, and she can send you the Zoom Link.

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The SJUC Junior & Youth Choir and Vocal Academy is going strong and continues to welcome any enthusiastic young people aged 5-17 looking for a musical outlet. Rehearsals and private lessons are held on alternating Thursday evenings over Zoom. Please contact choir director Wendy Simone at wcsimone@gmail.com for more information and to register. We'd love to have you!

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Senior Choir rehearsals are virtually over Zoom on alternate Thursday evenings at 8 p.m. To participate in the Senior Choir, and for Zoom rehearsal meeting information, please contact J.-C. Coolen, Music Minister, at (905) 683-5757 or jccoolen@sympatico.ca.

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UPCOMING MEETINGS AND EVENTS:

Camping Sunday – Sunday, April 25, 2021, from 2 pm to 3 pm

Zoom Link: <https://united-church.zoom.us/j/92292081317>

Join Us! April 25th, 2021 is Camping Sunday in the United Church of Canada, and we are inviting you to join the Shining Waters Regional Council camps and Jeffrey Dale, Minister for Faith Formation, Youth and Young Adults for an afternoon of camping fun, connection, and community building.

As many of you are aware, last summer was a difficult time for the camping ministry in Shining Waters. With the uncertainty this year continuing, we thought we'd take some time to celebrate camping ministry and how it has been an integral part of this region's youth and children's ministry.

Come and hear about the various camping ministries in Shining Waters Regional Council and how they continue to connect with the children and youth throughout the region!

There will be games and prizes (and we invite you to bring your own snacks)! This will be an intergenerational time for people of all ages.

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FUTURE SERVICES:

April 11, 2021 is Easter 2 Sunday. The Rev. Tom Watson will be our guest minister.

April 18, 2021 is Easter 3 Sunday.

April 25, 2021 is Easter 4 Sunday.

May 2, 2021 is Easter 5 & Anniversary Sunday. We are celebrating our 69th Anniversary!
Our guest preacher TBA.