

Christ Church Gabriola

A Collaborative Anglican – United Church
Open to All

We gather on the ancestral lands the Snuneymuxw people.



Easter Sunday April 21, 2019

Rev. Karen Hollis

Musician Hiromi Bradshaw

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* Please stand if you are able

VU is Voices United Hymn Book

Bold print in bulletin – congregation

MV is More Voices Hymn Book

We Gather to Celebrate God's Presence

All Are Welcome To Worship Together

We welcome you, whoever and wherever you are, to join us on a journey. We strive to accept each other as we are and welcome the ministry and participation of all persons regardless of age, gender identity, health, race, sexual orientation, differing abilities, religious or ethnic background or economic circumstance. We hope that in all that we do, in our worship and community life, that the Creator's unconditional love is experienced. We do this trusting The Creator is with us on the journey.

Prelude

Welcome

Centering Stillness Let us prepare ourselves for worship

***Call to Worship:**

(Acts 10: 34-43)

One: Jesus walked the earth with God's message of peace, blessing all creation:

All: Abundant life for all!

One: Jesus preached God's love - justice for the poor, full sharing of earth's bounty;

All: He rattled the authorities with hope and healing; forgiveness and welcome!

One: Worldly powers tried to stop him: led him to a tree and crucified him; laid him in the earth: a garden tomb.

All: Three days in the earth, and then, like the seed which dies to live, so Jesus arose to new life!

One: And so let us celebrate the risen Christ, alive in our midst even today.

All: May we be hands and feet, hearts and minds of that risen Christ, proclaiming the good news of abundant life for all.

***Collect:**

UCC Worship Ways

This is the day you have made, O Holy One, and we rejoice! Come. Let the world know you dwell with us. Stir our souls with love and hope, and let our feet dance for joy on your good earth. Open our eyes to the hopes and needs of this planet, and all who share its life. Embolden our hearts to works of justice in your name. Be present to us. Empower us with your resurrection life. Let the world know, through our lives, that:

One: Christ is Risen!

All: Christ is Risen indeed!

One: Death could not hold him!

**All: God has made all things new;
let us sing hallelujahs to our maker!**

***Hymn:** *Christ the Lord is Risen Today* **VU #157**

Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks **VU #179**

Please bring your flowers forward to put on the cross.

Call to Confession: Let us bring our whole selves before our God who transforms death into life.

Prayer of Confession:

Bruce Prewer, edited

One: Almighty God, Maker of all things,

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Jesus Christ, Redeemer of the world,

All: Have mercy on us.

One: Holy Spirit, Giver of life,

All: Have mercy on us . . .

One: That Christ may shine into those dark, dank cellars of the mind, where we entertain negative thoughts and mull over ideas for revenge against those who have hurt us.

Saviour Christ, come and heal us.

All: Resurrected Christ, come and transform us

One: That Christ may shine in the dark depths of the soul, where we bear the burden of sad regrets and the guilt of failed faith and love.

Saviour Christ, come and heal us.

All: Resurrected Christ, come and transform us.

One: That the radiance of Christ may drive out the darkness of sin and ignorance, release us from servitude of guilt, and renew the fullness of our being for a life of fruitfulness and joy.

Saviour Christ, come and heal us.

All: Resurrected Christ, come and transform us.

Silent Confession

Words of Assurance: God finds us even in the darkest places we know and helps us find the light. God always meets you where you are, bringing the light of the resurrection and transformation to your life. Alleluia!

***Passing of the Peace:** God's love is risen today! God's love is risen among us and Christ's peace, the indestructible peace he leaves with us is here to be celebrated and to be shared with each other.

One: The Peace of Christ be with you all!

All: And also with you!

Please share the peace of Christ with those around you.

We Listen to the Word

Choir Anthem:

Hallelujah
(Easter Version)

Cohen & Rickley

Reader: By the gift of your Spirit, calm and quiet our souls that we may hear your Easter Word today and be lifted up to walk with you. In Christ's name we pray. Amen

First Reading:

Acts 10:34-43

Psalm:

Pslam 118: 1-2, 14-24
(parts 1, 2, 3)

VU p.837

Second Reading:

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

One: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

All: Thanks be to God.

Gospel Reading: (stand or sit as is your custom)

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you

One: The Good News of Jesus Christ according to John.

All: Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.

John 20: 1-18

One: This is the Gospel of Christ.

All: Praise be to Jesus Christ

We Engage the Story

Reflection:

In the Stillness

Silent Reflection

***Hymn:**

We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection **VU #586**

Affirmation of Faith: A New Creed

VU p.918

We Respond to God's Love

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer sung

VU #959

Invitation for Offering: As a response to the gift of new life, let us offer our gifts so that the new life we have come to know may be widely shared.

***Doxology:**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

CP #672

Praise God, all creatures high and low.

Praise God in Jesus fully known:

Creator, Word, and Spirit one.

***Offering Prayer: Ever-living God, on this day of great joy, we offer our gifts. Pour your blessing on them and on us, that they and we may be signs and symbols of new life to a world hungering for resurrection. Amen**

We Celebrate Communion

Invitation to Communion:

Iona Abbey Worship Book

The table of bread and wine is now to be made ready. It is the table of company with Jesus; it is the table of sharing with the poor of the world, with whom Jesus identified himself; it is the table of communion with the earth, in which Christ became incarnate. So come to this table, you who have much faith and you who would like to have more; you who have been here often and you who haven't been for a long time; you who have tried to follow Jesus, and you who have stopped trying. Come. It is Christ who invites us to meet him here.

Invitation to Thanksgiving:

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up you hearts.

All: We lift them to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Prayer of Great Thanksgiving:

New Zealand Prayer Book

It is the joy of our salvation, God of the universe, to give you thanks through Jesus Christ.

You said, 'Let there be light'; there was light.

Your light shines on in our darkness.

For you the earth has brought forth life in all its forms.
You have created us to hear your Word, to do your will and
to be fulfilled in your love. It is right to thank you.

**You sent your Son to be for us the way we need to follow
and the truth we need to know. He became human
and dwelled with us, opening our minds and hearts to your love.**

You send your Holy Spirit to strengthen, to guide, and to revive your
Church. Therefore, with all your witnesses who surround us on every
side, countless as heaven's stars, we praise you for our creation and
our calling, with loving and with joyful hearts:

Sanctus:

VU p.932

**Holy, holy, holy are you, God of power and might;
heaven and earth are filled with your glory. Hosanna in the highest!
Blessed is the One who comes in your name.
Hosanna in the highest, hosanna in the highest!**

Holy God, holy and merciful, holy and just,
glory and goodness come from you.

**Glory to you most high and gracious God.
Blessed are you, most holy, in your Son,
who washed his disciples' feet.
'I am among you,' he said, 'as one who serves.'**

On that night before he died he took bread and gave you thanks.
He broke it, gave it to his disciples, and said:

**Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you;
do this to remember me.**

After supper, he took the cup, and gave you thanks.
He gave it to them and said:

**Drink this. It is my blood of the new covenant, shed for you,
shed for all, to forgive sin; do this to remember me.**

Therefore, with this bread and wine we recall your goodness to us.

**God of the past and present,
we your people remember your Son.
We thank you for his cross and rising again,
we take courage from his ascension;
we look for his coming in glory
and in him we give ourselves to you.**

Send your Holy Spirit, that we who receive Christ's body may
indeed be the body of Christ, and we who share his cup draw
strength from the one true vine.

**Called to follow Christ, help us to reconcile and unite.
Called to suffer, give us hope in our calling.**

For you, the heavenly one, make all things new;
you are the beginning and the end, the last and the first.
Praise, glory and love be yours, this and every day,
from us and all people, here and everywhere.

Amen.

Breaking the Bread:

One: Christ, we died with you

All: Now we are raised to new life

One: We were buried in your tomb.

All: Now we share in your resurrection

One: Live in us, that we may live in you.

The gifts of God for the people of God!

All: Thanks be to God!

Communion Hymn: *We Gather Here* VU #469

Prayer after Communion: God of life, bring us to the glory of the resurrection promised in this Easter sacrament. We ask this in the name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen

We Go Into the World

***Hymn: *Thine Is the Glory* VU #173**

***Glory to God whose power, working in us, can do infinitely more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation, in the Church and in Christ Jesus, for ever and ever. Amen.**

***Commissioning: Let us go into the world with boldness to share Christ's risen love!**

***Blessing: The Mystery of God go with you; may the Risen Christ bless your steps; and may the Holy Spirit sustain you on your way. Go now, carrying God's blessing. Amen.**

Musical Postlude

*Please remain seated to reflect on the worship service or leave quietly
This service is over and our service begins*



About the Music

This morning we will sing the Easter version of Leonard Cohen's widely loved song, Hallelujah. With Cohen's permission, James F. Rickley wrote an Easter version of the song with words from the Christian tradition.



Mission Statement

We follow Jesus Christ
Worshipping and Serving with Love and Joy
We open our minds, hearts, and doors to the world.

October 2016