



Britannia United Church

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Easter Sunday

April 16, 2017

10:15 a.m.

Meditation: Do not abandon yourselves to despair. We are the Easter people, and hallelujah is our song. - Pope John Paul II

Welcome: to Britannia United Church. Our **nursery** is always available to children three years of age and younger. It is at the end of the hall by the office. **Headsets** are available for those who need assisted hearing. Please speak to our sound technician. Please join in the reading if it is **bold** and *italic*. Coffee and Tea are available at the back of the church, after the service.

We Gather in God's Name

Introit: Christ is Risen from the Dead (167)

Christ is risen from the dead, glory, hallelujah! (repeat)

Jesus Christ is risen, glory, hallelujah! (repeat)

Announcements

Prelude

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

In this moment -

where mystic and modern meet;

In this moment –

Of empty tombs

and heavenly messengers;

in this moment –

of life, of death,

of resurrection;

we come.

We come to wonder,

we come to hope,

we come to be.

But, most of all –

we come to worship God!

(Lighting of the candle.)

Alleluia!

Alleluia!

Sung Response: (179 verses 1 and 4)

Hallelujah, hallelujah. Give thanks to the risen Christ;

Hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.

**Jesus is Lord of all the earth,
firstborn of all creation.**

(refrain)

**come let us praise the living God,
joyfully sing to our Saviour.**

(refrain)

Scripture Reading: Matthew 28:1-10 (NT, pg 33, Minni Ang)

* **Hymn:** Jesus Christ is Risen Today (155)

* **Call to Worship:**

The stone is rolled away.

Christ is Risen!

The shroud is removed.

Christ is Risen!

The tomb is empty.

Christ is Risen!

Tell the good news.

Christ is Risen!

Christ is Risen Indeed!

Anthem: Redeemer

Theme Presentation

Minute for Mission Wendy Gallant

We Hear God's Word

Scripture Reading: Colossians 3:1-4 (NT, pg 201, Dori Jensen)

Message: Resurrecting Faith

Prayer of Confession:

Almighty God,
*we confess that we hear the Good News
but do not always receive it.
We say we believe it
but struggle to live it out.*

*We look for signs of eternal life around us
but fail to trust in the new life given to us now.
Forgive us for our short-sightedness
and narrow way of understanding.
Open our hearts and minds to receive
the Good News of Jesus Christ in our daily lives,
that we might live eternally.
In the name of our Savior we pray. Amen.*

Assurance of Pardon:

Christ is Risen! There is new life everywhere.
There is Good News everywhere.
There is nothing lost that cannot be found,
no dark place where light cannot shine,
no awful past that cannot lead to a bright future.
You are God's beloved;
you are a child of the resurrection.
Live into the hope and promise of Christ,
knowing you are forgiven and loved. **Amen.**

Anthem: Halle, Halle, Halle

We Respond to God

Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

Offertory

* **Doxology:** (179, refrain)
**Hallelujah, hallelujah. Give thanks to the risen Christ;
Hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.**

* **Offertory Prayer:**

What can we offer to the One
who has given everything to us?

What can we say to the One
who has given us life itself?

***We can offer our lives as praise,
we can say Hallelujah with our love!***

So, let us praise the Lord! ***Amen***

* **Hymn:** Christ is Alive (158)

* **Commissioning and Benediction:**

Loving Saviour, lead us into life.

Lead us when we have doubts and struggles;

lead us when we are at peace

and feel Your presence around us.

Lead us away from the temptations of the world

to live for ourselves;

lead us to live out Your commandment

to love our neighbours as ourselves.

Lead us on, Saviour Shepherd;

out of the shadows of death

into Your eternal light.

Amen and Amen.

And now,

may the grace of God,

the love of Christ,

and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit,

be with us all.

Amen

* **Sung Response:** Hallelujah (Zimbabwe)

Postlude