



## **Britannia United Church**

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**Meditation:** "God has a sense of humour. God has the last laugh and the last word. That word is Resurrection in Jesus Christ! He is Risen! The joke is on human reason and rigidity. Rejoice!"

**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:** : (412 verse 1)

This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made,  
that our God has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that our God has made,  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made.

### **Announcements**

#### **Prelude**

**Call to Worship:** Isaiah 12:2-6

Surely, God is my salvation; I will trust, and will not be afraid,  
for the LORD GOD is my strength and my might,  
and has become my salvation.

***With joy you will draw water from the wells of salvation.***

***And you will say in that day:***

***Give thanks to the LORD, call on God's name;***

***make known God's deeds among the nations;  
proclaim that God's name is exalted.***

Sing praises to the LORD, for God is glorious;  
let this be known in all the earth.

***Shout aloud and sing for joy, O royal Zion,  
for great in your midst is the Holy One of Israel.***

**Sung Response:** Rejoice in the Lord Always (249)  
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!  
Rejoice in the Lord always and again I say rejoice!  
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice!  
Rejoice, rejoice, and again I say rejoice!

**Confession and Creed for Holy Humour Sunday**

We believe in God, who made us in God's image.

***We live, we love, we laugh, because we are like God.***

We believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God,  
our Lord and Saviour.

***He had the last laugh when He rose from the dead.***

We believe in the feminine Holy Spirit,  
coequal and coeternal with God and Jesus.

***Our counselor, our guide, our motivator - She is our joy!***

Forgive us, Lord, when we take ourselves too seriously,  
when we don't claim the happiness  
that is rightfully ours as your children,  
when we forget that you will have the last laugh in this world.

***Restore to us the joy of our salvation,  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.***

\* **Hymn:**

I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
Down in my heart (***Where?***)  
Down in my heart (***Where?***)  
Down in my heart  
I've got the joy, joy, joy, joy  
Down in my heart (***Where?***)  
Down in my heart to stay.  
***And I'm so happy***

***So very happy  
I have the love of Jesus in my heart!  
And I'm so happy  
So very happy  
I have the love of Jesus in my heart!***

**Opening Prayer:**

***God, you know that we do not always feel happy.***

***Sometimes we feel sad.***

***Sometimes we are worried.***

***Sometimes we feel lonely.***

***Touch us with your strong and joyful Spirit, we pray,  
so that laughter, warmth, and delight  
may fill our hearts and souls.***

***Help your joy run deeper than all our sorrow  
as we know your gifts of new life today and always.***

***In the name of Jesus, joy to the world. Amen.***

**Music Offering:** Give to Us Laughter

**We Hear God's Word**

**Minute for Mission** Susan Aiken

**Theme Presentation**

**Responsive Psalm:** Psalm 100 (824 with refrain 2)

**Scripture Reading:** Philippians 4:4-7  
(NT, pg 198, Brenda Plamondon)

**Message:** Jesus is the Life of the Party

\* **Hymn:** Joyful, Joyful (232)

## We Respond to God

### Prayers of Joy and Concern and The Lord's Prayer

#### Offertory

\* **Doxology**: (412 verse 3)

*You are our God, you are our God,  
we will praise your name, we will praise your name;  
we will give thanks, we will give thanks  
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.  
You are our God, we will praise your name,  
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.  
You are our God, you are our God,  
we will praise your name!*

\* **Offertory Prayer**:

You, O God, have given generously.  
*May we give thanks joyfully.  
And may our words and actions  
be offerings of praise to you. Amen*

**Commissioning and Benediction**:

*"Lord, grant me a joyful heart  
and a holy sense of humour.  
Please give me the gift of faith,  
to be renewed and shared with others each day.  
Teach me to live this moment only,  
looking neither to the past with regret,  
nor to the future with apprehension.  
Let love be my guide, and my life a prayer."*

"Go in laughter; go in grace. Keep the Lord in your heart and a smile on your face."

\* **Sung Response**: You Shall Go Out With Joy (884)

#### Postlude