

**March 31<sup>st</sup> 2024**

**Easter Sunday**

Congregational responses are in bold.

(\* ) Indicates Standing.

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**We Come Together**

**Prelude...** (*this is an opportunity for us to appreciate the gift of music and prepare our hearts for worship*)

**Introit (Please remain seated)** "And The Crowd Cried Out"

**\*Hymn:** "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today" **VU#155**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**

**Welcome/Land Acknowledgement**

**Announcements**

**Call to Worship:**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

One: The shadows have gone and a new day had dawned!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Our sorrow has turned to joy!

**All: Alleluia!**

One: Christ has risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Opening Prayer:** (*unison*)

**Holy One, as You came to those first few disciples offering them Easter assurance, come to us now. Offer us love as Peter was offered, enfold us in joy as Mary was enfolded, and hold us in hope as Thomas was held. Come to us now, through this worship and in this time, that we too will know the light and love of Your grace, so powerful not even the tomb can contain it. Hallelujah, Christ is alive and with us. Amen!**

**\*Hymn:** "Joy Comes with the Dawn" **VU#166**

**Personal Prayer:** "Come and Fill Our Hearts" x2 **MV#16**  
**(Concluding with The Lord's Prayer)**

**Children's Learning Time**

**Children's Prayer:**

**Hallelujah! Thank you, God, for all your signs of Spring. For the new life Jesus shares with us, for the joy your Spirit brings. Help us to notice the signs of new life, signs both big and small, that we too might be signs of that life, sharing your love with all. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** "Jesus Laughed Out Loud" **MV#133**

**We Listen to the Word**

**Prayer for Illumination: Reader: Rev. Dr. Beverly Daley**

**Scripture Lesson:**

**Gospel: Luke 24: 1-12**

**Response:**

**One:** This is God's Light, alive in our lives.

**All:** **Let it shine through our living. Amen.**

**Sermon** "Tap on the Shoulder

**Anthem** "Easter is Here"

**Prayers of the People**

**\*Hymn:** "Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing" **VU#169**

**We Respond to the Word**

**Invitation to the Offering**

**\*Sung Dedication:**

"Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow" **VU# 541**

**Offertory Prayer: (unison)**

**Risen Christ, You startled as You came into this world. You startled as Your love touched our hearts. You startled us as Your Spirit moved in our lives. In the offering of our hearts this day, we pray that You would startle us once more as these gifts are transformed into light and love for this community and beyond. May they become Your living presence through us and with us. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.**

**\*Hymn:** "Go to the World" **VU#420**

**\*Blessing (Unison):**

One: Beyond darkness is life.

**All: We will live it.**

One: Beyond the shadows of hatred and isolation is the light that draws us into community.

**All: We will follow it.**

One: Beyond a stone covered tomb is a dance called resurrection.

**All: We will move with it.**

One: Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**\*The Light of Jesus— Ever Present, Ever Bright**

**\*Choral Benediction** "Awake! Arise! Go Forth!"

**Postlude**

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**This Week's Volunteers**

**Ushers: Mar 31** Valerie B. & John B. **Apr 7** Sandra & Gil

**Apr 14** Kim & Kevin

**Screens: Mar 31** Tracy **Apr 7** Kevin **Apr 14** Erik

**Calendar: April 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>**

<b>Monday</b>	Office closed for Easter Monday		
<b>Tuesday</b>	10:00am	<b>Craft Club</b>	<b>Kitchen</b>
<b>Wednesday</b>	9:30am	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
	12:30pm	<b>Writer's Circle</b>	<b>Boardroom</b>
	7:00pm	<b>Choir</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>
<b>Friday</b>	9:30am	<b>Tai Chi</b>	<b>Church Hall</b>

**Announcements:**

**Mount Royal Indoor Yard Sale** is April 12 from 5:30pm – 8pm and April 13 from 8am – 11am. Donations will be gladly received April 8-11<sup>th</sup> during office hours.

**Parking reminder:** please remember to park either in our parking lot or on the church side (south side) of Bessborough. There is NO PARKING permitted on the north side of Bessborough.

**Emergency Pastoral Care:** Rev. Steve Berube will be covering Rev. Scott's study leave from April 1<sup>st</sup> – 7<sup>th</sup>. His number is 506-381-7869.