

WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

Sunday, March 31, 2024

EASTER SUNDAY

Cori Angus

GATHERING

HE IS ALIVE! HALLELUJIA!

Let us clear away the black and make our sanctuary bright and beautiful with white drapes and flowers! *Anyone who is able and wishes to help please come forward.*

SCRIPTURE: Mark 16: 1 – 8

HYMN: Jesus Christ is Risen Today VU #155

LIGHT THE CHRIST CANDLE

SCRIPTURE: JOHN 8: 12

HYMN: The Strife is O'er VU #159

CALL TO WORSHIP:

One: Very early in the morning, God created all that is good and beautiful

All: **Very early in the morning, a mother placed her newborn in a manger**

One: Very early in the morning, the good news that Jesus was living in their midst was shared with frightened friends from the mouth of angels saying:

All: **"Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, He is risen"**

One: So at the beginning of this morning, the first morning of the rest of our days, let us stop looking for the living among the dead. Let us open our hearts to God in prayer, and may God grant us the grace of a new beginning this morning.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN: Morning Has Broken VU #409

SCRIPTURES:

1st SCRIPTURE: Psalm 118 (Parts, 1,2,3)

Alma Scovill

VU #837

Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

One: Let Israel now say:

All: **"God's love endures for ever."**

One: Let the house of Aaron say:

All: **"God's love endures for ever."**

One: Let those who fear God say:

All: **God's love endures for ever." (R)**

One: God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

All: **There are shouts of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous.**

One: The right hand of God does mighty things; the right hand of God raises up.

All: **The right hand of God does mighty things.**

One: I shall not die, but live; and I shall proclaim what God has done.

All: **God indeed punished me, but did not give me over to death. (R)**

One: Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

All: **This is the gate of God; through it the righteous shall enter.**

One: I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

All: **The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

One: This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.

All: **This is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it! (R)**

2nd SCRIPTURE: Mark 16: 1 – 8

ANTHEM : Garden of Tombs

REFLECTION: Agape Meal

Sung Grace: Be Present at Our Table

VU #546 (tune VU #541)

Be present at our table, Lord; be here and everywhere adored.

This food now bless, and grant that we may strengthened for your service be.

PRAYER

HYMN: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks

VU #179

OFFERING:

Dedication of Offering

Generous God, in light of your extravagant blessings, and our imperfect lives we offer our gifts and ourselves and know that you will transform what we plant into the produce of love.

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING AND CONCERN

LORD'S PRAYER (sung)

Chris Savory
VU #959

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION:

One: It is early in the day, and we have discovered a great truth:

All: **Jesus Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed!**

One: It is early in the day, and we have gathered to give thanks:

All: **for Jesus Christ is risen. He is risen, indeed!**

One: As spring brings forth new life, as the egg hatches a new bird, as bulbs bring forth new flowers, so God brings forth new promise, new life, new love:

All: **for Jesus Christ is risen, He is risen, indeed!**

One: And as you go from this place and time, may the God who loves all of creation, especially the gardens we call our lives, and Jesus, our companion along this crooked path called life, and the Holy Spirit, who loves to improvise in surprising ways, go with you, dwell among you and give you joy. Amen

CLOSING HYMN: The Spring Has Come

VU #187

The spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!

New light, new day, new colour after winter grey

New light, new day, the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it!

New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ.

New leaf, new thrust, the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it.

Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it.

New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit.

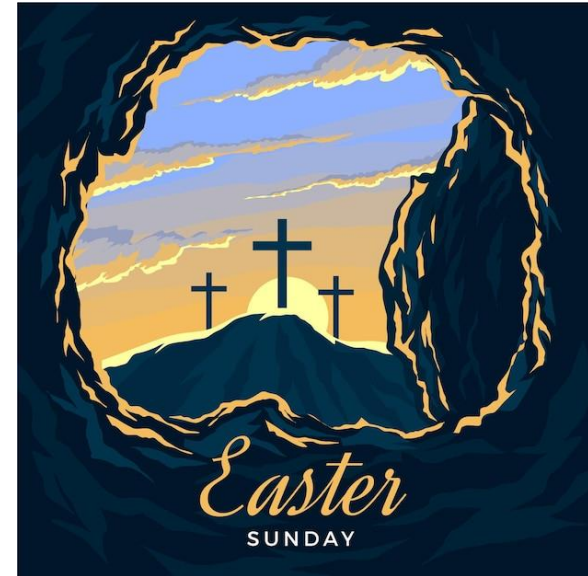
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WATERFORD UNITED CHURCH

March 31, 2024

Worship Leader: Cori Angus

Music: Chris Savory / Azrael Hackshaw



Today we are gathered in the traditional territories of several indigenous nations with gratitude. As settlers, we take on the responsibility of learning about historic and current relationships, and our desire to engage in building right relations. We are also mindful of broken covenant, and the need to commit ourselves to deep reconciliation and healing.

The Waterford United Church is a place where everyone is welcome regardless of their ability, age, class, ethnicity, gender, race, or sexual orientation.

Church Phone: 519-443-5261

Church Webpage: www.waterfordunitedchurch.org

Office Administrator, Diane Holden wucsecretary@bellnet.ca

Treasurer, Kimberly Holden wuctreasurer@bellnet.ca

Church Bookings, Cori Angus 519-443-8212 or 519-802-2401



THANK YOU
to Cori Angus
for leading today's Worship

FUTURE MINISTRY – At our last Official Board meeting with our Pastoral Charge Supervisor, Pastor Ted Smith, it was unanimously agreed **“that the Official Board pursue obtaining Intentional Interim Ministry for Waterford United Church.”** The Board along with Horseshoe Falls Region will be working diligently toward that goal in the coming weeks and months.

PASTORAL CARE – as we work toward a change in ministry, we are grateful that Rev. Allan Burr and Rev. Gary Patterson are available **for emergent pastoral care**. However, if you know of someone who needs a phone call or visit, please let us know by calling the office.

FREE CONCERT – Friday, April 5 at 7:30 p.m. with **Organist Joe Calverley**. Light refreshments will follow.

COFFEE HOUR SIGNUP – Please sign up for coffee hour on the list posted in the auditorium. Dates go to the end of June. Any costs will be reimbursed, and we ask for people to take on the prep and cleanup.

FREE SOUP SUPPER – Wednesday, April 10 at 5:00 p.m. ALL WELCOME!!

THE BOOK CLUB will meet after church on April 7 to discuss “The Alice Network” by Kate Quinn. If you still need a copy of the book, please see Janet Snow.

THE CHURCH OFFICE will not be open during the month of April. However, the phone and email will be monitored regularly and Sundays’ bulletins will continue to be prepared. Thanks to all who are covering for me! ~ Diane

FAITH FORMATION THOUGHTS
Debra Leedham

The resurrection caused a new religion called Christianity to form. It's interesting to notice that this would not have happened had the disciples not witnessed to this dynamic event. Christians of today are challenged to witness even though this event happened long ago.



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