

**NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH**

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Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, April 11, 2021

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*2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter*

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**Music as We Gather**

**Welcome, Celebrations, Life and Work of the Community**

Birthday wishes to *Landris Kervin* [18]

**Acknowledgement of the Land:**

As we gather, we acknowledge that we meet and live on the traditional territories of the Mississauga Anishinaabe People. We give thanks for their care for the land over thousands of years and for their deep spirituality and honouring of the Creator and the creation. May we live with respect in God's creation and in harmony with our neighbours.

**Call to Worship:**

One: We hear the words of celebration, but do we understand them?

**All: The tomb is empty!**

One: What do we need for proof and why do we need it?

**All: There is new life because of the love of the Holy?**

One: Why do we doubt? Jesus is Risen!

**All: Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Let us worship together!**

One: Amen!

**All: Amen!**

**Opening Hymn: VU409**

“Morning Has Broken”

1 Morning has broken like the first morning,  
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.  
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!  
Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven,  
like the first dewfall on the first grass.  
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,  
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.

3 Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning  
born of the one light Eden saw play!  
Praise with elation, praise every morning,  
God's recreation of the new day!

**Opening Prayer**

## Words of Assurance:

One: As we celebrate the empty tomb the Holy reminds us...

**All: ...we are challenged to accept and share the new life and new hope of our resurrection faith.**

One: In the name of the Risen One, Jesus the Christ...

**All: ...Amen.**

## Epistle Lesson:

1 John 1:1 – 2:2

<sup>1:1</sup> We declare to you what was from the beginning, what we have heard, what we have seen with our eyes, what we have looked at and touched with our hands, concerning the word of life— <sup>2</sup> this life was revealed, and we have seen it and testify to it, and declare to you the eternal life that was with the Father and was revealed to us— <sup>3</sup> we declare to you what we have seen and heard so that you also may have fellowship with us; and truly our fellowship is with the Father and with his Son Jesus Christ. <sup>4</sup> We are writing these things so that our joy may be complete.

<sup>5</sup> This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. <sup>6</sup> If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; <sup>7</sup> but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another, and the blood of Jesus his Son cleanses us from all sin. <sup>8</sup> If we say that we have no sin, we deceive ourselves, and the truth is not in us. <sup>9</sup> If we confess our sins, he who is faithful and just will forgive us our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. <sup>10</sup> If we say that we have not sinned, we make him a liar, and his word is not in us.

<sup>2:1</sup> My little children, I am writing these things to you so that you may not sin. But if anyone does sin, we have an advocate with the Father, Jesus Christ the righteous; <sup>2</sup> and he is the atoning sacrifice for our sins, and not for ours only but also for the sins of the whole world.

## Young at Heart Time:

*"Prove It!"*

## Psalm Selection: VU856 (No Sung Responses)

Psalm 133

One: Behold, how pleasant,

**All: how good it is!**

One: How pleasant and harmonious when God's people are together:

**All: fragrant as precious oil when running fresh on Aaron's beard.**

One: Behold, how pleasant,

**All: how good it is!**

One: How pleasant and harmonious when God's people are together.

**All: fresh as the mountain dew that falls on Zion's holy hill.**

One: Behold, how pleasant,

**All: how good it is!**

One: How pleasant and harmonious when God's people are together.

**All: there is where God bestows the blessing, life forever more.**

One: Behold, how pleasant,

**All: how good it is!**

## Music for Meditation

### Gospel Lesson:

John 20:19-31

<sup>19</sup> When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." <sup>20</sup> After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. <sup>21</sup> Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the

Father has sent me, so I send you.”<sup>22</sup> When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, “Receive the Holy Spirit. <sup>23</sup> If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.”

<sup>24</sup> But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. <sup>25</sup> So the other disciples told him, “We have seen the Lord.” But he said to them, “Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.”

<sup>26</sup> A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.” <sup>27</sup> Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.” <sup>28</sup> Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!” <sup>29</sup> Jesus said to him, “Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.”

<sup>30</sup> Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. <sup>31</sup> But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.

One: As the Holy One informs our resurrection faith through the stories of our forebears, may we once again know we are challenged and encouraged to live a life of hope and love.

**All: May those stories inform, guide, and challenge us as children of the Holy.**

One: In the name of the Risen One, Jesus the Christ...

**All: ...Amen.**

#### Hymn: VU166

“Joy Comes with the Dawn”

Joy comes with the dawn;  
joy comes with the morning sun;  
joy springs from the tomb  
and scatters the night with her song,  
joy comes with the dawn.

1 Weeping may come;  
weeping may come in the night,  
when dark shadows cloud our sight. R

2 Sorrow will turn,  
sorrow will turn into song,  
and God's laughter make us strong. R

3 We will rejoice,  
we will rejoice, and give praise,  
to the One who brings us grace. R

#### Meditation:

“Open Up!”

#### The New Creed:

One: Let's share together in the New Creed:

**All: We are not alone,  
we live in God's world.  
We believe in God:  
who has created and is creating,  
who has come in Jesus,  
the Word made flesh,  
to reconcile and make new,**

who works in us and others by the Spirit.  
**We trust in God.**  
**We are called to be the Church:**  
to celebrate God's presence,  
to live with respect in Creation,  
to love and serve others,  
to seek justice and resist evil,  
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,  
our judge and our hope.  
In life, in death, in life beyond death,  
God is with us.  
We are not alone.  
Thanks be to God. Amen.

**Hymn: VU333**

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

- 1 Love divine, all loves excelling,  
joy of heaven to earth come down,  
fix in us thy humble dwelling,  
all thy faithful mercies crown.  
Jesus, thou art all compassion,  
pure, unbounded love thou art;  
visit us with thy salvation,  
enter every trembling heart.
- 2 Come, almighty to deliver;  
let us all thy grace receive;  
suddenly return, and never,  
nevermore thy temples leave.  
Thee we would be always blessing,  
serve thee as thy hosts above,  
pray, and praise thee, without ceasing,  
glory in thy perfect love.
- 3 Finish, then, thy new creation;  
pure and spotless let us be;  
let us see thy great salvation  
perfectly restored in thee,  
changed from glory into glory,  
till in heaven we take our place,  
till we cast our crowns before thee,  
lost in wonder, love, and praise.

**Invitation to Offer Our Gifts**

**Dedication of Our Gifts**

**A Minute for Local Mission: “Where Have all the Mittens Gone?”**

*Even in the uncertain times of the pandemic this year, Northminster knitters were hard at work and several hundred pairs of mitts were crafted and left here at the church. The Mission and Outreach committee contacted area schools, some in the city and some outside of the city, and the mitts were very happily accepted meaning children who needed them were able to have them. There were hats, mitts and even a few socks offered and received. A huge thank you and shout out to all of our volunteer knitters who helped make this odd winter a little warmer for those who needed it and to our Mission and Service Committee for seeing the mitts made it where they need to go!*

**Prayers of the People and the Lord’s Prayer**

## Closing Hymn: VU422

“God Be with You till We Meet Again”

- 1 God be with you till we meet again;  
loving counsels guide, uphold you,  
with a shepherd's care enfold you;  
God be with you till we meet again.  
  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.
- 2 God be with you till we meet again;  
unseen wings protecting hide you,  
daily manna still provide you;  
God be with you till we meet again. R
- 3 God be with you till we meet again;  
when life's perils thick confound you,  
put unfailing arms around you;  
God be with you till we meet again. R
- 4 God be with you till we meet again;  
keep love's banner floating o'er you,  
smite death's threatening wave before you;  
God be with you till we meet again.  
Till we meet, till we meet,  
till we meet at Jesus' feet;  
till we meet, till we meet,  
God be with you till we meet again.

## Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: As our time together comes to an end...

All: **...the presence of the Creator stirs us to live faithfully and love openly as we celebrate our Easter faith!**

One: May we cherish that journey as we live and love together as a resurrection people.

All: **In the name of Jesus, the Risen Christ, Amen and Amen!**

## Music as We Depart

### Prayer Cycle

As church, we are called to pray for each other and for our mission in the world.  
Regional Council Prayer Cycle  
for the week of April 11, 2021

**Odessa Pastoral Charge**  
**Emmanuel United Church, Odessa**  
**Trinity United Church, Elginburg**

*[East Central Ontario Regional Council]*

**“Worship Services” and “Prayer” videos are available weekly on our YouTube channel, which can be found on our website:**

**[www.northminsteruc.ca](http://www.northminsteruc.ca)**



Click to view our latest video

**Northminster United Church Sunday Worship Services will be Virtual only.**

**Sunday, April 25th, 2021 Annual Congregational meeting will be virtual only. It will be available through ZOOM. The ZOOM app is required on your device. An email will go out with further information. Advance registration is mandatory.**

**Ways to Support Northminster United Church**

**Pre-Authorized Givings**

contact church office

**Donation by E-Transfer**

Name: NUC Treasurer Email: [treasurernuc@gmail.com](mailto:treasurernuc@gmail.com)

**Offering Envelope Giving**

contact the church office

**Cash or cheque**

Cheques payable to “*Northminster United Church*”

Donations can be mailed to: 300 Sunset Blvd., Peterborough, ON K9H 5L3  
Or delivered personally.

During Covid restrictions, envelopes can be placed in  
mail slot located to the left of the back door just off the parking lot.

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office email: [info@northminsteruc.ca](mailto:info@northminsteruc.ca) **NEW**

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