



Date: April 5, 2026
Easter Sunday
Theme: Rolled Away Your Stone

Worship Leaders: Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon
Musician: Linda Kneeland
Audio/Visual: Holly McKenzie or Nora Nixon
(*: Please, stand if you are able.)

Musical Prelude

Greetings

The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the communion of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

Response: And also with you.

Welcome & Announcements (Care & Concerns)

- **Sing Along with Rev. Kwon** ~ Friday April 24 @ 1:00 pm

Acknowledgement of Territory

ALL: God calls us to live with respect and care for all our relations in creation. For thousands of years, Indigenous peoples of this area have tended the earth, and we give thanks for such diligence. We covenant to live and work together, sharing this land in peace and respect as long as the sun shines, the grass grows, and the river flows.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane AB

Call to Worship

Christ is risen.

Christ is risen, indeed.

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

Death has no dominion.

Death is done.

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

God is with us.

We are not alone!

Alleluia!

Alleluia! Amen!

Richard Bott, Grace U.C., Burlington, Ont. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 40. Used with Permission.

Light the Christ Candle

We light the Christ candle each week, reminding ourselves of the wondrous splendour of holy light.

We are assured that Christ is the Way, the Truth, and the Light of Life.

The path we seek to follow is one of blazing glory.

May Christ always illumine the way.

Laura J. Turnbull, Penticton, B.C. Gathering, Lent Easter 2025-2026, 39. Used with Permission.

***Hymn Welcome, Happy Morning VU#161**

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Opening Prayer

Our preparation for Easter, gracious God, is a crucifixion, a death, and the ending of Jesus' story.

But the story didn't end; Jesus' tomb was discovered empty.

The resurrected Jesus appeared at different times and in a variety of settings to his astonished, and yes, confused disciples.

What was an absolute end, death, became the opening, the unfolding story of God's grace in our midst in Jesus Christ.

We open ourselves to that unfolding in this time of worship today.

Blow through us with your Holy Spirit, live-giving God. Amen.

Bill Perry, Belleville, Ont. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 43. Used with Permission.

Prayer of Confession

In the late morning of a brightening season, we have come to sing and share and pray our gratitude and our joy, our hope and our excitement, our mindfulness and our peace.

We have also come with baggage:

**things we couldn't leave behind, but wish we could;
things we wish we could have brought, but couldn't;
feelings that are separating us from our own spirits and the
spirit we find in this place; thoughts of what we could be
doing instead; wonderings if this time will be up to the
promise that is made.**

Free us from this baggage, O God.

**Let it fall away that we can come into your presence
without the weight of care, guilt, reluctance, and regret.**

Let us be open to the power of your challenge and the grace of your care as we rest and reflect in this silence...

(a time of silent prayer)

Amen.

Peter Chynoweth, Cochrane, Alta. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 44. Used with Permission.

***Hymn Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah! MV#121**

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Prayer of Illumination

We come full of words that can mask the truth.

Come and fill us, O Christ, with your living word.

We come swamped by words that overwhelm us.

**Come and overwhelm us, O Spirit, with your word of
challenge.**

We come walled in by words of routine and security.

Come and free us, O God, with your creative word.

We come with words of prayer:

May your word be a lamp to light our path.

May your word spill from us in compassion.

**May your word be the foundation of our lives.
May your word live in our hearts, that we may receive and
obey the spark of divine renewal. Amen.**

Gord Dunbar, Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 45. Used with Permission.

**Scripture Readings: Linda Kneeland
Acts 10:34–43: Peter’s account of Jesus’ death and
resurrection.**

Matthew 28:1–10: Mary and the empty tomb.

**Tell Me the Stories of Jesus VU#357 (verse 1) (being
seated)**

Words: William H. Parker 1885, Music: Fredrick Arthur Challinor 1903 © 1904 National Christian Education Council, 1020 Bristol Rd., Selly Oak, Birmingham B29 6LB, England. Reproduced with permission. Words, Music: National Christian Education Council. CCLI.

Congregational Theme/Story Time

Message Rev. Dr. OhWang Kwon

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Call to Give Thanks

Christ is risen!

He is risen indeed!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Celebrate God’s Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 274.

The Great Thanksgiving

Hallelujah, thanks and praise, ever-living God, worker of wonders,
maker of miracles, author of all life and giver of life eternal!

Out of chaos and fear you bring beauty and hope.

Out of despair and death you create courage and new life.

And so, with the risen Christ, who makes all things new by the power of his resurrection, we join in the song of a new day, to sing your praise.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 278-279.

Sanctus-Benedictus together

Holy, holy, holy, Lord God of Hosts! Heaven and earth are full of your glory! Heaven and earth praise you, O God most high!

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 285.

Institution Narrative

On the night before he died, Jesus took bread, and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to those who sat with him, saying: "Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way he took the cup, saying: "This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood, shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me."

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 286.

Prayer of Self-Giving

ALL: Remembering your boundless love for us in Jesus Christ, we offer you our praise, as we proclaim the mystery of faith:

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 290.

Memorial Acclamation

By sharing in this loaf and cup we proclaim Christ's death, celebrate Christ's resurrection, and await Christ's coming again.

Amen. Come, Christ Jesus!

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 291.

Epiclesis

Holy God, we pray for your Spirit.

**Make us, while many, one. Make us, though broken, whole.
Make us, despite death, alive.**

And so we pray:

Come, Holy Spirit, come.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 293.

Doxology

**ALL: Through Christ, all glory and honour are yours,
almighty Father, with the Holy Spirit in the holy church,
now and forever.**

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 297.

The Lord's Prayer

As our Saviour taught us, let us pray together saying:

**ALL: Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy
name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is
in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread and forgive us
our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against
us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil for
thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever
and ever. Amen.**

Fraction and Pouring

The body of Christ.

Thanks be to God for the bread of life.

The blood of Christ.

Thanks be to God for the cup of blessing.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 299.

Distribution

Prayer after Communion

We give thanks that bread broken brings wholeness; that wine poured out replenishes; that time spent with the Risen Christ and one another is gift and grace.

Amen.

Celebrate God's Presence: A Book of Services for The United Church of Canada, Etobicoke, Ont. The United Church Publishing House, 2000, 302.

Invitation for Offering

Offering Hymn *Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

VU#541 Words: Thomas Ken ca. 1674. Music: Genevan Psalter 1551. Public Domain. N/A

Offering Prayer

ALL: We may have pondered the amount we decided upon for our offering for today and have many reasons for the final choice. Yet, there is no question that we want you, our God, to receive and bless it and us. In this way, may our personal discipleship and the life of our community of faith grow as an image of Jesus in action. Amen.

Bill Perry, Belleville, Ont. Gathering, Lent Easter 2026, 46. Used with Permission.

Prayers of the Gathered Community

***Hymn *Thine Is the Glory* VU#173**

***Commissioning and Benediction**

***Threefold Amen (Unison) VU#967**

Postlude