



Easter Sunday - B  
March 31, 2024

“They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.”

*John 20:2*

## **Welcome and Announcements**

† Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.  
– Trinity is an Affirming Congregation

† Our building is open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday

**In person Sunday School** is the 2nd and last Sunday of each month

**Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** appreciates donations.

**Please join us for Social Time After Church** - If you wish to volunteer, the sign-up sheet is on the bulletin board. Individuals or groups are invited to sign-up.

**UCW** meets tomorrow. 9:30am Gathering, 10:00am Meeting

**Broadview Magazine Group Subscription** - If you are interested in subscribing to Broadview this year and taking advantage of the yearly Group Subscription price of \$30, please submit a cheque made out to Trinity United Church, indicating on the memo line of the cheque that it is for the Broadview Subscription. Subscription requests and cheques should be submitted to the Trinity office no later than **May 19, 2024**.

**New to You Sale – Saturday, April 20<sup>th</sup> – 8:00am to 1:00pm** - Looking for donations of clothing, books, shoes, purses, jewellery, trinkets, glassware, linens, puzzles, games, etc. No furniture or large items. Please submit your items to the stage in the Church Hall starting **Monday, March 18<sup>th</sup>**. Many thanks!!

**Peter Woods Quartet Concert - Stardust of a Song**  
**Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup>, 7:00 pm ... Campbell too!** Tickets will be \$25 in advance, \$30 at the door, children under 13 will be \$10. Tickets can be purchased in advance following Sunday morning worship services, at the Church Office Monday to Thursday (9 am to 1pm) or on [www.eventbrite.ca](http://www.eventbrite.ca)

**Geraniums for sale** – Order your Geraniums by calling the Church office at 613-283-444 or orders will also be taken following Sunday morning services. Colours this year will be red, white, pink, salmon and orange, 4 plants for \$12. Some colours will be limited, so order early so you don't miss out. Pick up date will be Saturday, May 25<sup>th</sup>, 9:00 a.m. until noon.

**Introit** "Risen on High"

## **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

## **Call to Worship**

O Day of Resurrection, we lift our hearts with joy!

**Christ has led us from death to life. Hallelujah!**

O Day of Resurrection, we will with hope!

**Christ has led us from earth to heaven. Hallelujah!**

Christ is risen from the dead. Hallelujah!

**Hallelujah! He is risen indeed.**

## **Lenten Liturgy**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

The stone had been rolled back and the tomb was empty.

The angel told the faithful women,

“He has been raised. He is not here.”

**And so we have hope - a living hope through the resurrection of Jesus.**

**“May the God of hope go with us every day.**

(Light every Candle)

## **Opening Prayer**

God of Resurrecting power,

You lift our hearts with joy when we see the tomb is empty.

God of Resurrecting hope,

You fill us with excitement when we hear that Jesus is risen.

God of Resurrecting love,

You embrace us with courage when we trust in the power of new life that you promise in the Resurrection.

We offer you all glory, honour and praise in Jesus' name.

**Hymn**            155 "Jesus Christ Is Risen Today"

Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!

our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!

who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!

suffer to redeem our loss, hallelujah!

Hymns of praise then let us sing, hallelujah!

unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!

who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!

sinner to redeem and save, hallelujah!

But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!

our salvation have procured, hallelujah!

now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!

where the angels ever sing, hallelujah!

Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!

praise eternal as God's love, hallelujah!

praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!

praise the Son and Holy Ghost, hallelujah!

## **Prayer of Confession**

**God of Resurrecting joy,**

**It is not easy to sustain Easter hope.**

**Discouragement, fear and frustration to settle in.**

**Concerns and anxiety turn our hearts away.**

**Disappointment clings to us and we forget your great mercy and love.**

**Forgive us.**

**Restore within us the joy and hope you promise. Amen.**

## **Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the good news! Who is in a position to condemn us?

Christ died for us; Christ rose for us, Christ reigns in power for us, Christ prays for us.

Believe the good news of the gospel. In Jesus, we are forgiven and set free for new life by God's resurrecting grace.

## **The Peace**

The peace of the Lord be always with you  
**and also with you.**

**Scripture**    Isaiah 25:6-9

Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24

John 20:1-18

Isaiah 25:6-9 (NRSV)

On this mountain the Lord of hosts will make for all peoples  
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-aged wines,  
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-aged wines strained  
clear.

And he will destroy on this mountain  
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,  
the sheet that is spread over all nations;  
he will swallow up death forever.

Then the Lord God will wipe away the tears from all faces,  
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the  
earth,

for the Lord has spoken.

It will be said on that day,

Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he  
might save us.

This is the Lord for whom we have waited;  
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

Psalms 118 (VU 837)

*Refrain -*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

Let Israel now say:

**“God’s love endures forever.”**

Let the house of Aaron say:

**“God’s love endures forever.”**

Let those who fear God say:

**“God’s love endures forever.”**

*Refrain -*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

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

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

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

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

This is God’s doing,  
marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made,  
let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*Refrain -*

*Hallelujah, hallelujah!*

Save us, O God, we pray;  
**God, we pray, give us success.**

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of God.

**We bless you from the house of God.**

God, our God, has given us light;  
**with palm branches in hand let us march to the altar.**

You are my God, and I will thank you;  
**you are my God, and I will extol you.**

***Refrain -***

***Hallelujah, hallelujah!***

John 20:1-18

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping?” She said to them, “They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.” When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, “Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?” Supposing him to be the



gardener, she said to him, “Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.” Jesus said to her, “Mary!” She turned and said to him in Hebrew, “Rabbouni!” (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, “Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, ‘I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.’” Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, “I have seen the Lord”; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

**Anthem** "Rise Again" (Flora Riley)

## **Reflection**

**Hymn** 166 "Joy Comes At The Dawn"

*Refrain -*

*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.*

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

*Refrain -*

Sorrow will turn, sorrow will turn into song,  
and God’s laughter makes us strong.

*Refrain -*

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

***Refrain -***

### **Invitation to the Offering**

Easter Day celebrates God's most precious gift to us in Christ's dying and his rising. As we present our gifts this morning, may our generosity reflect God's goodness to us, and the hope we have in Jesus, our Risen Lord.

### **Words of Appreciation**

Arlene McKibbon - Murals in the Lower Hall.

### **Offering Prayer**

God of Resurrecting Grace, we offer our gifts with grateful hearts, recognizing how much you have given us in Christ, and what that gift has cost. Empower these gifts to spread the hope and joy we feel today in the world you love, in the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **Hymn**      MV 172 "God Says"

God says, "Be still so you may hear  
the words I whisper in your ear.

If you will listen, you will know

I'm with you always where you go."

God says, "Look up and see the prize

I've placed here right before your eyes.

Find beauty in the things of earth,

a cause for wonder and rebirth.”  
God says, “Come here! I need your voice.  
Please teach my people to rejoice.  
In who you are, in what you do,  
your life will show my love for you.”

God says, “Reach out! The world’s in need  
and wants a word, a song, a deed.  
I send you forth to speak, to sing,  
to act for Christ in everything.”

## **Prayers of the People**

God of new beginnings,  
Break into your Church with resurrecting power.

Where we are challenged to rethink outreach in changing  
times,  
inspire new approaches and renew commitment for  
today’s ministry.

Where gathering resources and finding new leaders present  
challenges,  
renew our trust in your faithfulness and our hope that  
remembers the empty tomb.

Resurrect, renew and revive your people, O God.  
**Hear our prayer.**

God of new possibilities,

Break into our relationships with resurrecting power.

Where they are vibrant and life-giving, nurture and sustain them.

Where there are memories of hurt or current misunderstanding,

refresh them with forgiveness and reconciliation.

Where they are neglected or taken for granted,

open our eyes to the great gift we offer each other.

Resurrect, renew and revive your people, O God.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of new opportunity,

Break into the governance of your world with resurrecting power.

Stir the minds and hearts of leaders to work for justice and the equitable sharing of resources.

Where violence and conflict threaten the innocent and the earth itself,

raise up advocates for peace and call combatants to account.

Bring wisdom, compassion and cooperation to all in authority.

Resurrect, renew and revive your people, O God.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of new life,

Break into situations of illness, pain, grief, and loss with  
resurrecting power.

Where there is sickness of body, mind, or spirit,  
bring healing and hope.

Where people mourn the loss of someone dear or their dreams  
of a better tomorrow,  
bring comfort and courage to go on.

Resurrect, renew and revive your people, O God.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of New Creation,

Break into the circumstances, places, and lives that we name  
in the silence of our hearts.

Resurrect, renew and revive your people.

**Hear our prayer.**

God of Easter Day,

Break into our moments of celebration and joy.

Give us gratitude, the impulse to share,  
and a spirit of grace and understanding.

Resurrect, renew, and revive our spirits.

**Hear our prayer.**

Now we pray in one voice in the words that Jesus gave,  
personally and with power to One known as Father,  
Mother, Friend; when we say -

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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.

And lead us not into temptation;  
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory,  
for ever and ever.

**Amen.**

## **EOORC Prayer Cycle**

Charge pastoral de Thurso  
Église Unie de Thurso

## **Ecumenical Prayer Cycle**

The Balkans - Albania, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia,  
Kosovo, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Serbia, Slovenia

**We Depart to Serve in Peace and with Love**

## **Time for the Young**

### **Hymn 352 "Lord Of The Dance"**

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,  
And I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,  
And I came from heaven and I danced on the earth;  
At Bethlehem I had my birth.

#### **Refrain -**

**Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
And I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
And I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.**

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,  
But they would not dance and they would not follow  
me;  
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;  
They came with me and the dance went on.

#### **Refrain -**

I danced on the Sabbath and I cured the lame;  
The holy people said it was a shame,  
They whipped and they stripped and they hung me  
high,  
And left me there on a cross to die.

#### **Refrain -**

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;  
It's hard to dance with the devil on your back;

They buried my body and they thought I'd gone,  
But I am the dance and I still go on.

**Refrain -**

They cut me down and I leap up high;  
I am the life that will never, never die;  
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.

**Refrain -**

**Benediction**

Go now, with wonder at the empty tomb to amaze you,  
with Mary's joy in the garden to lift your hearts,  
and the disciples' hope at news Jesus has risen to  
encourage you.

And may God's resurrecting love open the future for you,  
empowered by the Spirit,  
and embraced by Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

**Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Superstar!" (Lloyd Webber)

Hospitality, Diversity, Justice do not end with words. They call us to awareness and respect. There are a variety of Faith Traditions represented in our world and community. Each celebrates and worships in their own ways and seasons. Over the course of the coming year, we will keep you informed of these



different religions, beliefs and celebrations, so we may contribute to a broader culture of awareness, respect and support.

## **April Holidays**

**Baha'i - 8 - Jalal ( Glory) the second Baha'i month**

**20 April - 1 May - Festival of Ridvan**, termed by Baha'u'llah the "Most Great Festival" and "The King of Festivals", commemorates the twelve days that Baha'u'llah spent in the garden of Ridvan outside Baghdad. The festival commemorates Baha'u'llah's public declaration of His mission to His family and closest followers. (The first, Ninth and Twelfth days of Ridvan are Baha'i Holy days on which work is suspended.

**27- Jamal (Beauty) the third Baha'i month**

**Buddhism - 8 - Anniversary of the historical Buddha's birth (Mahayana) (Japan , North America)**

**23 - New Year festival** for Theravada Buddhists, celebrated for 3 days from the first full moon day in April

**28 - Anniversary of the foundation of the Nichiren Sect in 1253 (Mahayana - Nichiren)**

**Christianity- 1- Easter Monday (W)** the day after Easter, commemorates Jesus' resurrection

**27 - Lazarus Saturday (E)** - commemorates the raising of Lazarus from the dead by Jesus (John 11:1-45)

**28 - Palm Sunday (E)** celebrates the entry of Jesus into Jerusalem.

**29 Apr - 3 May Holy week (E)** begins in the Eastern Churches the day after Palm Sunday and ends on Holy Friday.

**Hinduism - 9 - New Years Day - Bikarami Samvat 2081** begins

**9 -Ramayana** Week begins 9 days before Ravanavmi, the birth anniversary of Lord Rama. Fasting during this period is considered highly auspicious

**14 - Vaiakhi**, first day of the solar year, celebrates the harvest. It is especially important in North India.

**17- Ramanavmi**, celebrates the birth of Rama, the seventh incarnation of the God Vishnu. During the previous eight days, Hindus read the Ramayana, a Hindu epic which tells the story of Rama.

**23 Hanuman Jayanti** celebrates the birth of the God Hanuman, a loyal devotee to Lord Rama. Celebrants mark Hanumans birth by reciting the sacred text, HanumanChalisa, performing special pujas (prayer rituals), processing through the streets and adorning costumes to imitate the deity.

**Indigenous Spirituality- 23 Apr. - 22 May** Birds laying eggs Moon (Penatmuiku's). The northward migration of seabirds supplies another source of food. (Mi'kmaw Nation)

**Islam - 5 - Jum'at al- Wada (Farewell Friday)** is the last Friday of the month of Ramadan and the Friday immediately preceding Id al-Fitr. While not a festival, Jum'at al-Wada is a special day for many Muslims (Observance begins at sunset the previous day, but special worship and prayers begin on April 5.

**6 - Layat al-Qadr (Night of Power)** commemorates the first revelation of Qur'an Islamic scriptures) to Prophet Mohammad in 610 ce.( Special worship, including prayers, fasting and other

observances begin at sunset and are generally observed until sunset of the following day April 7)

**10 - Id al-Fitr** (The Breaking of the Fast), celebrates the end of Ramadan, the month of fasting (observance begins at sunset on the previous day, but special worship and prayers begin on April 10

**Jainism - 15 -** (until April 23) **Aymbil Ori** (First Half) is a 9 day (approximate) festival, occurring twice a year, when devout Jains undertake a special type of fasting. Over the course of this observance, Jains revere the Nav-Pads.

**21 - Mahavira-jayanti** celebrates the birth anniversary of Lord Mahavira (Great Hero), the 24th Tirthankara (and the last of this time cycle)

**29 - Shrimad Rajchandra Dehvilay** a prominent Jain philosopher and scholar. This observance marks the day of his emancipation(1901).

**Judaism - 23 -30 - Pesah (Passover)** commemorates the departure of Israelites from slavery in Egypt. The festival of Passover is celebrated for 8 days, the first 2 and the last 2 are observed as Holy Days. The evenings of the 1st and 2nd days of Pesah begin with Seder Meals (festive meals telling of the Passover story). The final day of Pesah marks the Israelites crossing of the Reed Sea, as related in Exodus.

**Sikhi - 14 - Vaisakhi** (anniversary of the birth of Khalsa) is important for Sikhs because on this day in 1699 Guru Gobind Singh Ji, the tenth Guru, removed the clerical system from Sikhism. Thus, he reaffirmed the direct connection between Sikhs

and the Divine. Guru Gobind Singh Ji also created the Khalsa Panth, the Fellowship of the Pure. Khalsa Panth, the name of Singh (Lion), and sisters are named Kaur (Princess or Lioness)

**Zarathushti - 30 April - 4 May - Ghambar Maidyozarem** celebrates the creation of sky and harvesting the winter crop.

**Supplemental 8 - A total solar eclipse** occurs when the moon completely blocks the sun, revealing the sun's beautiful outer atmosphere known as the corona. This is a rare, once-in-a-lifetime event for viewers in the United States. The last total solar eclipse visible in the Continental US occurred in 2017 and the next one will not take place until 2045. The Path of totality will begin in the Pacific ocean and move across parts of Mexico and the eastern United States, Eastern Ontario and Nova Scotia.

**14-20 - National Volunteer Week** is a time to formally recognize volunteers across Canada and the USA as well as an opportunity to urge people to get out and volunteer in their communities.