



Trinity United Church
41 Market St N, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7
613-283-4444 or www.trinityunitedsf.ca

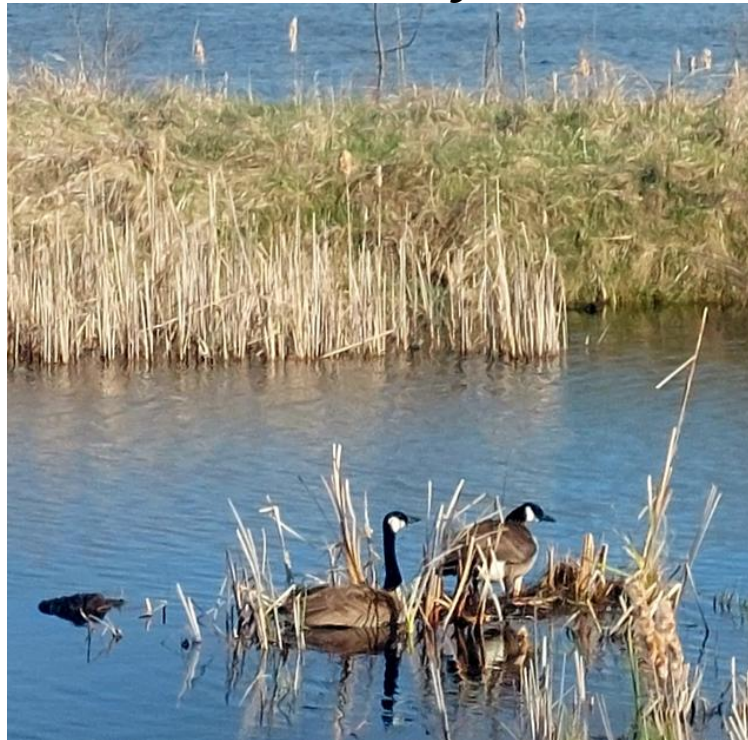


April 20, 2025
Easter - Resurrection Sunday

Motion M-587 (2015)

*Declares Month of April as Genocide Recognition and
Condemnation Month in Canada.*

We Remember the 110 Anniversary of the Armenian Genocide



Rideau Lakes Township - Photo by: Rev. Takouhi – April 20, 2024

***(Remember to pass this bulletin to someone else
You never know how you will Bless them)***

Welcome:

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



Welcome, to the Spa for the Soul as we gather for worship this Sunday morning. If you are a visitor or a newcomer to this Community of Faith, either in person or virtually, we extend a warm welcome. May you come in as a stranger but depart knowing you are part of the family.

Welcome Home!

WE GATHER AS EASTER PEOPLE

Land Acknowledgement

Announcements: Community in Action

Introit: *"Crown Him Lord, This Easter Day" (Besig)*

Spiritual Focus:

*"Easter: **Fullness of Self in God** that knows NO Boundaries"*

Lighting of the Christ Candle



Gathering Call (Responsive) Ps. 118:24; Isa. 65:17–18

One: Rejoice and be glad:

All: This is the day that the Lord has made!

One: Rejoice and be glad:

All: Heaven and earth will never be the same!

One: Rejoice and be glad:

All: Christ is risen!

One: Alleluia! Christ is Risen indeed!

(Please stand as able)

Gathering Song of Praise Voices United #155

"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!
- 3 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!
- 4 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!

(Please be seated)

Time with Youth and Young at Heart



*"The First Christian Nation:
Armenians"*

*Photo by: Rev. Takouhi – Sabbatical Trip,
Armenia- September 2018*

A Prayer of Remembrance for the Armenian Genocide – April 24, 1915¹ (All):

Holy and life-giving God,
we come to you today with trust,
knowing that your Spirit hovers over all existence,
bringing life out of nothingness,
beauty out of ashes,
and resurrection from the depths of the earth.



Today, we remember the atrocities of the Ottoman Empire, that was marked on April 24, 1915, when many Armenian priests, scholars, and community leaders were lined up and assassinated ruthlessly. We also remember many Armenians who were deported and sent into exile in the deserts. Some survived by crossing rivers of living water and found new life.



Tender God, we cry for all the victims of the Armenian Genocide. The cry of the 1.5 million Armenian victims can still be heard, and the soil absorbing their blood still refuses to yield.

God of Life, the Armenian Genocide was one of the worst atrocities of the 20th century, Turkey attempting to eliminate the Armenian race, the very first nation to accept Christianity as a nation;* but the oppressor was defeated because your persistent love stands by the oppressed.

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Therefore, today, we praise you for your grace, mercy, and power upon the Armenians, whose faith remains to be their compass, whose hope helps them soar, and whose joy helps them sing and dance even in despair.

We pray with thanksgiving,
in the name of the One who was, and is, and shall be forever.

Amen.

Gathering Song of Hope Voices United #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.

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

Refrain...

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

Refrain...

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

Refrain...

WE HEAR THE SACRED STORIES

Gospel of John 20:1-18 (NRSV)

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 towards 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 round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you

weeping? For whom are you looking?' 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.

Reader: Here ends today's reading.

For the Sacred Story is God's story,

All: For the Sacred Story is Our Story

Reader: Thanks be to God.

Meditation: *"Easter Hallelujah" (Cohen)*
*sung by **Doug Savage***

Life Lesson: *"Love Lives Beyond death..."*



*Photo by: Rev. Takouhi –
Sabbatical Trip, Armenia-
September 2018*

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S GRACE

Invitation to Confession:

Prayer of Confession (Responsive):

One: Gracious God, we have heard the good news:

All: how on the third day, Christ rose again.

One: Still we look for the living among the dead.

All: You rolled away the stone from the tomb.

One: Still we look for the living among the dead.

All: You sent messengers to proclaim the gospel.

One: Still we look for the living among the dead.

All: You were faithful to your promise; you have done wonderful things!

One: Still we look for the living among the dead.

[silent confessions]

Teach us to trust your promises, O God,

and to believe in the Good News of Your Love:

All: Christ is alive, in us, through us, around us. Amen.

Declaration of Forgiveness

Hymn of Assurance: Voices United #181(Tune 115)

"Midnight Sharpness, Starfields, Fading"

- 1 Midnight sharpness, starfields, fading,
creeping hues engulf the east,
strips of grave-cloth cloud reflecting
faintest lines in crimson-grey:
Herald Dawn's first heartbeat glowing,

blood-red streaks of fire flow
'cross the fields of furrowed labour,
signs of living, promise, hope.

2 Cold of winter, dark of evening,
cannot crush the light-seed sown,
flames on frozen, dew-wrapped grasses,
sparkling tears of Joy Unknown:

Christ is risen! Christ is risen!
Shout O skies! Rejoice O fields!
Hallelujah! Jesus! Saviour!
Let the Bells of Morning peal!

GOD'S BANQUET... OUR PARTICIPATION...

Invitation

Thanksgiving:

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Prayer of Consecration:

One: Blessed You are God, and the One who comes in your
name... **Our Father...**

Sharing of the elements – *Gluten free bread and grape juice.*

Jesus the Bread of Life – Bread for the Journey.
Jesus the True Vine – The Cup of the New Covenant.

Prayer After Communion (All):

May we who have tasted new life and drunk the new covenant and stood by an open tomb in awe, may we, who are blessed, become a blessing for each other, for ourselves, and for the world. **Amen.** *Kate Crawford, First-St. Andrew's U.C., London, ON*

Moderator's Easter Message 2025

Invitation to Offer Ourselves, Finances, Gifts and Talents to



God: In this economic climate, fear is the greatest obstacle to generosity: fear that there isn't enough to go around; that if we give away what we have, we won't be able to take care of our own needs. Fear is like a big stone standing between us and the experience of the resurrection miracle. So "who will roll away the stone?" We will, through the gifts we give.

For all those joining us virtually, on YouTube or Cogeco's YourTV please go to our website and find out the many ways you may contribute and partner with us in carrying the Work of Jesus...

"Our offering plates are at the back of the sanctuary and aren't passed hand to hand since COVID and they aren't brought forward."

Prayer of Thanksgiving & Dedication (All):

God of new life, we offer these gifts and those given through PAR and online, acknowledging our fear but stretching beyond it to generosity. Thank you for your empowering love. **Amen.**

<p>GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD TO LIVE AND LET LIVE AS EASTER PEOPLE</p>

(Please stand as able)

Hymn of Going Forth: Voices United #352

"Lord of the Dance"

1 - 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.**

2 - 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...

3 - 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...

4 - 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...

5 - 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...

Commissioning & Benediction

Choral Amen

Postlude: "*Superstar!*" (Lloyd Weber)



Announcements

† Trinity's building is **open 9:00 am to 1:00 pm, Monday through Thursday - (Closed on Statutory Holidays)**

† Please remember that **Rev. Takouhi's weekend** is Monday and Tuesday. If Monday or Tuesday is a Statutory Holiday, the weekend includes Wednesday.

† **Rev. Takouhi will be away** – Please see note at the end of the bulletin..

+ **Trinity United Church** endeavours to be scent free environment for the well-being of ALL people. There are many who are sensitive to scent. Help us keep the air we share healthy for everyone.



+ **Please Note there is no Social Time today** Easter Sunday, as we are content from the Easter Breakfast we shared earlier.

+ Please remember **Trinity United Church's Samaritan (Benevolent) Fund**. This is a discretionary fund to reach the most vulnerable of the wider community of Smiths Falls.

+ Please remember **Smiths Falls Community Food Bank** in Your Generosity – Your Donations are appreciated more than you know.

Offering Options - Thank you for your generosity.

There are many ways you can partner up with **God's Dream** for this world through **Trinity United Church** and help make a difference. You may share your **gifts, time and talent**.

If you choose to make a financial gift you may do:

+ by cheque. Deliver in Person or mail cheque to church office:
Trinity United Church - 41 Market St N, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

+ by E-transfers to **secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca**

+ by Credit Card through **CanadaHelps**.

○ <https://www.canadahelps.org/en/dn/28301>

+ by PAR (Pre-Authorized Remittance) Forms are available at the entrance of Sanctuary.

Contact Information Required – If you have changed your main contact information in the past few years, especially phone/cell numbers, please contact the office at **613-283-4444** to update your file.

Casserole Ministry: April 22nd at 1:00pm (Pick up only). This month's offering is Beef Stroganoff. We start preparing at 9:00am if you want to come help.

Basic Income - Thursday, April 24th at 7:00 PM

A Pathway to Help End the Cycle of Intimate Partner Violence

Don't miss out! Join us at the Carleton Place Town Hall Auditorium (175 Bridge Street) for an insightful event exploring the intersection between intimate partner violence and economic vulnerability and how basic income could help reduce the incidence of this form of violence. Esteemed guest speakers include Senator Kim Pate and Erin Lee, Executive Director of Lanark County Interval House & Community Support ("LCIHCS"). Also joining our panel will be a person with lived experience who will share her personal experiences and insights. This event is hosted by the Lanark Basic Income Network in collaboration with LCIHCS. While there is no cost to attend, registration via Tickets Please (www.ticketsplease.ca) is required to manage attendance. All are welcome—please join us!

Children's Eco-Literacy Workshop: an exciting program is being hosted in the Fellowship Hall on **Friday, April 25th** from **10:00am to 11:30am**. This is an interactive workshop geared to 6yr to 12yr olds. This month's theme: Poetry and Poop – What's Eating You?

Food Bank: Starting in May, Trinity United will be collecting items from the Smiths Falls Food Bank's wish list. Each month we will collect a specific item(s) and our goal is to collect 60 of each item each month. For May we will collect **NUT FREE Granola Bars and Pudding Cups**. Let's see if we can meet our goal of 60 of each item. We can do it!

Red Dress Sunday: On **May 4th** We will be observing the day by giving a voice to those who no longer have one. The goal of the day is to honour and bring awareness to the thousands of Indigenous women and girls, and two-spirit people who have gone missing or who have been murdered. Flora Riley will be here to honour her sister who is one of these women.

Annual Mushroom Compost Sale—**It's that time of year again!!**
Cost: still \$10 per 25 L bag. On sale starting **Saturday, May 10th** at the REAL DEAL parking lot, 85 William St. Smiths Falls. Trinity volunteers on site Saturdays, May 10th and May 17 and Long Weekend Monday, May 19th. Proceeds will go to the Life and Work of Trinity.

New to You Sale – **The new date for the sale is Saturday, May 17th – 8:00 am to 1:00 p.m.** We are 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, preferably during office hours, but if you need another time, please call the office to arrange. Many thanks!!

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 starting **April 27th**. Colours this year are red, white, pink, orange and salmon - 4 plants for \$12. Note that some colours are in limited supply. Order early to avoid disappointment. Pick up date will be **Saturday, May 31st, 9:00 a.m. until noon**.

Centennial Celebration – Sunday, June 15th at 11 am:

Plan to attend this once in a lifetime service at the EY Centre in Ottawa. Trinity United has reserved a coach bus for those wishing to attend. The bus will depart at 9:15 am. Please R.S.V.P. no later than May 25, 2025. Space will be limited so don't delay. There is a sign-up sheet at the rear of the sanctuary or you can contact the office at 613-283-4444 to reserve your seat.

The Easter Communicator is available at the back of the church for those who would like a physical copy or would like to pass on to a friend. In an effort to reduce the number of copies we mail via Canada Post, please let us know if you would like to be added to the email list by emailing the office at secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca

This Week at Trinity...

Monday, April 21 – Easter Mon. Chair Yoga	9 am – 1pm (Office is open) 11:00am – 12:00pm
Tuesday, April 22 – Office	9am – 1pm
Wednesday, April 23 – Office Bible Study – All Are Welcome	9 am – 1pm 9:30am – Downstairs Parlor
Thursday, April 24 – Office	9 am – 1pm
Friday, April 25	Office Closed
Saturday, April 26	Office Closed
Sunday, April 27 Farming Sunday	Office Closed 10:30 a.m. – Led by Outreach and Social Justice



Easter 2025... from the desk of Rev. Takouhi....



Dear Trinity United Church,

Christ is Risen!

He is Risen Indeed!

Now it is time for all the ministers of the world to rise as well.

I have been blessed, and still am, to be serving United Church Communities of Faith who understand the hardships of being a minister and offer a reprieve following the high seasons of the church, Advent/Christmas, and Lent/Easter. Preparing weekly worship with meaningful sermons is the small part of the iceberg that is visible from the pulpit each week. Not many realize the depth of accompanying all those who are walking through the shadow of death. Of course, there is also the welcomed celebrations of life such as weddings, baptisms, and so much more. Ministry is a balancing act, to say the least. However, every minister who takes their vocation to heart yearns to fully carry out their duty of love to which God has called them.

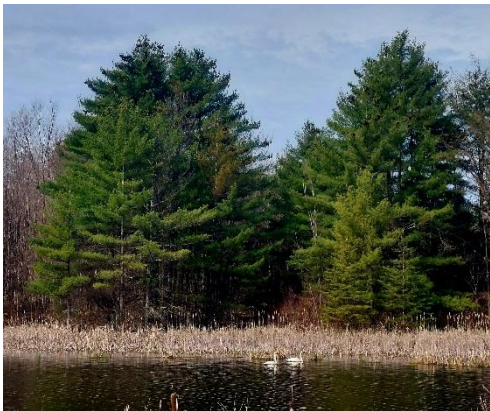
During the high seasons of the church, the journey goes on overdrive to catch up with all the necessary steps to make these special seasons of the church meaningful, and also to assist us to grow in our faith.



Therefore, this coming week (April 21-30 – this includes my personal “weekends”), I will be away from my daily responsibilities of Trinity, and enjoy some time with my family, to rejuvenate my heart, mind, and soul. This Low Week/Sunday helps a minister catch up with all the overtime they put in and the statutory holidays they miss, such as Good Friday, for example.



Therefore, I want to take advantage of this opportunity and wish you all a Blessed Easter and a wonderful week ahead. If I may suggest, invite a friend or two to join you at church next **Sunday, April 27**, and enjoy a service of **Blessings for Farmers and Farm Families**. I know for a fact this is going to be a fun-filled, faith-based Worship Celebration. Don't forget to invite a friend or two to join you at church next Sunday.



Should there be any pastoral care needs, **Liz Church** has agreed to step in, and you may reach her at **(902) 441-5357** or by e-mail: lizchurch1@hotmail.com

I remain your spiritual leader who loves you more today than before; and God's servant-daughter,

Rev. Takouhi Demirdjian-Petro

Incumbent minister