

First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge
Sunday, April 20th, 2025
Easter Sunday 11 am Service

Praise Medley: Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!
Burdens Are Lifted at Calvary
Amen and Amen

Greeting and Announcements

Introit: Alive, Alive

Call to Worship:

This is the day when God shines and grace offers bouquets of good news.

This is the day the Lord sings songs of wonder to awaken us and life teaches us new dance steps.

This is the day the Lord has made!

The day when hope pushes aside the stone of our months of fear, when love takes our hand so we can walk together into life.

Prayer of Approach:

“Christ is risen!”

“He is risen indeed!”

We repeat our Easter shouts of surprise and joy again and again, for news of your victory over the powers of death and evil is so startling, so amazing, so different from the news that bombards us day by day.

Beyond our comprehension, You startle us again and again with resurrection Life, bringing grace and hope and joy. You, in your risen power, are shaping all our days, and so we praise you, Father, Son, and Holy Spirit. Amen.

Hymn: Our God Reigns

A Time for All People

Prayer of Confession: (unison)

God of Imagination, in our foolishness, we think this old story has nothing to do with us, and so we miss the incredible news that love has triumphed over hate, goodness has defeated evil, that life has broken the power of death and the grave.

This is a day of joy, of wonder, of grace which never ends. So may we push aside the stone of indifference we have rolled across our hearts, so we may be reminded that this old story is new every moment, that those ancient promises still hold true, that we are the ones Jesus calls by name and anoints with resurrection love. (Silent reflection)

Assurance of Pardon:

On that first day, and the next, and every day until now and beyond, God calls us by name, planting mercy and life into our hearts. Alleluia! This is the good news!

Christ is our peace, the peace we need, the peace which will heal the world. Alleluia! Christ is Risen. Amen.

Hymn: Every Morning is Easter Morning

Offertory Hymn: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks **VU 179**

Offertory Prayer: (unison)

God of Easter, as we make this offering, we ask that your Spirit would transform it and us. May your love be revealed as we use these gifts to invite people into the story of Jesus. We do this and ask this in the name of the risen one. Amen.

Scripture Readings:

Hebrew Scriptures: Isaiah 65:17-25

Psalms 118 **on page 837 of VU Parts 1,2,3**

Epistle Lesson: 1 Corinthians 15:19-26

Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:1-12

Hymn: Jesus Christ is Risen Today **VU 155**

Meditation

Ministry of Music

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response: Alleluia

Hymn: The Day of Resurrection/Halle, Halle **VU 164/958**

Commission and Benediction:

Let us go forth to celebrate Easter.

**We shall bring love to those who are sad
and share joy with those who are happy.
We will live our lives to the glory of God.
We will live in Easter joy and Easter hope
and bring new life to those we meet.**