**April 23rd, 2023 Third Sunday of Easter – Email/At Home Missal**

**ZOOM INFORMATION FOR SUNDAY APRIL 23, 2023-THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

**The ZOOM link for today’s service, which opens at 9.30 am on April 23rd, 2023, can be found here:**

**Sunday Worship April 23rd, 2023 09:30 am ZOOM room opens; service begins at 10:00 am.**

**Join Zoom Meeting click here:**[**https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144723429?pwd=bDM1S2Q5ZVY3eGxhdlhuWG9UOHIvUT09**](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86144723429?pwd=bDM1S2Q5ZVY3eGxhdlhuWG9UOHIvUT09)

**Meeting ID: 861 4472 3429 Passcode: 701596**

**You don’t have to have a computer or internet to connect to any of our church Zoom services; you can also just call in on one of these numbers (long distance charges may apply): (All Canadian numbers). You can also access the ZOOM from your telephone by using the “One tap mobile” option:**

**+17789072071,,86144723429#,,,,\*701596# Canada**

**+17806660144,,86144723429#,,,,\*701596# Canada**

**Dial by your location:**

**+1 778 907 2071 Canada**

**+1 780 666 0144 Canada**

**+1 204 272 7920 Canada  
+1 438 809 7799 Canada**

**+1 587 328 1099 Canada**

**+1 647 374 4685 Canada  
+1 647 558 0588 Canada**

**Meeting ID: 861 4472 3429 Passcode: 701596**

**Find your local number:** [**https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHrnL3MpQ**](https://us02web.zoom.us/u/kHrnL3MpQ) **……………………………….**

**IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS FOR THE WEEK OF APRIL 23, 2023:**

**Here is the YouTube link for the service from last Sunday, April 16th:**

[**https://youtu.be/eFHe9WpTUs4**](https://youtu.be/eFHe9WpTUs4)

1. **…………………………….**

**PASTORAL VISITS**: Pastor Laura Sauder is available for safe visits with social distancing requirements in place, and also for telephone visits. Please reach out to her by calling the church office at 519-653-4721 to arrange a visit.

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**Bible Study will be in the Art Room on Mondays at 3:00PM.**

**Please join us – all are welcome!**

1. **…………………………..**

You can order your own Maple Syrup from St. Peter’s, Preston. Our partner is a 5th generation Woolwich Township farm that has been producing maple syrup for over 100 years. They adhere to the production guidelines issued by the Ontario Maple Syrup Association, which state the number of taps per tree (max. of 2) for best forest management practices. Handling of the sap and syrup is minimized to reduce the chance of contamination. Their syrup is pure with nothing added, only the water has been removed. As of 2018 their maple syrup is certified organic.

**1 litre Mason Jars of maple syrup are $23.00.**

**Send an email to or** [**alexblack@sympatico.ca**](mailto:alexblack@sympatico.ca) **or call the church office at 519-653-4721 to order your own locally produced fresh Maple Syrup.**

**………………………………**

**Greenhorizons BigYellowBag - Give & Grow Program**

This fundraiser is open to all and enables each one of us to raise funds for St. Peters. If you don’t have a lawn or garden, you can still help by spreading the word to your neighbours, friends and relatives.

Each time that an order is placed at Greenhorizons Sod at 519.653.7494 for a **BigYellowBag** of soil using the **code SPLCC23** you will save $5.00, and the church will receive $10.00.

Spread the word, and the soil!​

**……………………………..**

**Join us in worship with Taize songs, Scripture and Silence**What a joy to sing songs of Alleuia to the Risen Christ together this Easter season.  We will be meeting again this Sunday at **St. Stephen Lutheran Church at 4:00pm this Sunday April 23rd**.   
248 Highland Rd E, Kitchener, ON N2M 3W2. We are always looking for help with these services.  If you would like to sing, please join our pre-service choir practice at 3:15pm.

**……………………………………**

1. **Addison’s Women’s Choir – 40th Anniversary Concert**
2. **Here’s to Song**
3. **Saturday, May 6, 2023**
4. Special Guests: Siobhan Kerr, Harpist,
5. Cambridge Male Chorus, AWC Alumni & Past
6. Marantha Christian Reformed Church, 94 Elgin Street, South, Cambridge
7. Tickets: Adults $15.00 (under 12 free)
8. **To place an order, please telephone Barbara Berg at 519-653-0885, or by email at** [**bergsnest@bell.net**](mailto:bergsnest@bell.net)

**…………………………..**

**Menno Singers and artistic director Brandon Leis** present our Spring Concert **– ‘a light exists in spring...In nature, nothing is perfect and everything is perfect.’** at St Jacobs Mennonite Church (1310 King St. N, St Jacobs) on Saturday, May 6 at 7:30pm. $25 Adults. $5 Children/Students.Tickets available on-line or at the door (cash or credit)  [www.mennosingers.com](http://www.mennosingers.com)

**………………………………**

**Bridges VBS 2023 Knights of North Castle** - Be strong in the Lord and in the strength of God’s power! Application Forms are located in the narthex or by calling the church office at 519-653-4721. Dates: July 10-14, 2023, 9:00am – 4:00 pm Children who are between the ages of 5 and 11 (as of December 31, 2023). Registration fee of $125/participant (including lunch & snacks) is due upon registration. Please make cheques payable to Bridges VBS (please note child’s name on cheque, post-dated cheques will not be accepted). As this camp is running at cost, tax receipts will not be issued and registration fees are non-refundable. Registration closes June 1st, or when spaces are filled. Location: St. Luke's Evangelical Lutheran Church (317 Franklin St. N, Kitchener). We are extremely grateful to St. Luke's for hosting us and can't wait to be in this great space. This week long VBS is run solely by volunteers, both youth and adult. There are many volunteer opportunities that cover a wide range of skill, as well as a variety of time commitments. [bridgesvbs.weebly.com](http://bridgesvbs.weebly.com/)

**…………………………….**

**Yard Sale -** **Tentative dates are July 7 and 8, 2023**. We’re looking for good, gently used, clean items of all kinds, and clothing. Please – no very large mirrors, no complete dining room suites, no large old television sets. If you’re unsure of whether what you have is suitable or not, leave a message at the church office. So – start your spring clear out and think of St. Peter’s. We’d love to re-purpose your goods and make a new owner happy. Items may be dropped off at church; just let us know when we can meet with you.

**……………………………………….**

**Trillium United Church Women Spring Luncheon** 450 King St.E. Cambridge, ON 519-653-6601. Proceeds to UCW Outreach Projects. **Come and Enjoy Salad with Vol-Au-Vents (chicken filled pastry) Trio of Desserts w/coffee & tea. Wednesday, May 3, 2023 11:30am - 1:00pm Cost $18 .**

Limited Tickets available at the church office or any UCW member.

**……………………………………..**

1. **Presiding Pastor: Rev. Laura Sauder**
2. **Organist & Director of Music: Bradley Moggach**
3. **Assisting Minister: Emily Reidl**
4. **Reader: Austin Dykstra**

**Land Acknowledgement:**

A: With thankful hearts we acknowledge that the land upon which we live and worship here at St Peter’s is the treaty land of the Six Nations, comprising in part the territory of the Haudenosaunee, Anishinaabe and Neutral Peoples. This land is covered by treaties such as the Dish with One Spoon Treaty, the Two Row Wampum Treaty and the Haldimand Treaty of 1784. As we continue to learn more about the truth of our shared history, we desire to grow in Peace, Friendship and Respect, leading ultimately to true reconciliation.

**Gathering Hymn: ELW # 374 ‘Day of Arising’**

1 Day of arising,

Christ on the roadway,

unknown companion walks with his own.

When they invite him,

as fades the first day,

and bread is broken, Christ is made known.

2 When we are walking,

doubtful and dreading,

blinded by sadness, slowness of heart,

yet Christ walks with us,

ever awaiting

our invitation: Stay, do not part.

3 Lo, I am with you,

Jesus has spoken.

This is Christ's promise, this is Christ's sign:

when the church gathers,

when bread is broken,

there Christ is with us in bread and wine.

4 Christ, our companion,

hope for the journey,

bread of compassion, open our eyes.

Grant us your vision,

set all hearts burning

that all creation with you may rise.

*(Title: Day of Arising; Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953; Text © 1996 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.; All rights reserved, Used by permission. Music: Carl F. Schalk, b 1929; Music © 1999 Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved, Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Greeting:**

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

**C: And also with you.**

**ELW # 155 ‘Kyrie’**

Kyrie eleison

Christe eleison

*(Title: Kyrie; Text: Public Domain; Music: Russian Orthodox Traditional; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayer of the Day***:*

O God, your Easter gift of salvation is the promise of life for the whole of creation. Open our hearts and minds to the presence of your Spirit pulsing through sky and sea, plants and creatures, rocks and stars. In our pilgrimage of faith, unite us in our care for the earth, our home. Amen.\*

**Introduction to the Psalm**

**Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

Psalm 116 is a psalm of thanksgiving, offering praise to God for deliverance from a difficult situation. Its words invite us to remember how God has been good to our ancestors in the faith, and the promise that this goodness will also be for us.

**Psalm: Psalm 116:1-4, 12-19**

I love the Lord, who has **|** heard my voice,

and listened to my **|** supplication,

for the Lord has given **|** ear to me

whenev- **|** er I called.

The cords of death entangled me; the anguish of the grave **|** came upon me;

I came to **|** grief and sorrow.

Then I called upon the name **|** of the Lord:

“O Lord, I pray you, **|** save my life.”

How shall I re- **|** pay the Lord

for all the good things God has **|** done for me?

I will lift the cup **|** of salvation

and call on the name **|** of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows **|** to the Lord

in the presence of **|** all God’s people.

Precious in your **|** sight, O Lord,

is the death **|** of your servants.

O Lord, truly I **|** am your servant;

I am your servant, the child of your handmaid; you have freed me **|** from my bonds.

I will offer you the sacrifice **|** of thanksgiving

and call upon the name **|** of the Lord.

I will fulfill my vows **|** to the Lord

in the presence of **|** all God’s people,

in the courts of **|** the Lord’s house,

in the midst of you, O Jerusalem. **|** Hallelujah!\*

**Lesson Introduction *(Pastor Laura)*1 Peter 1:17-23**

Last week our reading from 1st Peter reminded the community of the hope they have because of Christ, even in the midst of struggle. Today we see a transition to speaking about how we ought to live because of God’s goodness for us. We are reminded that our words and actions and deeds ought to reflect the grace and love we have received from God. Let us listen to the word…

**The Reading: 1 Peter 1:17-23**

Since you call upon a Father who judges all people according to their actions without favoritism, you should conduct yourselves with reverence during the time of your dwelling in a strange land. Live in this way, knowing that you were not liberated by perishable things like silver or gold from the empty lifestyle you inherited from your ancestors. Instead, you were liberated by the precious blood of Christ, like that of a flawless, spotless lamb. Christ was chosen before the creation of the world, but was only revealed at the end of time. This was done for you, who through Christ are faithful to the God who raised him from the dead and gave him glory. So now, your faith and hope should rest in God.

As you set yourselves apart by your obedience to the truth so that you might have genuine affection for your fellow believers, love each other deeply and earnestly. Do this because you have been given new birth—not from the type of seed that decays but from seed that doesn’t. This seed is God’s life-giving and enduring word. *(CEB)*

Word of God, Word of Life*.* ***C: Thanks be to God.****\**

**Message for All Ages *(Pastor Laura)***

**Gospel Acclamation:** **ACSSetting 12** *(page 33)*

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.

Lord, to whom shall we go?

You have the words of eternal life.

Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.\*

**The Holy Gospel according to Luke 24:13-35**

***C: Glory to you, O Lord.***

On that same day, when Jesus had appeared to Mary Magdalene, two disciples were traveling to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem. They were talking to each other about everything that had happened. While they were discussing these things, Jesus himself arrived and joined them on their journey. They were prevented from recognizing him.

He said to them, “What are you talking about as you walk along?” They stopped, their faces downcast.

The one named Cleopas replied, “Are you the only visitor to Jerusalem who is unaware of the things that have taken place there over the last few days?”

He said to them, “What things?”

They said to him, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth. Because of his powerful deeds and words, he was recognized by God and all the people as a prophet. But our chief priests and our leaders handed him over to be sentenced to death, and they crucified him. We had hoped he was the one who would redeem Israel. All these things happened three days ago. But there’s more: Some women from our group have left us stunned. They went to the tomb early this morning and didn’t find his body. They came to us saying that they had even seen a vision of angels who told them he is alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found things just as the women said. They didn’t see him.”

Then Jesus said to them, “You foolish people! Your dull minds keep you from believing all that the prophets talked about. Wasn’t it necessary for the Christ to suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then he interpreted for them the things written about himself in all the scriptures, starting with Moses and going through all the Prophets.

When they came to Emmaus, he acted as if he was going on ahead. But they urged him, saying, “Stay with us. It’s nearly evening, and the day is almost over.” So he went in to stay with them. After he took his seat at the table with them, he took the bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Their eyes were opened and they recognized him, but he disappeared from their sight. They said to each other, “Weren’t our hearts on fire when he spoke to us along the road and when he explained the scriptures for us?”

They got up right then and returned to Jerusalem. They found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying to each other, “The Lord really has risen! He appeared to Simon!” Then the two disciples described what had happened along the road and how Jesus was made known to them as he broke the bread.  *(CEB)*

The Gospel of the Lord.***C: Praise to you, O Christ***

**Sermon**

**Luke 24:13-35**

As two of Jesus’ disciples make their way from Jerusalem to Emmaus – Cleopas and the other unnamed – they have no shortage of things to talk about. So much has happened these last days in Jerusalem.

It started on such a high. The energy, the excitement, the anticipation, as Jesus arrived in the holy city. Crowds cheered and welcomed him as a king. There had been so much hope that Jesus might be the one to free them from the Romans.

But all that quickly came to an end on Friday when Jesus was arrested and put to death. In an instant, all their hope for change was dashed. Their hearts broken by the death of their teacher and friend.

And what to make of the news that Jesus’ body is now missing. Some of the women claim that an angel appeared to them and said that the reason his body is gone is that he’s actually alive again. That he rose from the dead! But how can that be true?

The most logical conclusion is that it really is all over. This movement they had put so much hope and work into, it can’t carry on without Jesus. And so confused and afraid, Cleopas and his friend walk toward Emmaus, with faces downcast.

Yesterday, April 22nd, was Earth Day, which is considered the birth of the modern environmental movement. The first one was observed in 1970, and it’s now a global observance marked by more than a billion people every year. Earth Day is meant to be a day of action to change human behavior and create global, national and local policy changes.1

It’s pretty remarkable when you think that for over half a century, folks have been working to raise awareness about environmental issues. And so many strides have been made. Regulating pesticides, phasing out lead in gasoline, healing the hole in the ozone, the development of green building technologies and green energy alternatives.

And, yet it feels as though with every stride in the right direction, the magnitude of the environmental challenge only grows bigger. As we grapple with the challenges of addressing climate change, to the degree and pace that is deemed necessary, it’s hard some days not to feel downcast like those disciples did on their way to Emmaus.

As Cleopas and his friend walk the road to Emmaus, discussing all the events of the last few days, they’re joined by a stranger. Of course, to us, this is no stranger. We know, because the gospel writer tells us, that this is the risen Jesus. But the two men, who are prevented from recognizing him, have no clue.

Hours of walking and talking; of sharing their fears, their dashed hopes, their confusion – and not even an inkling that this man walking with them is the very one for whom their hearts are longing.

It’s not until they reach their destination and insist that this new friend join them for a meal that all is revealed. In a meal that mirrors that final meal he shared with his closest disciples, Jesus takes bread, blesses it and gives it to them to eat. Only then do they see that Jesus is right there with them.

But as soon as they recognize him, ‘poof,’ he’s gone. And while the moment of recognition is fleeting, slowly the realization sinks in that he’d been with them all along.

In an instant, their hope is rekindled and the only thing they can think to do is get up and run all the way back to Jerusalem, through the night presumably, to share the good news that they too have seen the risen Lord.

For me, the promise of Emmaus is the promise that Jesus meets us on the journey, even when we’re prevented from seeing it.

As we mark Earth Day, I’m especially aware of the ways our modern-living, especially busy, city life, disconnects us from creation. And yet it’s this very creation that has the power to connect with God – our source of hope and peace.

In his poem, “The Peace of Wild Things,” Wendell Berry, a Kentucky based author and farmer, helps put this into words. He writes,

“When despair for the world grows in me

and I wake in the night at the least sound

in fear of what my life and my children’s lives may be,

I go and lie down where the wood drake

rests in his beauty on the water, and the great heron feeds.

I come into the peace of wild things

who do not tax their lives with forethought

of grief. I come into the presence of still water.

And I feel above me the day-blind stars

waiting with their light. For a time

I rest in the grace of the world, and am free.”2

As we wonder about the environmental challenges before us, spending time in nature, in God’s creation, has the power to rekindle our hope and renew us for the next task. To remind us who holds us and who walks with us as we face the daunting challenges before us.

As with the disciples this is not a one and done kind of thing. Just as the excitement and energy of their experience with the risen Lord would fade, and they would need one another – their community – for strength and encouragement as they carried on Jesus’ work. So to do we need regular connection with the natural world. And regular connection with one another, for strength and encouragement on this journey.

My invitation is for us today is a simple one. To take some time today and this week to give thanks for the earth. To spend time outside – in the peace of wild things if we can – in our backyard, in a park, or even looking out our window, or on a drive in the country. To pay attention to the signs of spring and new life that are all around at this time of year in the northern hemisphere, in this Easter season of resurrection.

Gracious Spirit, continue to surprise and renew us with the lessons and wisdom and hope that is already all around us in God’s good creation, so that we too may have strength for the journey. AMEN.

1 https://www.earthday.org/history/

2 “The Peace of Wild Things” by Wendell Berry. https://onbeing.org/poetry/the-peace-of-wild-things

**Hymn of the Day: ELW # 737 ‘He Comes to Us as One Unknown’**

1 He comes to us as one unknown,

a breath unseen, unheard;

as though within a heart of stone,

or shriveled seed in darkness sown,

a pulse of being stirred,

a pulse of being stirred.

2 He comes when souls in silence lie

and thoughts of day depart;

half-seen upon the inward eye,

a falling star across the sky

of night within the heart,

of night within the heart.

3 He comes to us in sound of seas,

the ocean's fume and foam;

yet small and still upon the breeze,

a wind that stirs the tops of trees,

a voice to call us home,

a voice to call us home.

4 He comes in love as once he came

by flesh and blood and birth;

to bear within our mortal frame

a life, a death, a saving name,

for ev'ry child of earth,

for ev'ry child of earth.

5 He comes in truth when faith is grown;

believed, obeyed, adored;

the Christ in all the scriptures shown,

as yet unseen, but not unknown,

our Savior and our Lord,

our Savior and our Lord.

*(Title: He Comes to Us as One Unknown; Text: Text: Timothy Dudley-Smith, b. 1926, Text © 1984 Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream, IL 60188. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: C. Hubert H. Parry, 1848-1918; Public Domain; Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Prayers of Intercession:**

A: United in the hope and joy of the resurrection, let us pray for the church, the world, and all in need.

A brief silence.

Ever-present God, you make yourself known in the breaking of the bread and in the bonds of community. Reveal yourself to us in the faces of all we meet. Reveal yourself to us in your good creation. Strengthened by your body and blood, let us boldly live out your good news. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

As we know you in the breaking of the bread, we know you in the grains of the field and the flowing waters. Help us to care for the earth you lovingly create. Strengthen those who safeguard threatened land and water. Hear us, O God.  **C: Your mercy is great.**

You are the authority to whom we dedicate our lives. Help us keep the needs of those most vulnerable at the forefront of our community. Move us to care for any who are disregarded or oppressed. We pray for all those living with violence, especially the people of Sudan, and the families and communities of Ralph Yarl, Kaylin Gillis, and Payton Washington. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Mothering God, you feed and comfort those who hunger. Open the hearts of those who horde resources and lead them to share your abundance. We pray for anyone hungering for your comforting presence this day (Especially we pray for Bill, Don, Tammy, Alice, Don, Lynn, Bryan, Nansea, Helen, Sharon, Donald, Creena, Shirley, Maya, Karen, Clara, Carol, Jeff, Aaron, Mackenzie, Rhett, Linda, Jan, Ken, Lena, Brian, John, Anne, Pastor Neil, Robin, and those we name aloud or in the silence of our hearts….. ). Hear us, O God.

**C: Your mercy is great.**

You pour out your love on those who are oppressed. Support and comfort anyone who is marginalized by gender or sexuality and those whose stories are not believed. Form this community to listen faithfully and speak honestly in our ministry together. Hear us, O God. **C: Your mercy is great.**

Rejoicing in the victory of Christ’s resurrection, we lift our prayers and praise to you, almighty and eternal God; through Jesus Christ, our risen Lord. **Amen.\***

**Share the peace of Christ:**

Angels said it to startled shepherds,

Jesus said it to frightened followers,

And now these words which come from heaven

are shared to make us whole and make us one.

Peace be with you.

***C: And also with you.***

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

Our worship continues with the offering of our gifts.

**Offering**

**Offertory Music: ACS # 1067 ‘For the Wholeness of the Earth’**

1 We lift this prayer for the wholeness of the earth.

We lift this prayer for the wholeness of the earth.

We lift this prayer for the wholeness of the earth.

Can you feel it rising in you?

2 We turn our lives to the wholeness of the earth.

We turn our lives to the wholeness of the earth.

We turn our lives to the wholeness of the earth.

Can you feel it spinning in you?

3 Give thanks to God for the wholeness of the earth.

Give thanks to God for the wholeness of the earth.

Give thanks to God for the wholeness of the earth.

Can you feel it rising in you?

*(Title: For the Wholeness of the Earth; Text & Music: Bret Hesla, b. 1957; © 2017 Bret Hesla, admin. Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission. Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Offering Prayer:**

A: Generous God,

in this meal you offer your very self.

We give thanks for these gifts of the earth.

In the breaking of this bread

reveal to us the Risen One.

In the pouring of this wine

pour us out in service to the world;

through Christ our Lord.

Amen.\*

**You are invited to prepare your table with bread and wine, or crackers and juice, whatever is available to you, so that you may participate in the meal.**

**Meal: Click here for the communion liturgy from worship on YouTube:**

[**https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4**](https://youtu.be/ViXmTzRsfU4)

1. **Great Thanksgiving: ACS Setting 12: ‘Dialogue…’ *(page 36) (sung)***

The Lord be with you. **C: And also with you.**

Lift up your hearts. **C: We lift them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  **C: It is right to give our thanks and praise**

**ELW Setting 12:** ‘Preface…’ (Easter)

It is indeed right, our duty and our joy,

that we should at all times and in all places

give thanks and praise to you, almighty and merciful God,

for the glorious resurrection of our Savior Jesus Christ,

the true Paschal Lamb who gave himself to take away our sin;

who in dying has destroyed death,

and in rising has brought us to eternal life.

And so, with Mary Magdalene and Peter and all the witnesses of the resurrection,

with earth and sea and all their creatures,

and with angels and archangels, cherubim and seraphim,

we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

**ELW Setting 12:** ‘Holy, Holy, Holy…’ (page 36 )

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of pow’r and God of might,

heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

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

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Hosanna, hosanna in the highest.\*

**Thanksgiving at the Table:**

On the night before he died,

our Lord Jesus took bread, and gave thanks;

broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:

Take and eat; this is my body, given for you.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Again, after supper, he took the cup, gave thanks,

and gave it for all to drink, saying:

This cup is the new covenant in my blood,

shed for you and for all people for the forgiveness of sin.

Do this for the remembrance of me.

Gathered into one by the Holy Spirit, let us pray as Jesus taught us:

**An Ecological Lord’s Prayer:**  
Our nurturing God, present in the entire cosmos,   
Blessed are your names: Life and Love.

May your way of love   
and your desire for life  
be available to all creatures   
​all lands, all waters, and skies.

Provide for us all that we need for life,  
through healthy soil and water,   
abundant gardens, food forests,   
and regenerative agriculture.

Forgive us when we exploit the earth,   
over-fish the seas,  
pollute the skies, and generally   
overstep healthy boundaries  
with our neighbours.   
Move us into living  
a way of peace that heals  
the heart of all creation  
and repairs the fabric of life.  
Lead us away from greedy ways:  
lives of consumerism and excess,  
and deliver us from apathy and inaction.

For we want to be faithful to your vision  
of a life of kinship, reconciliation, and love.

Today and each new day, amen.

*- by Wendy Janzen (https://www.burningbushforestchurch.ca/)*

**Invitation to Communion:**

This is Christ’s table. All are welcome here to receive God’s good gifts of love, mercy, grace, and forgiveness.

I invite those at home, and those in the building communing by fellowship cup, to take your bread or cracker as we say together, “The body of Christ, given for us.”

And, as we take our cup we say, “The blood of Christ, shed for us.”

**Communion: Music: ELW # 348** ‘Stay With Me’

Stay with me,

remain here with me,

watch and pray.

Watch and pray.

*(Title: Stay with Me; Text: Taizé Community; Text © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, GIA Publications, Inc., agent. 7404 S. Mason Ave., Chicago, IL 60638. www.giamusic.com. 800.442.3358. All rights reserved. Used by permission. Music: Jacques Berthier, 1923-1994; © 1984 Les Presses de Taizé, admin. GIA Publications, Inc.; All rights reserved. Used by permission.Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

P: May the body and blood of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ strengthen you, and keep you, in his grace.

***C: Amen.***

**Prayer after Communion:**

A: Gracious God,

in you we live and move and have our being.

With your word and this meal of grace,

you have nourished our life together.

Strengthen us to show your love

and serve the world in Jesus’ name. **Amen.**

*(A Wee Worship Book – Liturgy for Holy Communion A #30810; Type: Words; First Line: Call to worship – Gather us in; Language: English (pages 80-92); Contributors: Iona community; Text: © 1999, WGRG, Iona community, GIA Publications, Inc; exclusive North American agent. All rights reserved. Used by permission.) Reprinted and Streamed with permission under ONE LICENSE, License #A-727610. All rights reserved.)*

**Blessing:**

The God of all,

who raised ☩ Jesus from the dead,

bless you by the power of the Holy Spirit

to live in the new creation. Amen.\*

**Sending Hymn:** **ELW # 548 ‘**Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen’

1 Rise, O church, like Christ arisen,

from this meal of love and grace;

may we through such love envision

whose we are, and whose, our praise.

Alleluia, alleluia;

God, the wonder of our days.

2 Rise, transformed, and choose to follow

after Christ, though wounded, whole;

broken, shared, our lives are hallowed

to release and to console.

Alleluia, alleluia;

Christ, our present, past, and goal.

3 Rise, remember well the future

God has called us to receive;

present by God's loving nurture,

Spirited then let us live.

Alleluia, alleluia;

Spirit, grace by whom we live.

4 Service be our sure vocation;

courage be our daily breath;

mercy be our destination

from this day and unto death.

Alleluia, alleluia.

Rise, O church, a living faith.

*(Title: Rise, O Church, like Christ Arisen; Text: Susan Palo Cherwien, b. 1953; Text © 1997 Susan Palo Cherwien, admin. Augsburg Fortress.; All rights reserved; Used by permission. Music: Timothy J. Strand, b. 1958. © 1997 Augsburg Fortress; All rights reserved. Used by permission;*

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**Dismissal:**

A: Go in peace. Serve the Risen One.

***C: Thanks be to God.\****

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