



**Easter Sunday: The Feast of the Resurrection  
March 31, 2024**

*Preparing for Worship: In Mark's Gospel account of Easter morning, we are reminded that Easter comes to us again, and again, even if we don't know what to make of God's resurrection ways. Again and again, the sun rises, the Son rises. What we do next is up to us.*

**Gathering Music  
& Announcements**

Morning-mood (from "Peer Gynt" Suite No. 1)

Edvard Grieg

**We Approach God**

**Words of Welcome & Acknowledgment of the Land  
Centering**

In the name of God, grace and peace be with you.  
And also with you.

**The Easter Prologue**

**Rekindling the Light of Christ  
The Easter Procession**

Hymn of Praise Christ the Lord is Risen Today

**VU 155-157**  
v. 1 157, v. 2 156 (fr), v. 3-4 157, v. 4 155

**Easter Proclamation**

The light of Christ!  
Nous rendons grâce à Dieu! Hallelujah!  
We will live in the light of the Risen Christ.  
We will proclaim with our lives that Christ is risen indeed. Hallelujah!

**Easter Morning Gathering Prayer**

**Choral Anthem** Hallelujah! Resurrection Day!

Larry Shackley

**We Explore God's Word Together**

**With the Children** Finding the Hidden Hallelujahs

*Children leave for their Easter Activity. They will rejoin us for Communion*

Reading the Gospel Mark 16:1-8

This is the Gospel of God in Jesus Christ. Hallelujah!  
Thanks be to God, Hallelujah!

Reflecting on the Text Again and Again the Sun/the Son Rises

Hymn Because You Live, O Christ

VU 178

### An Easter Affirmation of Faith

We who know the pains of living, the grief of endings, and of the tomb,  
we who know the fear of unknowing, and the darkness before the dawn,  
we know this, too.

We know that again and again, the sun will rise.

Again and again,

this tomb will be empty, and the Son of God will rise.

Again and again, love will win;

we will be loved by God, and in God's name, we will love.

Again and again, over death, life will win,

and again and again, in the name of the Risen Christ,

we will herald that new life,

of peace with justice,

of creativity with care.

Again and again, God's life and love remain undefeated.

The sun, and the Son will rise.

Again and again.

In this, we place our trust, our hope, and our life. Amen.

### We Gather at the Table

Offering *time, talent, and treasure, bread and cup*

Sung Response The Lord of Life

v. 2,3 VU 169

### Prayer of Dedication

Holy One, we offer the work of our hands,

**we offer the love of our hearts,**

**we offer the fruits of the harvest.**

By the graciousness of God our Creator,

the best of earth and heaven are set at these tables,

**to become, in remembrance of Christ Jesus, crucified and risen,**

**a banquet of your blessing, for the feeding, healing and mending of Earth. Amen.**

### Invitation

*In the United Church of Canada, all who seek life and wholeness with God  
are welcome at the Table of Jesus Christ.*

*This includes children and visitors. You are all welcome.*

*Dans l'Église unie du Canada, tous ceux qui cherchent la vie et la plénitude avec Dieu  
sont les bienvenu(e)s à la table de Jésus-Christ.*

*Cela inclut les enfants et les visiteurs.*

God be with you!

**God be with you also.**

Lift up hearts and voices to God.

**We lift our hearts and prayers in thanks.**

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord's Prayer

VU 921

*Sharing the Bread of Life and Cup of Covenant Blessing*

Music during Communion

VU 466, VU 179 (v.1,2); VU 183 (v.1,2,4)

Prayer after Communion

## We Go Out to Proclaim Resurrection

Life and Work of the Community

Easter Hymn

Christ is Alive

VU 158

*Children hand out flowers to onsite worshippers ready to attach to the outdoor Easter Cross*

Sending out with Blessing

....So, then, we step into this resurrected life,  
enfolded, and recreated by our Creator's love,  
commissioned by the Risen Christ,  
to live, filled with the Spirit's power and courage.  
Let us go in joy. Alleluia! Amen!

Postlude

Revive Us Again

*Tune by John J. Husband, arr. Mark Hayes*

*Onsite worshippers "flower the Easter Cross" outside on the lawn.*

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