

St. Andrew's River Heights United Church

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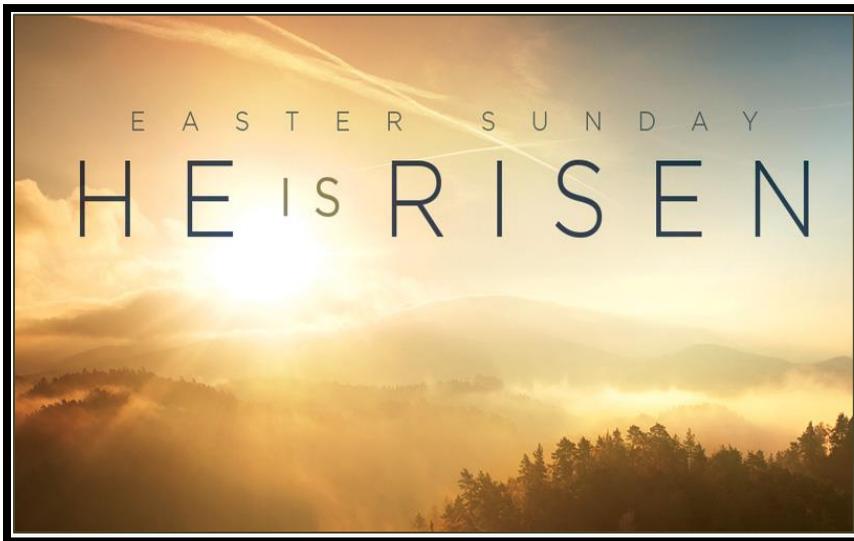
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Easter Sunday Communion

April 21, 2019



Our Vision

To live as Christ would have us live, in love,
with compassion and seeking justice, by sharing God's grace,
learning from scripture, growing through the Spirit
and being transformed by faith.

EASTER SUNDAY MORNING COMMUNION

*Congregational responses in **bold print**.

OPENING RESPONSE

This is the day: **When tears are wiped away.
Shattered hearts are mended. Fears are replaced with joy.**

This is the day: **When the Lord rolls away the stone of fear.
Throws off death's clothes. Goes ahead of us into God's future.**

This is the day: **Death has no fear for us. Sin has lost its power over us.
God opens the tombs of our hearts to fill us with life.**

This is the day-Easter Day! **Christ is risen! Hallelujah!**

PRAYER OF APPROACH

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, and the power, and the glory, and the power,
and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

CALL FOR RECONCILIATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Emptier of tombs, on this morning of hallelujahs,
we must confess how human we are.
We haven't done any great evil,
but we have failed to do good when we had the chance.
We easily accept the witness of the angel in the tomb,
But find it difficult to share this good news with our friends and neighbours.
Dazzling God, bring us to life.
Where we are tired and stressed, give us the energy to serve your creation;
transform our hardened hearts into fountains of grace;
forgive us for all the damage we have done,
and fill us with the joy of your Spirit. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

The God of every morning be with you.

And also with you.

People of Easter morning, lift up your hearts!

We lift them to the one who has raised Jesus from the grave.

People of Easter's joy, give thanks to the One who rises us to new life.

We sing our hallelujahs to the God of Everlasting Love.

Therefore, we join our voices this morning
with those who stood at the empty tomb,
as well as with those of every place and time,
saying our words of Easter joy to you:

**Holy are you, God of every day, and blessed is Jesus Christ,
Bright Morning Star.**

Creator of all that is good, he entered the shadows of hell to lead us into
hope's light.

Beloved of your heart, he embraced our sin so we could be forgiven.

Glory beyond imagination, Jesus welcomed death so we could enter life eternal.

**Even as we believe what we may not understand,
we trust that mystery we call faith.**

MEMORIAL ACCLAMATION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Easter God, you have met us in bread and wine,
and surprised us with your joy.**

**Send us out into the world dancing with delight
and with hallelujahs ringing in our hearts,
to share your justice and your praise.**

Amen.

BLESSING