# ST. DAVID'S UNITED CHURCH April 17, 2022 Caster Sunday



Title: The Women at the Empty Tomb Artist: KPB Stevens Year: 2019

Growing and Deepening our Spiritual Lives in an Affirming and Inclusive community

# Welcome to St. David's United Church

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April 17, 2022

Presiding: Amy Haynes

# We gather in faith as a Christ-infused church

(Welcome to worship today. Whether you are worshipping with us today for the first time or you have been here for longer than you can remember, you are welcome to be here and to participate however you feel comfortable. Regardless of your age, stage, gender, sexual identity, or how great or small you feel your faith is we each bring something of ourselves to this sacred space. God welcomes each of us to worship.)

#### SEED OF MEDITATION

"The cross is the standing statement of what we do to one another and to ourselves. The resurrection is the standing statement of what God does to us in return."

-Richard Rohr

#### PRELUDE

Organ Concerto in B Flat Major HWV 294 - Op.4 No.6 G. F. Handel Andante allegro – Larghetto – Allegro moderato

#### WELCOME

#### LIGHTING THE NEW FIRE

One: This is the dawn of a new creation: come be inspired by the new fire!

One: Christ is risen! All: He is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

#### LIGHTING CANDLES

# CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Christ has risen. All: Christ has risen indeed!

One: God is alive... All: New birth is given.

One: Hope is alive...All: a new age is dawning.

One: Love is alive... All: Death cannot harm us.

One: Joy is alive..All: Redemption is here.

One: We are alive! All: New life is within us.

One: The church is transformed and alive! All: God's Spirit is within

us. Let us celebrate the God of resurrection!

# **OPENING PRAYER**

Holy Spirit, you show us the meaning of hope -- that after tragedy, after death, there is more meaning to be lived. There is more beauty to witness, more intimacy to experience, more relationships to delight in, more liberation to embody. Embolden us to be a people who practice this hope. Amen.

**OPENING HYMN** Morning Has Broken

VU #409

\*If it is in your heart to do so, please come forward and place a flower on the cross.\*

- 1 Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!
- Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass.
  Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
- 3 Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

# PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All:** Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling, and anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News.

Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

## WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb is found empty. Mary calls out, "I have seen the Lord!" We have seen Christ, too, in every helping hand, in every heartfelt gift, in every choice to restore life, resist evil, and seek justice in this world. We are called to this new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation. You are forgiven; accept your forgiveness and know that God loves you and desires great joy for your life. Walk forward on this journey of faith, knowing your siblings in Christ are with you. Amen.

# ANTHEM Living Hope Phil Wickham & Brian Johnson/arr. David Wise

SCRIPTURE Isaiah 65:17-25, Psalm 118 (Sung/Spoken Parts 1,3&4) Acts 10:34-43, John 20:1-18



Psalm 118

#### REFLECTION

ANTHEM

He Is Risen

Paul Baloche & Graham Kendrick/ arr. Marty Hamby

# PASSING OF THE PEACE

# OFFERING AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION

# PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial and deliver us from evil for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours, now and forever

VU #448

VU #959

- HYMNWe Know That Christ is Raised1We know that Christ is raised and dies no more.<br/>Embraced by death, he broke its fearful hold,<br/>and our despair he turned to blazing joy.<br/>Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 2 We share by water in his saving death. Reborn, we share with him an Easter life as living members of a living Christ. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 3 The God of splendour clothes the Son with life. The Spirit's fission shakes the church of God. Baptized, we live with God the Three in One. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
- 4 A new creation comes to life and grows as Christ's new body takes on flesh and blood. The universe restored and whole will sing: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

#### **AFFIRMATION OF FAITH**

We are not alone, we live in God's world. We believe in God: who has created and is creating, who has come in Jesus, the Word made flesh, to reconcile and make new, who works in us and others by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church: to celebrate God's presence, to live with respect in Creation, to love and serve others, to seek justice and resist evil, to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death, God is with us. We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

#### RENEWAL OF BAPTISM Response: We will, God being our helper.

HYMN	Jesus Christ is Risen Today	VU #155
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!

Sing we to our God above, hallelujah! 4 praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah! praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah! praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

## BLESSING

**BENEDICTION** *"Hallelujah" from 'Messiah'* G. F. Handel

POSTLUDE Organ Sonata No. 2: Allegro maestoso e vivace & Allergo moderato Felix Mendelssohn

Please stay after worship for a short congregational meeting to pass a motion regarding Northminster.

#### THANKS TO THOSE ASSISTING WITH OUR SUNDAY WORSHIP EXPERIENCE

- Scripture Reader Eldon Godfrey
  - Music Combined Choirs
  - Accompanist Garrett Krause
    - Orchestra - Violin I-Eileen Kosasih, Violin II-Claire Sharp, Viola-Osmond Chiu, Cello-Everett Yee. Bassoon-Jonathan Gresl. 1st Trumpet-Pam Breuer, 2nd Trumpet-Anthony Edmunds

**PSALT & Tech Team** 

Sacred Service Team