

St. Andrew's United Church,
188 Wellington Street

<http://www.standrewsunitedmiramichi.org>

Minister: Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight

Organist & Choir Director: Mrs. Lois McKinnon

Musical Leadership: Elaine Dickson, Sally Donald,
Marjorie Cassidy, Bill Gunn and John Bosma

EASTER SUNDAY – April 4, 2021

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP GOD

* stand as able

Musical Prelude

Gathering Words:

L: It was dark when the women arose, when they gathered the things of remembrance, to prepare his body – the perfumes, the oils. It was dark as they walked to the tomb, the night was still around them, wrapping them, in their grief. It was dark when they looked inside... and then... they heard the truth: Christ is risen!

(Congregation stands as able)

*Introit: Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks (#179VU) (x2)

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give thanks to the risen Christ;

Hallelujah, hallelujah, give praise to God's name.

Lighting of the Christ Candle: *Bev & Barry Campbell, cong. seated*

One: The angel said to the women, "Don't be alarmed. I know you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He is not here – he has been raised! Look, here is the place they laid him. Now go and give this message to his disciples."

Two: Today we celebrate the light which has conquered the darkness. We light the Christ candle aware that the power of the Resurrection has forever changed who we are and given us the power to become children of the light.

(Light the Christ Candle)

One: Today we celebrate: new life, new joy, new possibilities, and new light!

**All: Alleluia, Christ is risen!
Christ is risen indeed, Alleluia!**

2.

Opening Prayer:

Risen Christ, when everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again, your love broke through.

Your love was too strong, too wide, too deep for death to hold. The sparks cast by your love dance and spread and burst forth with resurrection light.

Gracious God, we praise you for the light of new life made possible through Jesus.

We praise you for the light of new life that shone on the first witnesses of resurrection.

We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today.

We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Amen.

*Hymn: #155, Jesus Christ is Risen Today (vs. 1,2,3)

Welcome & Announcements

Conversation with the Young and Young at Heart

Sing: Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah,

Praise ye the Lord.

Hallelu, hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah,

Praise ye the Lord.

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord, Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord.

THE WORD OF GOD PROCLAIMED

*Responsive Reading: Psalm 118 (p. 837) Parts 1,2,3

Gospel Lesson: John 20:1-18 – *Jayme Campbell*

Ministry of Music: "He Lives"

Reflection

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Prayer

Dedication of the Offering

3.

*Choral Offertory: (MV #191)

**What can I do? What can I bring?
What can I say? What can I sing?
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

*Offertory Prayer:

We thank you not only for the special gift of Easter, Holy God, but also for the daily gift of life – the sun that rises each day, the food on our table, the smile across the room, ordinary bread and juice, made special through your grace. We offer to you in return our gifts, both of money and of ourselves. Use us, we pray, to give gifts to others in your name. Amen.

SERVICE OF THE TABLE

Invitation to the Table

*Hymn: #468, Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ (vs. 1&2)

Communion Prayer:

L: Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed!

L: Hallelujah, thanks and praise, ever-living God, worker of wonders, maker of miracles, author of all life and giver of life eternal! Out of chaos and fear you bring beauty and hope. Out of despair and death you create courage and new life. And so, with the risen Christ, who makes all things new by the power of his resurrection, we join in a hymn of praise for a new day:

**All: Holy, holy, holy God,
Power of life and love!
Heaven and earth are full of your glory!
Hosanna through the ages!
Blessed is the One who comes to bring your justice
to the earth!**

L: It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place.

4.

All: In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did.

L: We remember how he took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat, whenever you do this, remember me."

In the same way he took the cup, and poured, saying: "This is the new covenant made with you in my blood. Remember me."

Today we are a new community planted in resurrection's promise.

We take bread and break it:

All: breaking open the tomb, breaking the grip of death, breaking the darkness with morning light.

L: We take wine and pour it:

All: mixing into it the covenant of eternity, mixing into it the words of promise, mixing into it the light of this new day.

L: In a community and world that at times feels hopeless, we share Christ's promise together.

All: Risen Christ, be our guest as we are yours on this newest of mornings, and share with us the food of life, that we may taste eternity on the lips of the One who spoke, "My body. My blood. My promise. My friends."

L: And with Jesus, we pray together, saying:

All: Our Father, who art in heaven ...

Breaking of the Bread & Blessing of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion:

Thank you, O Christ, for this feast of life.

We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life.

We are sent forth into this world to live your way and share your joy. We are now commissioned to:

**feed as we have been fed,
forgive as we have been forgiven,
love as we have been loved.**

Thanks be to God. Amen.

*Hymn: #175, This Is the Day That God Has Made

5.

*Benediction:

L: Because the tomb is empty, our lives can be full.

All: Let us go into every place and every day as people brimming over with the love of God.

L: May we be graceful in spirit, hopeful in word, faithful in deed.

All: May we live for the risen Christ as the risen Christ lives in us. Alleluia!

Choral Amen: #974

Amen! Amen! Hallelujah, amen! (x3)

Musical Postlude

We gratefully acknowledge the dedication of the bulletins in loving memory of Linda (Tozer) MacDonald & Steven Tozer by mother, Barbara Doucet and family.

Flowers have been placed in loving memory of:

➤ *Doug Breau by wife, Jeanne and son Timmy Breau.*

➤ *Hazen & Vera Lobban by Donald & David Lobban and their families.*

➤ *Margie Sticklen by Helen & Eddie Jones, Alison & Family.*

Memorials

In loving memory of **Tom Lamkey**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from wife, Agnes Lamkey and Family.

In loving memory of **Thomas Samms**, a donation to the Food Bank has been received from Buddie & Frances Blakely.

In loving memory of **husband, Jim Comeau and daughter, Marlene Comeau**, a donation to the Choir Fund has been received from Vivian Comeau.

In loving memory of **Gordon & Thelma Widbur**, donations to Riverside Cemetery have been received from Elaine Robinson, Tania Robinson, Mark Robinson and Andrea Fowler.

6.

In loving memory of **Marjorie MacPherson**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Lynn MacPhee.

In loving memory of **Roberta Bass**, a donation to Local Funds has been received from Derrick, Hudson & Melanie Bass and families.

Greeter: April 4th – Liz Mullin/April 11 – Judy Donnelly

Recorders: April 4th – Janice Carter/April 11 – Debbie Stymiest

Ushers: April 4th – Paul Swezey (11 am)/April 11 – Paul Swezey

Power Point: April 4th – Juanita Hamilton/April 11 – Debbie Benson

Sound System: April 4th – Brian Savoy/April 11 – Don Bowman

Offering Counters: April 4 – Brian Savoy, Barry Campbell/April 11 – Judy Morrison, Don Bowman

Announcements

This Week:

Monday, April 5th – Office Closed

Tuesday, April 6th – Office Hours 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Cynthia Duplessie covering

Wednesday, April 7th – Office Hours 9:00 a.m. – 1:00 p.m. Juanita Hamilton covering

Upcoming:

Tuesday, April 13th – 1:30 p.m. – *Worship & Spiritual Development Team Meeting*

Wednesday, April 14th – 6:30 p.m. – *Property & Financial Management Team meeting*

Ham & Potato Scallop Supper with carrots, peas, homemade tea biscuit and your choice of chocolate zucchini cake or caramel apple cake being held on Wednesday, April 21st from 4:00 – 5:00 p.m. (Take-Out Only) here at St. Andrew’s United Church. Tickets are \$15.00 a person and on sale now from the church office. (110 tickets being sold)