

St. Andrew's United Church,  
188 Wellington Street

**Minister:** Rev. Charlene Maguire MacKnight

**Organist & Choir Director:** Mrs. Lois McKinnon

**Musical Leaders:** Elaine Dickson, Sally Donald, Marjorie Cassidy,  
Bill Gunn & John Bosma

**Easter Sunday – 9:00 a.m.**

Musical Prelude

Choir Introit: Joy Comes With the Dawn

Opening Words:

L: We gather together as we remember Jesus who died on a cross.  
His death seemed like the end of everything we had hoped for.

*Messenger: Don't be afraid. I know you are looking for Jesus who  
was crucified. He is not here; he has been raised from the dead,  
just as he said.*

L: Hallelujah! Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!**

\*Hymn: #157, Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (vs.1)

**Christ the Lord is risen today, hallelujah!**

**All creation join to say; hallelujah!**

**Raise your joys and triumphs high; hallelujah!**

**Sing, O heavens, and earth reply: Hallelujah!**

Scripture: Luke 24:1-8 – *Linda McKinnon*

Prayer:

**Easter God, you have risen among us: Open our eyes and our  
hearts; dispel our doubts, enrich our faith, empower our hope.  
Scarcely believing for joy, we behold your presence, your  
gracious power, your fulfilling peace. Fill us with Easter joy, O  
Risen Saviour! Amen.**

\*Hymn: #157, Christ the Lord Is Risen Today (vs.3)

**Lives again our glorious King: hallelujah!**

**Where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah!**

**Once he died, our souls to save: hallelujah!**

**Where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!**

2.

**Dramatic Presentation: *Three Easter Witnesses***

*(John Bosma, Sally Donald, Lib Hachey, Juanita Hamilton,  
Rev. Charlene)*

\*Chorus: #179 (sung twice)

**Hallelujah, hallelujah. Give thanks to the risen Christ;  
hallelujah, hallelujah! Give praise to God's name.**

**Prayer:**

Christ is risen!

Let us pray for those who do not share our Easter joy:

**We pray for those who live in the shadow of darkness and  
despair; for those who are ill or in pain; for those who live with  
the hopelessness of shattered dreams, trust betrayed,  
opportunities lost, love denied; for those who live without faith  
or hope or love; who see no resurrection, no hope of new  
beginnings for themselves or for the world.**

If Christ be truly risen, let us show forth his resurrection so that all  
who meet us shall know that he is risen indeed!

**May the Good News of Easter bubble up within us the joy of  
new life that transforms the way we see the world and one  
another. As Resurrection people, may we see the risen Christ  
in every one and in every grace-filled moment, every day of our  
lives. Amen.**

Sung Response: #180

**Christ is risen, yes, indeed! Hallelujah!**

Dedication of the Offering

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:

**God of abundant life and wonders beyond number: Grant that  
our offering might be acceptable in your sight. We offer this  
bread; we offer this cup. We offer these gifts; we offer  
ourselves. Fill us with the spirit of your Risen Christ, that we  
might be the new creations you call and empower us to be.  
Amen.**

Invitation to the Table

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

**Let us talents and tongues employ,  
reaching out with a shout of joy:  
bread is broken, the wine is poured,  
Christ is spoken and seen and heard.**

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound! (Repeat)*

**Christ is able to make us one,  
at the table he sets the tone,  
teaching people to live to bless,  
love in word and in deed express.**

*Jesus lives again, earth can breathe again,  
pass the Word around: loaves abound! (Repeat)*

Communion Prayer:

L: Christ is risen! Hear the good news. A day begun in mourning and fear has turned to joy and witness.

**All: Christ is risen. Alleluia!**

L: A table left for the shadows of the garden has become a table drenched in the light of One mistaken for a gardener.

**All: Christ is risen. Alleluia!**

L: Come from the north and the south, the east and the west,

**All: come from your fears and your grieving, your lost hopes and forgotten dreams**

L: and come to a table set with grace and power that will not be deterred, for Christ is risen. Alleluia!

**All: We come with joy, into the brightness of this new day and season, to celebrate the presence of the risen Christ.**

L: We remember Jesus, who, the night before he died, welcomed his followers to a table of bread and wine. He took the bread, and after blessing it, he broke it, saying:

**All: "This is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."**

L: Then he took a cup, and after giving thanks, passed it to his friends, saying:

**All: Drink. This cup that is poured out for you is the promise of God, made in my blood.**

L: And so we, too, break bread and drink the cup this day, and celebrate the presence of the risen Christ, here in our very midst.

**All: Come, Creator God, you who brought forth life from the earth in grain and grape, and who brought forth life from the tomb in our risen Saviour:**

L: Bless the gifts we bring to this table,

**All: that as we share them we might know the presence of Christ in our hearts and minds, in our church and in the world, and that we might be your people to take the Christ-light into our community.**

L: In Jesus' name we ask it, praying together:

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

Breaking of the Bread and Blessing of the Cup

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer after Communion:

**Life-giving God, may we who share Christ's body, live his risen life; we, who drink his cup, bring new life to others; we, whom the Spirit lights, give light to the world. Keep us firm in the hope you have set before us, so that we and all your children shall be free, and all creation live to praise your name. Amen.**

*Closing Affirmation and Blessing:*

Risen Christ, your light is the only light we need as we travel through life's mystery.

**Your word the only voice we hear, that still small voice that leads us to the place where we should be.**

Your presence is the only company we need as we walk this narrow road.

**Your fellowship the warmth we crave to help us on our way.**

May the truth of Easter

The joy of Easter

And the blessings of Easter

Be with us this day and all days!

**AMEN!**

5.

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

*This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice, and be exceeding glad!  
This is the day that God has made!  
Rejoice! Rejoice! Hallelujah!*

**Christ has conquered death at last,  
left the tomb that held him fast!  
Gone the sorrow, gone the night,  
dawns the morning clear and bright!   *Chorus***

**Jesus lives who once was dead,  
lives forever, as he said!  
Risen now our Saviour, King;  
songs of gladness let us sing!       *Chorus***