

NORTHMINSTER UNITED CHURCH

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Minister: Rev. Kevin Derry
minister@northminsteruc.ca

Music Director: Dustin Bowers

Sunday, March 31, 2024 at 10 am

Easter Sunday ***New Members Sunday***

Music as We Gather

Welcome

Acknowledgement of the Land:

As we gather, we acknowledge that we meet and live on the traditional territories of the Mississauga Anishinaabe People. We give thanks for their care for the land over thousands of years and for their deep spirituality and honouring of the Creator and the creation. May we live with respect in God's creation and in harmony with our neighbours.

Music as We Centre

Lighting the Christ Candle: Celebrating the Resurrection

Please stand for the Opening Hymn

Opening Hymn: VU155 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

- 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!

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

Life, and Work of the Community

Call to Worship:

One: Called to celebrate an Easter faith.

All: Hallelujah! The stone is moved!

One: Called to live an Easter faith.

All: Hallelujah! The tomb is empty!

One: Called to share an Easter hope as a family of faith.

All: Hallelujah! Jesus is risen!

One: Let us worship!

All: Let us worship together!

Opening Prayer

Words of Assurance:

One: The promise of an Easter faith tells us the Holy loves and cherishes each one of us for who we are and all that we may become.

All: Through reflection, transformation, and action, we live our Easter faith.

Please remain seated

Welcoming New Members:

One: Now we are about to celebrate that gift of God's grace given to us in the Sacrament of Baptism as we reaffirm together our Baptismal Faith.

All: We are one body and one spirit. We have one hope in God's call to us.

One: There is in each of us the hope and promise of God, Creator of all.

All: Out of the waters of Baptism we rise with new life, with Christ, members of Christ's Body.

Allyson Rader
Caleb Susko
Gavin Muir
William Crane
Ruth Whitnell
Betty Wigle
Grace Dixon
Michael Milburn
Lauren Monaghan
Donald Grattan Bullock
Marilyn Jane Bullock
George Turner

Evelyn Turner
Iain Buchanan
Lisa Buchanan
Marion Buchanan
Sylvia Drummond
Alex Brunton
Pat Brunton
Al Bartholomew
Lynn Bartholomew
Gale Osmond
Susan Collins
Debbie Campbell

Congregational Elder: I present (N_____) Now for Reaffirmation of their Baptismal Faith or transfer into Northminster from other faith communities.

One: I ask you all now, do you wish to reaffirm your baptismal faith?

All: I do, by the grace of God.

One: Do you 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?

All: I do, by the grace of God.

One: Desiring the freedom of new life in Christ, do you seek to resist evil, and to live in love and justice?

All: I do, by the grace of God.

One: Will you proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen, in your words and actions?

All: I will, by the grace of God.

One: Will you join with your sisters and brothers in the community of faith to celebrate God's presence, live with respect in creation, and love and serve others?

All: I will, by the grace of God.

One: Would everyone stand in body or spirit as you are able. To Northminster Church, as a baptized and baptizing Church, do you commit yourselves to support and nurture these persons within a community which worships God, loves and serves others, seeks justice, and resists evil?"

All: We Do!

The New Creed *Please stand*

One: Let us join together in a statement of our communal faith...

All: 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

(the Congregation is seated)

One: The presence of the Holy is within us and around us.

All: It is so.

One: We lift up our hearts.

All: We are filled with joy and expectation.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

(Now water is poured visibly and audibly into the font.)

One: Blessed are you, Great Creator, maker of heaven and earth, Keeper of sky and sea. We see your nourishing life-giving presence in the sign of water. At the beginning your Spirit was at work, brooding over the waters of creation's birth, breaking the waters with the word of light, bringing forth life in all its fullness. Again and again you have shown us your grace as water—in the healing pools of Bethesda, parting the waters for the exodus, flowing from the rock in the wilderness.

All: Blessed are you, O God.

One: In the fullness of time, you gave us Jesus: nurtured in the waters of Mary's womb, baptized by John in the River Jordan, giver of living water, wellspring of eternal life.

All: Blessed are you, O God.

One: Therefore, eternal and present God, we bless you for the water with which you bless us. We pray that those who are baptized into the promise of Jesus, the Christ may live in your grace. Pour out, Divine Love, your Holy Spirit upon us, and upon this water, that this font may become your womb of new birth, our fount of blessing, and source of grace. May all who share in this baptism, being one in Christ, be nurtured by the bread of life.

All: Now to you be given all glory, praise, honour, and faith, forever and forever! Amen!

The Renewal of Baptismal Faith

One: Remember your Baptism and be thankful.

All: Amen!

One: [N_____], the power of the Holy Spirit work within you, that being born of water and the Spirit, you may remain a faithful witness of Jesus Christ.

Allyson Rader

Caleb Susko

Gavin Muir

William Crane

Ruth Whitnell

Betty Wigle

Grace Dixon

Michael Milburn

Lauren Monaghan

Donald Grattan Bullock

Marilyn Jane Bullock

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Marion Buchanan

Sylvia Drummond

Alex Brunton

Pat Brunton

Al Bartholomew

Lynn Bartholomew

Gale Osmond

Susan Collins

Debbie Campbell

All: Amen!

Baptismal Benediction

One: As a family of faith in Christ, let us celebrate together with these people!

(Applause, folks are seated)

Gospel Lesson: John 20:1-10

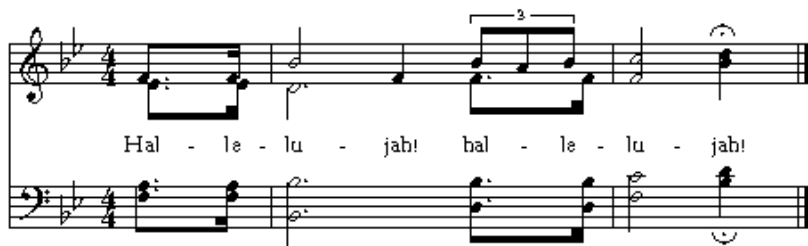
Matt Kraft

^{20:1} Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. ² So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." ³ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. ⁴ The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. ⁵ He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. ⁶ Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, ⁷ and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. ⁸ Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, ⁹ for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. ¹⁰ Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Responsive Selection: VU837 Parts 1,2, & 3 (from Psalm 118) Led by Matt Kraft

Refrain

Albert Ham ca. 1900



Part One (1-4)

One Let Israel now say:

All 'God's love endures for ever.'

One Let the house of Aaron say:

All 'God's love endures for ever.'

One Let those who fear God say:

All 'God's love endures for ever.' R

Part Two (14-18)

One God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

**All There are shouts of joy and deliverance
in the tents of the righteous.**

One The right hand of God does mighty things;
the right hand of God raises up.

All The right hand of God does mighty things.

One I shall not die, but live; and I shall proclaim what God has
done.

**All God indeed punished me,
but did not give me over to death. R**

Part Three (19-24)

One Open to me the gates of the temple,
that I may enter and give thanks to God.

**All This is the gate of God;
through it the righteous shall enter.**

One I thank you for you have answered me;
you have become my salvation.

**All The stone which the builders rejected
has become the chief cornerstone.**

One This is God's doing, marvellous in our eyes.
This is the day that God has made,

All let us rejoice and be glad in it! R

Hymn: VU165

“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

1 Come, you faithful, raise the strain
of triumphant gladness:
God has brought forth Israel
into joy from sadness,
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke
Jacob's sons and daughters,
led them with unmoistened foot
through the Red Sea waters.

2 'Tis the spring of souls today,
Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death
as a sun has risen;
all the winter of our sins,
long and dark, is flying
from his light, to whom we give
laud and praise undying.

- 3 Now the queen of seasons, bright
 with the day of splendour,
 with the royal feast of feasts,
 comes its joy to render;
 comes to gladden faithful hearts,
 who with true affection
 welcome in unwearied strains
 Jesus' resurrection!
- 4 Neither could the gates of death,
 nor the tomb's dark portal,
 nor the watchers, nor the seal,
 hold him as a mortal:
 for today amid his own
 he now stands, bestowing
 God's true peace which evermore
 passes human knowing.

Young at Heart Time:

"The Last Easter Egg"

Gospel Lesson (con'd): John 20:11-18

Matt Kraft

^{20:11} But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, ¹² and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. ¹³ They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." ¹⁴ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. ¹⁵ Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." ¹⁶ Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). ¹⁷ Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" ¹⁸ Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Responses:

Reader: As we listen to the words from our scripture...

All: ...may we hear the stories from our faith history
that inspire us to embrace the promise and new
life shared with us as we live and love together
in a resurrection faith.

Reader: In the name of the Risen Jesus...

All: Amen.

Please be seated

Meditation:

"Resurrection Promise"

Music for Meditation

We Receive the Offering

Please stand for the Offering Hymn

Doxology: VU541 "Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow"

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
praise God, all creatures high and low;
give thanks to God in love made known:
Creator, Word and Spirit, One < >

Dedication of Our Gifts

Hymn: VU159

"The Strife is O'er"

- 1 The strife is o'er, the battle done;
the victory of life is won;
the song of triumph has begun, hallelujah!
- 2 The powers of death have done their worst,
but Christ their legions has dispersed;
let shouts of holy joy outburst, hallelujah!
- 3 He closed the ancient gates of hell,
the bars from heaven's high portals fell;
let songs of praise his triumph tell, hallelujah!
- 4 On the third morn he rose again,
glorious in majesty to reign;
O let us swell the joyful strain, hallelujah! < >

Prayers of the People and the Jesus Prayer

Please stand for the Closing Hymn

Closing Hymn: VU164

“The Day of Resurrection”

- 1 The day of resurrection! Earth, tell it out abroad;
the passover of gladness, the passover of God!
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.
- 2 Our hearts be free of evil, that we may see aright
the Christ in rays eternal of resurrection light,
and, listening to the accents, may hear so calm and plain
Christ's own 'All hail!' and, hearing, may raise
the victor strain.
- 3 Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin,
the round world keep high triumph, and all that
is therein;
let all things seen and unseen their notes
of gladness blend,
for Christ indeed is risen, our Joy that has no end. < >

Blessing as We Go Forth:

One: Let us go from this place knowing the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in celebration.

One: Let us go from this place living the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in love.

One: Let us go from this place sharing the Resurrection
Promise of the Holy.

All: We go in hope and peace.

One: Let us go in peace.

All: Peace be with us! Amen!

Music as the Worship Service Concludes

Regional Council Prayer Cycle

As church, we are called to pray for each other and for our
mission in the world for the week of March 31st, 2024

Rural Faith Pastoral Charge

Rural Faith United Church, Baltimore

[East Central Ontario Regional Council]

THANK YOU TO THIS WEEK'S VOLUNTEERS for Mar 31st

Duty	Jaymes Winch
Elevator	Paula Winch
Greeters	Marg & Al Renwick
Scripture Reader	Matt Kraft
Congregational Elder	Mary Hess Northey
Sunday School Coordinator	Maggie Crawford
Nursery Coordinator	Gale Osmond
Sound	Alex Brunton/Al Bartholomew
Video	Nelson Pickett
Videographer	Kathy Common
Coffee Fellowship	Official Board
Coffee Fellowship (April)	Finance Committee

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Northminster United Church Choir would love you to join them... They meet each Thursday evening at 7:30 pm in the Sanctuary for practice. No previous experience required, just the joy of music. If you have any questions, please speak with Dustin Bowers or call the church office, we can answer your questions...

FOOD BANK SUNDAY- is held on the 2nd Sunday of each month. We invite you to bring items to support Kavartha Food Share. Boxes are located in Upper Wright Hall and back foyer [*exit to parking lot*]. If you wish to make a cash donation instead, we ask that you place money in a separate envelope clearly marked as "*Donation to Kavartha Food Share*" also include your name or envelope number. ***Please make cheques payable to: "Northminster United Church"***. This can be placed on the offering plate. **Next date: April 14th**. We also accept Interac NUC Treasurer: treasurernuc@gmail.com

OUR NURSERY FOR OUR YOUNGEST CHILDREN is along the main corridor across from the kitchen.

WE WOULD LOVE IT IF YOU WOULD CONSIDER VOLUNTEERING:

Greeters, elevator operators and Sunday Duty persons. If you are not already on our volunteer list, please consider helping out. If you could spare one Sunday every 4 or 5 weeks. Please contact the office.

“VIDEO SLIDESHOW OPERATORS” & “AUDIO TECH” required. We are looking for more people to sign up to help with Sunday video & sound. No previous experience required and you will be trained. To find out more information please call the office.

OFFERING ENVELOPES ... please let the office know if you require offering envelopes. Email: info@northminsteruc.ca or Tel. # 705-748-4881

If you currently use an envelope with a number, we will continue using that number associated with your name. If you would like us to print your envelopes with your number, we will be more than happy to do so. Please contact the office directly.

NAME TAGS: If you need a name tag, please contact the office for one. I would be happy to make you one. Also stick on name tags are available located on the table at the back of the church and on table at west entrance into Sanctuary.

GRACE BUCK INCOME TAX SERVICE will be preparing Income Tax returns again this year at Northminster.

Scheduled dates are: April 9 & April 23, 2024

For further information please call 705-745-4303

EASTER SUNDAY SERVICE & NEW MEMBERS Hot Cross buns will be served in the Upper Wright Hall following the service.

