



Kensington Presbyterian Church

Easter: Good News

April 12, 2020

Welcome & announcements

For now we are putting out these worship services that you can do at home.¹ This doesn't mean you have to do them alone. You can invite those who live with you, or connect with others through the phone or computer.

If you have any prayer requests, ideas, or just want to talk, please reach out to your elder or Rev. Peter. Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

Announcements

Each of these **events** will happen through Zoom. Email Rev Peter for the log-in details: Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca

- **Prayer Time:** Wednesday morning prayer at 9 a.m.
- **Zoom Café:** Thursday at 3 p.m.
Join Rev. Peter for coffee (not included):
- **Worship:** Sunday at 10:30 a.m. [and the text version]

If you are interested, but these times don't work, please contact Rev. Peter:

Offering: We now have a '[Donate Now](#)' button on our website.

Please continue to check out the website <https://kensingtonchurch.ca/> or facebook <https://www.facebook.com/KensingtonChurchNDG/> for news of these ideas.

¹ note: that the footnotes are not as thorough as an academic paper.

Approaching God



lighting the candle

Jésus Chris est la lumière du monde.
Jesus Christ is the light of the world.

Prelude: Stabat Mater: Quando Corpus Morietur by Pergolesi
https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=_he1STLH0lw

Call to worship

The Holy Spirit has brought us here.

Let us embrace the word of the LORD.

Recap

On Friday we heard from several people leading up to Jesus' death on the cross. God was dead. Killed by people.

and that is how we left it,



Brink - Mother and Son

but that is only a part of the story. Let us sing a song that reminds us of what comes before... and after.

Lord of the Dance

Sydney Carter, 1963

19th Century Shaker Tune

Unison G Em Bm Em Am

1. I danced in the morn-ing when the world was be-gun, and I danced in the moon and the
2. I danced for the scribe and the Phar-i - see, but they would not dance and they
3. I danced on the sab - bath when I cured the lame, the ho - ly peo - ple
4. I danced on a Fri - day and the sky turned black; it's hard to dance with the
5. They cut me down and I leapt up high, I am the life that - 'll

D7 G Em

stars would not and the sun, and I came down from heav - en and I
 said it was a low me; I danced for the fish - er - en and I
 dev - il on your shame; they whipped and they bod - y and
 nev - er, nev - er die; I'll live in stripped and they hung
 you if you'll

Bm Em D7 C Bm

Refrain

danced on the earth, At Beth - le - hem I had my birth.
 James and John; they came to me and the dance went on.
 me high; and they left me there on a cross to die.
 they thought I'd gone, but I am the dance and I still go on.
 live in me; I I am the Lord of the Dance, said he.

Em G Am D G D7 G

- ev-er you may be; I am the Lord of the Dance, said he. And I'll lead you all wher - ev-er you may be, And I'll

C D7 G C G

lead you all in the dance, said he.

19th Century Shaker tune, adapted by Sydney Carter, 1963
 © 1963, Stainer & Bell Ltd. (administered by Hope Publishing Company, Carol Stream IL)
 CCCLJ 4440603

Listening to God

Reading: As you read through you can click on the link to read the passage, or look it up in your own Bible.²

[Matthew 28: 1-10](#)



Sharon Helleman

Responsive response & prayer³

God raised Jesus on the third day

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Let us take our tambourines and dance,

Christ is risen! Alleluia!

With the risen one in our midst,

the graveyard becomes a garden;

grief turns to gladness, tears to laughter.

There is a new creation!

² If you'd like a new Bible with helpful notes, I recommend the 'Life with God Bible' NRSV from Renovaré. ISBN 0061834963 or for the more academically inclined, The New Oxford Study Bible NRSV

³ Rev. Iona MacLean for the Presbyterian World Service and Development Lent Responses series 2020

With the risen one in our midst,
life defeats death,
love overcomes hatred,
hope replaces fear.

This is the good news of the gospel!

Christ is risen! We are risen! Alleluia!

Let us pray:

Creator God,
in raising Jesus from the dead,
you have made the world brand new.
We praise you with joy and thanksgiving!
May we live daily as Easter people
bringing life, love and hope to all the world;
through Jesus Christ our risen Lord.
Amen.

Sermonette

Dear Lord, please bless the words typed here
and the meditations of our hearts. Amen.

A couple of months ago I got bored listening to the news. It was always the same. Trump did something to get attention; Brexit was a mess; there was a fuss over building the pipeline out west; and there was an issue in the middle east with Israel or Syria or refugees. It was always the same.

While all those topics have disappeared from the news (except Trump), it's still always the same. It's all about the effects of the Corona virus. There are reports of people sick with COVID19 accompanied by death and recovery numbers, the economic hardship and attempts to help, a warning to stay physically isolated and wash your hands, and ending with something to cheer us up.

The Corona Virus has infected everything.

I hope you have also been calling people. Have you noticed how much this microscopic virus⁴ has shaped what we are doing, and what we are feeling? Some people are finding this exciting, many feel waves of anxiety - and sometimes fear. Some find it relaxing, while others working from home and looking after their children find it chaotic. Some are frustrated with the rules and those who break them. Some find the isolation lonely - especially after winter. Some wonder how this will change the world, and others feel helpless while surrounded by so much need. Some feel grateful, ...and guilty. Many people have felt all of these emotions, and more, over the last few weeks.

As group gatherings were stopped, there was a priest, a rabbi and an imam (no joke) being interviewed on the CBC. They were asked, "Where is God?" They all said the same thing. God is with us.

For Christians, Easter is the big example of this.

Jesus experienced many of the emotions I just went through

- excitement: at many feasts, not to mention the Palm Parade
- anxiety: seen in the garden before being arrested (but not fear)
- frustrated: disciples take so much teaching ([Matthew 17:17](#))
- grief: at a friend's death and the suffering it left ([John 11](#))
- lonely: being abandoned by everyone on the cross - even feeling abandoned by God

Jesus is not afraid of what we are feeling, or what we are going through - and is with us in these times.

Although, not necessarily as expected. If you think back through the stories of Jesus, God rarely acts as expected.

Take today's story. You'd expect a dead body to be in the grave where it was put - especially when there are guards to stop any interference. But God isn't there. The women are told to get everybody back to Galilee for a meeting... except Jesus can't wait that long and meets them on the way.

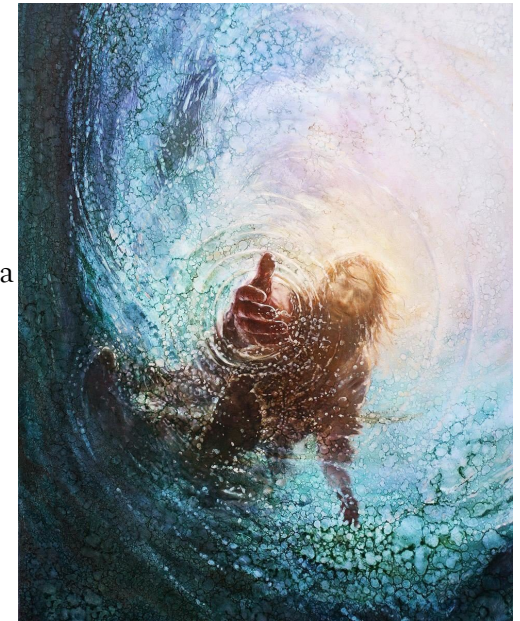
⁴ 10 000 times smaller than a millimetre.

God is with us in trying situations, but probably not as expected.

Some people say that Jesus comes and turns tragedy into joy. They feel the tragedy of the crucifixion is changed into the joy of the resurrection.

I disagree.

The tragedy is still there; it's a part of the story. Hindsight doesn't make it happy or good - but it's not the end. Even with death, the pain, suffering and isolation are not the end, because Christ is risen. The story moves on, and the end is marvellous/miraculous joy.



Yongsung Kim - The Hand of God

I know this isn't news. Christians have been talking about this since the first Easter morning when the women came running in with the Good News. But it's worth remembering.

Jesus meets us in the world.

The Holy Spirit is in us... in you.

And that whatever the news tells us, there is a bigger story. God is going to bring the story to an end that will fill our souls with peace and joy.

*In the name of the Father, the Son and the Holy Spirit,
mysteriously three in one. Amen.*

♪ moment for meditation: Aleluya (Honduras)

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=sjfyEmYMSDs>

Responding to God

FaithTalk

These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies.

Memories: Share stories of how God/Jesus/Spirit has appeared in your life, or the lives of others.

Values: Express why Easter is important for you.

Wonder: Speculate together unexpected places that Jesus might turn up.

Actions: Take all of your feelings to God in prayer.

Offering

What could you offer others this week? ...

How could you share God's presence? ...

How could you support the work of God in the world? ...

Financially, we have set up a donation option on our website. Just click the '[Donate Now](#)' button, and then the pretty button. It gives you various options that are easy to follow.

Anthem: The angels rolled the stone away.

https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=3_CQjX0VG20

Prayers of the people

Note: if you would like specific prayers included here (like with our prayer book), please send an email to: prayer@Kensingtonchurch.ca

We say Christ is risen. and you are risen indeed!

Thank you for this.

Lord, without this event, would we have any hope of understanding you?

Thank you for coming to us,
even when we don't go looking for you.

Thank you for meeting us on our journey,
even when we don't know what's going on

...especially when we don't know what's going on.

Jesus, we ask you to forgive us for those times
when we turn away from you,
when we don't support your presence in the world;
when we contribute to the pain and suffering
through our actions... and lack of action.

Thank you that you stick with us,
and please help us to listen to your Spirit;
changing our ways,
and living your forgiveness.

Jesus, as we remember the things you did,
and the places you went,
we also remember the places that still need to hear and feel you.

May our government and corporate leaders hear your wisdom. . .

As people look out their windows or walk around their communities,
may they meet you.

May those who are anxious or fearful,
lonely or crowded,
busy or helpless,
all these and more,
may they meet you,
and trust you to carry their burdens. . .

And Jesus, we ask for your healing.

May those who are suffering mental, physical and spiritual sickness at this time meet you.

We pray for those affected by COVID19,
those recovered and trying to reintegrate in isolation,
and those who are suffering from the many things
that affect us on top of this pandemic.

May you help them to become the people you dream they can be,
knowing your health and peace. . .

We thank you God that your Spirit works through so many people.
and we pray for the first responders who are continuing to work,
and for those working in health care,
and for those work in grocery stores and other essential industries.
May they also feel your presence. . .

Dearest Jesus, today we come back to Easter,
and we thank you for being with us in our times of joy
and in our times of hardship.

Help us to join you on the way,
as your Spirit shapes us with the prayer you left us...

Lord's prayer (feel free to use another version/translation)

Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name,
your kingdom come,
your will be done,
on earth as it is 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.

Amen.

JESUS CHRIST IS RISEN TODAY

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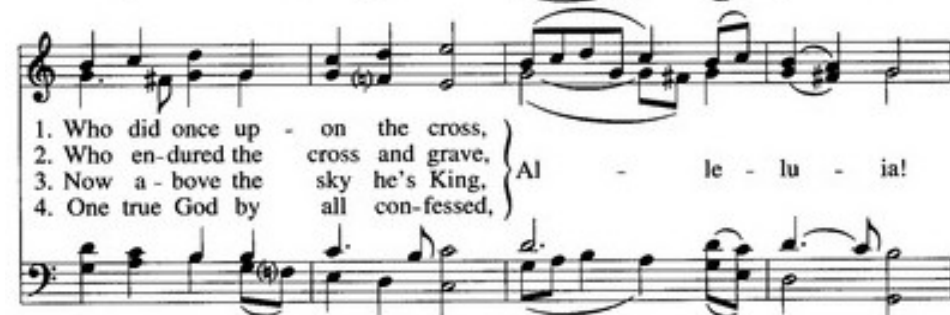
1. Je - sus Christ is ris'n to - day,
2. Hymns of praise then let us sing,
3. But the pains which he en-dured,
4. Sing we to our God a - bove,

Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Our tri - um-phant ho - ly day,
2. Un - to Christ, our heav'n - ly King,
3. Our sal - va - tion have pro-cured;
4. Praise e - ter - nal as his love,

Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Who did once up - on the cross,
2. Who en-dured the cross and grave,
3. Now a - bove the sky he's King,
4. One true God by all con-fessed,

Al - le - lu - ia!



1. Suf - fer to re - deem our loss.
2. Sin - ners to re - deem and save.
3. Where the an-gels ev - er sing.
4. Fa - ther, Son, and Spir - it blest.

Al - le - lu - ia!

Benediction:

May the power of the cross,
the joy of the resurrection,
and the presence of our risen Lord
be with you, now and always.⁵

Postlude: Easter Anthem by Tom Blomster

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=9yQvFIBOIyU>



Prayer Partnership

These are invitations compiled by the Presbyterian Church in Canada for our prayers. They were created months ago, and so serve as a reminder that there is more than COVID19 in our world. (That said, I did adapt some.) Should you add these prayers to your own, you will be joining with others throughout the church.

Sunday, April 12 (Easter) Christ has risen and gives us new life, making us new creations, and commissioned us to continue his ministry in the world. Pray that we love and serve our neighbours with the same love God shows us..

Monday, April 13 As we celebrate the resurrection, we pray that congregations across Canada experience the fullness of new life in Christ.

Tuesday, April 14 We pray for the Continuing Education Grants Committee, which meets this month.

Wednesday, April 15 We prayer for those recovering from COVID19 as they transition from the hospital back to their homes and a time of isolation.

Thursday, April 16 We pray for members of the Women's Missionary Society, whose members would normally be looking forward to their Synodical meetings. May they continue to be supported.

Friday, April 17 We give thanks for those who share their gifts as clerks of synods and presbyteries.

Saturday, April 18 We pray for the Rev. Barbara Fotheringham, Clerk of the Presbytery of Quebec.

Sunday, April 19 We pray for those in our circle of friendship and love who need healing, guidance or strength.

⁵ A9ngela Ashwin. *The Book of a Thousand Prayers*, 1996

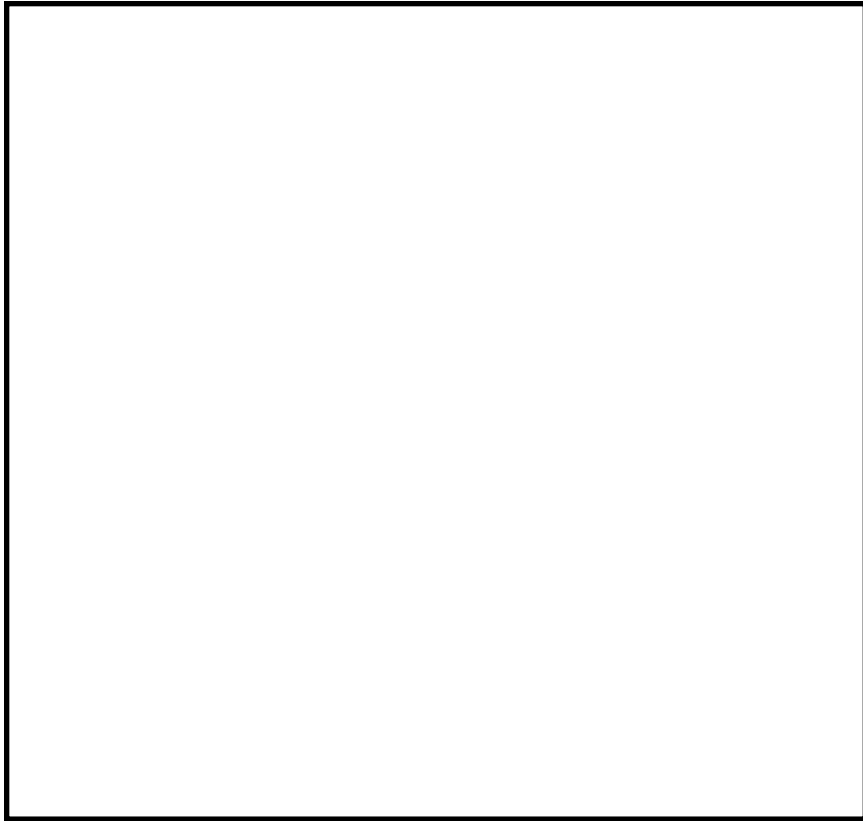
RESURRECTION *Scavenger* HUNT

- Something White - Represents the Purity of God
- Something Black - Represents Sin
- Bread - Jesus Broke this & Shared it with His Disciples
- Coins - Judas Betrayed Jesus in Exchange for Money
- Thorns - Represents Crown of Thorns on Jesus' head
- Perfume - Poured out on Jesus' Feet
- Two Pieces of Wood / Sticks - Represents the Cross
- Nails - What Secured Jesus to the Cross
- Something Sour - What Jesus was Given to Drink
- Something Red - Represents Jesus' Blood
- Something Torn - The Veil in the Temple Split in Two
- Spices - Used to Prepare Jesus' Body for Burial
- A Rock - Represents the Tomb
- 3 of Something - Represents the # of Days in the Tomb
- Something Empty - He Has Risen!
- White Cloth - All that Remained in the Tomb
- Something New - The Old Things have Passed Away!

*For there is one God, and one mediator between God and men,
the man Christ Jesus - 1 Timothy 2:5*

DRAW IT

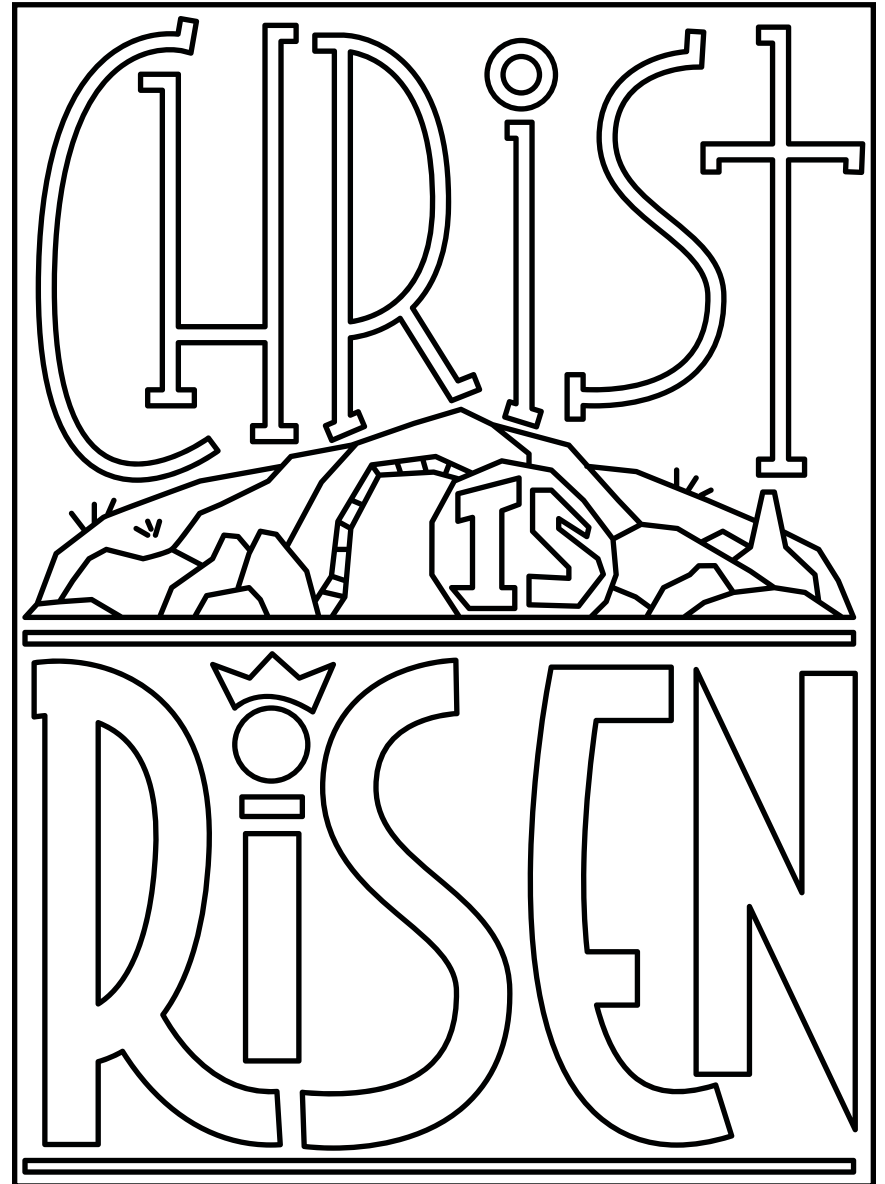
John 20 describes Mary visiting the tomb three days after Jesus' death. Imagine you are with Mary Magdalene, going to the tomb on that first Easter morning and encountering Jesus. What does he look like? What do you see?



Suggested for use on April 12, 2020 based on the RCL.
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CHILDREN'S WORSHIP • BULLETIN

Activities based on Jeremiah 31:1-6, Colossians 3:1-4, John 20:1-18.



COLOR IN THE WORDS



UNSCRAMBLE IT

As we celebrate Jesus' resurrection today, what does the letter to the Colossians encourage us to do? Unscramble the words to find out!

OS FI UYO EHVA ENBE DAISER

IWHT RSTCHI' EKSE HET SGTHIN

AHTT EAR BEOAV' REWEH

ISHCTR SI' TEEDAS TA EHT

DNHA FO DOG

 DOODLE AREA

Draw a picture of something you are thankful for.

