



Kensington Presbyterian Church
 Growing in Faith and sharing God's Love
 since 1786

Easter

April 5, 2026

WELCOME, we come to you from the un-ceded lands of the Kanien'kehá:ka Nation.

We're glad this PDF has come to you.¹ If you're using a device, clicking on or tapping blue text will take you to a web-site. We are also welcoming people to worship in person on Sundays at 10:30, over Zoom, and on YouTube. Know that you are not alone.

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

Sunday Singing: Join Zoé on Sundays at 9:50 to share in the music

Prayer Groups:

Women's Prayer Group: Tuesday afternoon

Zoom: Wednesday at 6:30 am

Bible Study: Wednesday 7-8 pm

Join us in the minister's office and over zoom as we discuss the upcoming week's main scripture passage.

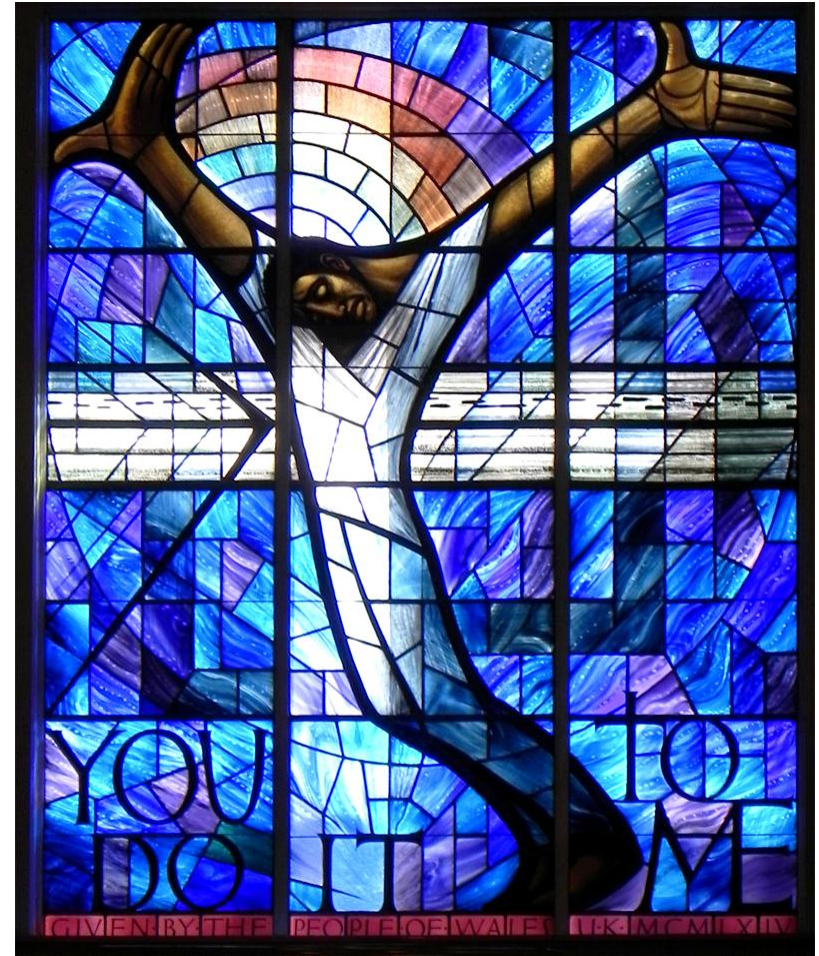
Friday Friendly Food & Film Series: 6:30 pizza, followed movie

April 10: Prince of Egypt

New Hope News:

Easter Lunch Wed. 8th with Grant on piano

Sam Alert with Éducaloi: April 14 from 1-2:30 pm



Christ Crucified - J Petts

Contacts

Church Office: 514-486-4559info@Kensingtonchurch.ca


Rev. Peter Rombeek (pastor).....Peter@Kensingtonchurch.ca
 514-773-4620

Zoé Dupont-Foisy (music director).....zoedupontfoisy@hotmail.com

Orly (Outreach co-ordinator).....orly.kensington@gmail.com

Rose Ngo Mbenoun (Clerk of Session...admin@Kensingtonchurch.ca

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



Approaching God

Welcome to Easter morning. On Friday we stopped with the death of Jesus, but it wasn't the end. Our worship this morning continues the story - and our call to worship reflects that in between time.



Call to worship (from Psalm 27)


Hear me, Lord, when I call to you!

Be merciful and answer me!

When you said, "Come and worship me,"

**I answered, "I will come, Lord;
don't hide yourself from me!"**

Teach me, Lord, what you want me to do,
and lead me along a safe path

 Prayer of Approach


Lord, we do not always find it easy
to recognize your coming to us.

Come, reveal yourself to us.

Meet us today in the Easter story
and in the breaking of the bread.

Rev. Peter Rombeek
for Kensington Presbyterian Church

Help us with our heavy hearts,
set them on fire with love for you,
and send us on our way rejoicing.
For your name's sake,
Amen.²



Listening to God



Intro to the readings

Let's hear the end of Friday's reading, and what also happened that day.



Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,³ or click on the name to be taken to an online version.

[John 19: 28-42](#)



mother and son pieta - Brink

² *Worship Sourcebook* N.3.1.2

³ 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

♪ Hymn: What wondrous love is this #1, 2.....pg 10 (242)

www.youtube.com/watch?v=TtPdb_UKy2U
www.youtube.com/watch?v=oVNktRGU3As

✦ Children's time

What do you think of the story so far?

...

What would you be feeling?

... sad? afraid? confused? lost? ...

What would you want to do if you were them?

... don't know? go home? fight back? ...

Let's hear what happened next.

📖 Reading: Please look up the passages in your own Bible,⁴ or click on the name to be taken to an online version.
[John 20: 1-18](#)



Why Weepest Thou by Rose Datoc Dall

4 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

🕯 Lighting of the Christ Candle

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

✦ Sermon: Seeing anew

*Dear Lord, please bless these words
and the meditations of our hearts.⁵ Amen.*

Mary Magdalene was there. She was there when Jesus died... through the Sabbath that followed... and the events we just heard. All four Gospels remember her - showing that she was an important figure in witnessing the good news of Jesus' resurrection - and telling others.

Let's imagine what she was feeling as we hear the story from her point of view.

I remember first meeting Jesus...
It was like I was lost in the dark and somebody opened a door. The light spilled out, reaching to me, showing me the path to walk... and I did. I walked into a warm community and found a home - a home that was centered around Jesus.

It was amazing following him. Everywhere we went, his light would shine and reveal the world anew. It was like the world was being born again - or I was.

And it wasn't just me who saw things differently. He showed that everyone matters. There was the child who offered their lunch... and Jesus used it to bless thousands of people. There was the time he healed the Roman official's child. He was even open to the Samaritans... and reached them through a woman. It gave me such hope.

Sometimes Jesus worked directly, but he could also leave people to feel their way. There was the time he gave Zek his sight,

5 Psalm 19:14

but then let him feel his way forward into a new reality. When he believed in Jesus and was forced out of the life he knew, Jesus came to him and gave him a new family.

Sadly, not everybody got it. I remember hearing about Nicodemus. He was curious and met with Jesus, but couldn't accept the possibilities... though he did try to follow, in his own way, to respect Jesus' death.

I guess I didn't get it either. Death isn't how I thought it would end. ...which is silly. We all die. Still... to just stop.

And now I don't know what to do. The others were all just sitting there. The room; it felt like it was closing in; like I might be lost again in the dark. I just had to get out, to get some air, ...to get some light.

Of course, not even that was working out. It was too early. The sun wasn't up yet.

I walked.

I don't know why, but I ended up in the garden... the one with the grave. I suppose it was the only place big enough for my feelings. Being a graveyard, it knows grief, and being a garden, it shows life.

I wandered, taking in the stillness. My feet took me to him. Where else? He was the centre of my life. I look up... and the grave is open. It's like a cliff has suddenly opened up in front of me. One more step and I'd fall into the depths - and I can't grab hold of him for security.

They must have taken him. Oh... where can we find him? What to do?

I go and tell Simon Peter and the disciple with him. They run back. I can't. When I catch up to them, they are on their way back. They confirm the stone had been moved, and that the grave

is empty. They continue back inside.

When I get there, the open door opens my tears. They rise up and out - leaving me hollow. In my emptiness, I look in. It is empty... but not. Jesus is gone, but there are two others... angels. They ask, "Why are you weeping?" Really? I am lost. I do not know where my Lord has been taken.

I can't take it. I turn back to the garden and there's the gardener. He asks who I'm looking for. I blurt out that I need to know where Jesus is. I need to see him.

and he calls me by name.

Jesus - he is there. and he calls me by name.

All my hopes well up inside me and burst out. "Rabbouni!" I shout.

Because that's who he is to me. Others may call him the King of kings, or the Messiah/Saviour... but for me, he is my teacher and I am his disciple.

I reach out to hold on. I can't let him go again. But it is not finished. Jesus tells me that he is ascending to his Father and our Father, to his God and our God. It's like... through Jesus we are connected to God... children of God.

With the rising of the Son, I'm seeing the world anew. What does this mean for me? To be lifted up by Jesus... with Jesus... to be a child of God... like Jesus?

What does this mean for us?
for the world?

I don't understand, but I believe -
and I need to tell others.

To God be all the glory
Amen.



Easter - Sharron Helleman



Responding to God

♪ Hymn: Run Marry Run.....pg 11

🗨️ FaithTalk: These are some questions for you to discuss with somebody... or many somebodies. Do what you feel safe (and practice stretching a little).

Memories: Share some Easter memories, and what is important about them?

Reflecting: Imagine yourself with the disciples in the last days of Jesus (In John this includes the raising of Lazarus, the Palm Parade, the Last Supper and foot washing, the garden... to the news from Mary of the Ascension. What would you have been feeling at

various stages along the story? What would you have wanted to do?

Values: What, for you, is the best part of the Jesus story? of the Easter Story?

Values: Mary called Jesus Rabboni (teacher). Others refer to Jesus as the Messiah (Saviour), or the King of kings, or the Son of God, or the good Shepherd, or Emmanuel (God with us), or the High Priest, etc. Which term do you most resonate with?

Actions: Mary shared what was important for her. Identify someone else you could tell about what is important for you about Easter - and tell them

Prayer: ...that we will see & recognize Jesus, and be able to share the experience.

✦ Spirit Sightings

Jesus was always forming community - between people, and between us and God. People helping others is a sign of God's Spirit at work.

Two examples I heard about this week include the Québec government funding some people to help patients navigate the medical system. (If you need help with this, let us know and we can connect you with the St. Andrew's Foundation.) Another example is that the Welcome Hall Mission has opened a new commercial kitchen that will be used both for feeding people and training them to work - leading to work in commercial kitchens.

Another way I heard the Spirit work is similar to what Mary did. She told the disciples her experience. This week I heard a conversation explaining that Easter is the most important Christian holiday... not Christmas. This was received with curiosity and openness. It is good.

✦ Offering

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. You can now donate through **interac e-transfer**. Our name is Kensington Presbyterian Church and the e-mail address is info@kensingtonchurch.ca.

Mailing a cheque or signing up for Pre-Authorized Remittance (**PAR**) are also good options.

All donations are gratefully received and support God’s work in our local and extended community.



Communion

♪ Hymn: I come with Joy.....pg 10 (530)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=CGhabxcl5NU



Supper at Emmaus - Caravaggio

✦ Invitation to the table

Today is the greatest day in the Christian Calendar. It is the day we remember that despite the suffering and injustice in the world, nothing can stop God from coming to us - not even death.

In John’s Gospel we have seen that “*God so loved the world that he gave his only Son, so that everyone who believes in him may not perish but may have eternal life. Indeed, God did not send the Son into the world to condemn the world, but in order that the world might be saved through him.*”

Whoever you are, whatever your bring,
hear the risen Christ call your name;
Come,
you who have much faith,
and you who would like to have more,
you who have come often
and you who have not come for a long time,
you who have tried to follow
and have done so imperfectly.⁶

C'est la volonté de Dieu
que tous ceux qui veulent connaître Jésus
partager ce repas.

As we come together to share this taste of Lord’s Supper,
let us also join with Christians around the world and through the
centuries in speaking the Apostle’s Creed.

🗨️ Apostle’s Creed
I believe in God, the Father almighty,
creator of heaven and earth.

⁶ very adapted from Iona Wee Worship Book 4th ed

I believe in Jesus Christ, God's only Son, our Lord,
who was conceived by the Holy Spirit,
born of the Virgin Mary,
suffered under Pontius Pilate,
was crucified, died, and was buried;
he descended to the dead.
On the third day he rose again;
he ascended into heaven,
he is seated at the right hand of the Father,
and he will come again to judge the living and the dead.

I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the holy catholic church,
the communion of saints,
the forgiveness of sins,
the resurrection of the body,
and the life everlasting.

Amen.

Great Prayer of Thanksgiving

The Lord be with you.

and also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

We thank you because you are amazing.

Powerful enough to create gravity
and shape worlds.

Understanding all of creation's complexity,
from ecosystems to people's emotions.

Building beauty throughout all creation,

...including each of us.

and so we join with the whole of creation
to lift our hearts in joyful praise.

**Holy, Holy, Holy Lord,
God of power and might,
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

Hosanna in the highest.

**Blessed is the One who comes
in the name of the Lord.**

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed Jesus,

not just the word God spoke to create... everything.

But The Word made flesh,

God becoming human and living with us.

...as one of us

with joy and friends,

with hunger and pain,

with laughter and tears.

Jesus, then and now you bring us into community,

into family,

with each other... and with God.

Teaching us how to live together.

We confess that we don't get this right.

We put our lifestyle ahead of your creation, and others.

We wait while there is injustice

We put our trust in power rather than you

We give in to fear

We turn from your Way... your Truth... your Life.

Yet you come to us,

and so we proclaim the mystery of the faith.

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

As we wait for your return,
we are thankful that you have sent your Spirit
to work with us,
 around us,
 and within us.

When we look with your eyes
we see that there is much that needs to be done.

- communities that are broken
 - by war...
 - by greed...
 - by fear...
- families that are struggling or broken
- people that feel lost
- injustice that prevents people from living into their potential as your children

These broken relationships can feel impossible to carry.

Help us to remember you
that not even death can separate us.

May we see you,
and follow your Spirit into ways that we can help
...even if only a little.

As we think of your way,
let us come together and say the Lord's prayer:


 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.**

As we gather at your table
we are reminded that your Spirit
can turn the ordinary into the holy.
so that we can recognize you in bread and juice.
May your Holy Spirit make this time come alive
in ways that bring us closer to you.
Amen.



Burning Bush - Butler

 Words of Institution

On the night before he met with death, Jesus took bread,
and after giving thanks to God
he broke the bread and shared it, saying
“This is my body; it is broken for you.”
“Ceci est mon corps, qui est rompu pour vous”

[take and eat]


In the same way, he took the cup of wine after dinner and said,
“This is the new relationship with God, sealed in my blood
Take this, all of you, in remembrance of me.”
“Cette coupe est la nouvelle alliance en mon sang;
faites ceci en mémoire de moi”

[take and drink]

 Prayer after Communion

Loving God,
Merci pour c'est temps avec toi,
May your Spirit
give us the wisdom of Mary,
to seek you out
give us the vision of Mary
to see you with us
give us the courage of Mary
to tell others about our experience.
So that we can help the world
to see you too.
In Jesus name,
Amen.

♪ Hymn: Jesus Christ is risen today.....pg 12 (243)
www.youtube.com/watch?v=_6sj9ljVsfk

 Benediction (2 Corinthians 13:13)

*The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ,
the love of God,
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit
be with all of you.
Amen*



270 What Wondrous Love Is This

Dupuy's Selection of Hymns
and Mead's General Selection, 1811

WONDROUS LOVE William Walker's Southern Harmony, 1835
12 9 12 12 9

1. What won-drous love is this, O my soul, O my soul! What
2. When I was sink-ing down, sink-ing down, sink-ing down, when
3. To God and to the Lamb I will sing, I will sing; to

won-drous love is this, O my soul! What won-drous love is this,
I was sink-ing down, O my soul! When I was sink-ing down
God and to the Lamb I will sing. To God and to the Lamb

that caused the Lord of bliss to bear the dread-ful curse for my
be - neath God's right-eous frown, Christ laid a - side His crown for my
who is the great "I AM," while mil-lions join the theme, I will

soul, for my soul, to bear the dread-ful curse for my soul.
soul, for my soul, Christ laid a - side His crown for my soul.
sing, I will sing, while mil-lions join the theme, I will sing.

530

I come with joy

DOVE OF PEACE 8 6 8 6 6

Unison F Gm7 Am B♭sus2 F/C

1. I come with joy, a child of God, for - giv - en,
2. I come with Chris - tians far and near to find, as
3. As Christ breaks bread and bids us share, each proud di -
4. The Spir - it of the ris - en Christ, un - seen, but
5. To - geth - er met, to - geth - er bound by all that

Dm C/E F B♭maj7 C6 Dm7 F/A

loved and free, the life of Je - sus to re - call in
all are fed, the new com - mun - i - ty of love in
vi - sion ends. The love that made us, makes us one, and
ev - er near, is in such friend - ship bet - ter known, a -
God has done, we'll go with joy, to give the world the

B♭6 Am7 (F/A) B♭ C 9 (C7) F

love laid down for me, in love laid down for me.
Christ's com - mun - ion bread, in Christ's com - mun - ion bread.
strang - ers now are friends, and strang - ers now are friends.
live a - mong us here, a - live a - mong us here.
love that makes us one, the love that makes us one.

Words: Brian A. Wren (1936-) Music: Walker's Southern Harmony 1835; harmony, Charles H. Webb (1933-) CCLI #4440603

Words: copyright © 1971, 1995 by Hope Publishing Co. Music: harmony, copyright © United Methodist Publishing House, 1989

RUN, MARY, RUN

Words and Music by
Linda Carmichael
arranged by Dave Findlay

Medium

1. Ma - ry was there when
2. Ma - ry went down to where
told the dis - ci - ples what the
want us to be - lieve you but
Lord will choose both the

Je - sus died, she stood and wept at His mo - ther's side she was
Je - sus lay, and she found they had ta - ken His bo - dy a - way She
Mas - ter said. They didn't be - lieve her they laughed in - stead they said,
we re - fuse. This must be some kind of wo - men's ruse With
time and place, speak through any voice, shine on an - y face What

filled with sor - row she could - n't hide And for
fell to her knees and be - gan to pray then
"Don't you know that the Lord is dead? Who
so many men for the Lord to choose He
ev - er the gen - der what - ev - er the race. Who are

three days af - ter she cried and cried. Run
Je - sus came and she heard Him say. Run
put these thoughts in to your head? Run
wouldn't pick a woman to tell the news! Run
we to judge who is of God's grace? Run

And the Lord said, "Run, Ma - ry, run, Run, Ma - ry, run,

Run and tell the o - thers that the Lord is ri - sen; Run, Ma - ry, run,

Run, Ma - ry, run, Run and tell the o - thers that your Mas - ter lives." 3. She
4. You
5. The

Words and Music © Copyright 1982 by Linda Carmichael
CCLI #4440603 One License #A-719461

Here, O my Lord, I see thee

LANGRAN 10 10 10 10

F /A Bb F /C C7 F

1. Here, O my Lord, I see thee face to face;
 2. Here would we feed up - on the bread of God,
 3. This is the hour of ban - quet and of song;
 4. Too soon we rise; the sym - bols dis - ap - pear.
 5. We have no help but thine, nor do we need

F G/F C/E F C/E Dm G7 C

here would I touch and han - dle things un - seen,
 here drink with thee the roy - al wine of heaven;
 this is the heaven - ly ta - ble for us spread;
 The feast, though not the love, is past and gone;
 an - oth - er arm but thine to lean up - on;

F/A Bb F/A C7/G F Bb6 maj7 C

here grasp with firm - er hand e - ter - nal grace,
 here would we lay a - side each earth - ly load,
 here let us feast, and, feast - ing, still pro - long
 the bread and wine re - move, but thou art here,
 it is e - nough, O Lord, e - nough in - deed;

F F7/A Bb Bbdim F/A Gm F/C C7 F

and all my wea - ri - ness up - on thee lean.
 here taste a - fresh the calm of sin for - given.
 this fel - low - ship in thee, our liv - ing bread.
 near - er than ev - er, still our shield and sun.
 our strength is in thy might, thy might a - lone.

6. Mine is the sin, but thine the righteousness;
 mine is the guilt, but thine the cleansing blood.
 Here is my robe, my refuge and my peace,
 thy blood, thy righteousness, O Lord, my God.

7. Feast after feast thus comes and passes by,
 yet, passing, points to that glad feast above,
 giving sweet foretaste of the festal joy,
 the Lamb's great bridal feast of bliss and love.

Words: Horatius Bonar (1808–1889), alt Music: James Langran (1835–1909)

Words: public domain Music: public domain

MISSION MOMENT

Sunday, April 5

In Malawi, Debora was raised by her grandparents after her father died and her mother left due to mental health struggles. Unsure how to afford secondary school, she received support to fund her studies and to pay for meals and accommodations at university. "What I've learned is to be kind—to be kind not just to people so close to you, because you guys never knew about me. You never knew I existed, but you still had a heart to give," Debora shares. She hopes her experience motivates girls in her village: "And me, being a girl, when they look at me, they get inspired and some are even going back to school." PWS&D supports the Church of Central Africa Presbyterian's Ekwendeni Hospital AIDS Program in Malawi in this initiative.



DAILY PRAYERS

Sunday, April 5 (Easter Sunday) God of new life and of hope, fill us with peace, joy and the desire to be new people and to live in the new life Christ gives, guided by your Spirit. Give us, we pray, a renewed and growing awareness of what it means to live as Christ lived, to love as Christ loved and to serve as he served.

Monday, April 6 God of justice and mercy, fill us with courage and hope as we engage in repentance, repairing and healing the harm the church has caused by excluding and marginalizing Two-Spirit and LGBTQI+ people.

Tuesday, April 7 (World Health Day) We pray for communities and individuals affected by funding cuts to vital health programs. We give thanks for the health initiatives supported by PWS&D that are making a difference during these times.

Wednesday, April 8 In this season of celebrating the resurrection and new life, we pray for congregations seeking a vision of God's future, and for those serving them as intentional interim and transitional ministers. May God's Spirit guide them as they continue in their journey of discernment.

Thursday, April 9 We pray for the Caribbean and North American Council for Mission (CANACOM) as they assist the people and churches affected by Hurricane Melissa.

Friday, April 10 We pray for the people and churches in Taiwan as they live and worship in precarious and dangerous geo-political conditions.

Saturday, April 11 We pray for members of the Atlantic Mission Society as they lead worship services on Mission Awareness Sunday. May their congregations be blessed as they focus on *The Mission of Jesus...Then and Now*.

Rev. Peter Rombeek
for Kensington Presbyterian Church

13/13

Christ is Risen!



As we celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ, we are reminded of the transformative power of God's love and mercy. Every day, we witness the profound impact of responding to the needs of the hungry, the marginalized and the displaced.

Inspired by God's promise of abundant life, the church is dedicated to serving those in need with compassion, justice and love. Your faithful support through PWS&D is making a significant difference in communities around the world.

Together, we provide critical food assistance, access to health care, sanitation services and other emergency relief to those affected by crises and disasters. Our partners also work to address inequalities by strengthening communities through education, community health initiatives, sustainable agricultural practices, and skills training, while advocating for the rights and needs of refugees.

Faithful to our calling, we respond together.

This Easter, please support PWS&D.



WeRespond.ca

50 Wynford Drive, Toronto, ON M3C 1J7
1-800-619-7301 | pwsd@presbyterian.ca

250912331

April 5, 2026
Eater