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*Our Mission...*

*to be an accepting Christian community dedicated to living, sharing and teaching the Word of God.*

*We respect all aspects of people including race, ethnicity, gender expression, sexual orientation, socio-economic background, age, religion, mental wellness, and ability.*

The Second Sunday of Easter  
April 24<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Annual Congregational Meeting

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*\*The asterisk invites all to stand, if they are able. **Bold** print indicates a congregational response.*

**PREPARING FOR THE WORD**

**PRELUDE** – "*Sonata in G Major, Op. 20 No. 1, First Movement*"

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(Dusseck)

~Joanne Diplock

**WELCOME**

**LIFE and WORK of the CONGREGATION**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT of the LAND**

*We acknowledge that we meet in Treaty 1 land, the traditional lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree and Dakota peoples, and the homeland of the Metis nation. We are thankful for these first inhabitants, and we commit to working together towards justice, truth and reconciliation.*

**LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE**

*May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds. Amen.*

**CALL to WORSHIP**

*This is the day that the Lord has made;  
**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**  
*Praise the Lord.*  
**The Lord's name be praised.***

**PRAYER of the DAY**

**Faithful God,**  
**the strength of all who believe**  
**and the hope of those who doubt,**  
**may we, who have not seen, have faith**  
**and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing,**

**who is alive and reigns with you,  
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,  
one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

**\*HYMN: #1 MV – "Let Us Build a House"**

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(Haugen)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1. Let us build a house where love can dwell  
And all can safely live,  
A place where saints and children tell  
How hearts learn to forgive.  
Built of hopes and dreams and visions,  
Rock of faith and vault of grace  
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:  
All are welcome, all are welcome,  
All are welcome in this place.**
- 2. Let us build a house where prophets speak,  
And words are strong and true,  
Where all God's children  
Dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.  
Here the cross shall stand as witness  
And as symbol of god's grace;  
Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: R**
- 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach  
Beyond the wood and stone  
To heal and strengthen, serve and teach,  
And live the Word they've known  
Here the outcast and the stranger  
bear the image of God's face;  
let us bring an end to fear and danger: R**
- 5. Let us build a house where all are named,  
Their songs and visions heard  
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed  
as words within the Word.  
Built of tears and cries and laughter,  
Prayers of faith and songs of grace;  
Let this house proclaim from floor to rafter; R**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

**LEARNING TIME**

**PRAYER**

## THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our trespasses,  
as we forgive those who trespass against us.  
And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil:  
For thine is the kingdom,  
the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

Scripture Reader: *Marie Leskovjan*

The First Lesson:

**Acts 5: 27-32**

*When they had brought them, they had them stand before the council. The high priest questioned them, saying, 'We gave you strict orders not to teach in this name, yet here you have filled Jerusalem with your teaching and you are determined to bring this man's blood on us.' But Peter and the apostles answered, 'We must obey God rather than any human authority. The God of our ancestors raised up Jesus, whom you had killed by hanging him on a tree. God exalted him at his right hand as Leader and Saviour, so that he might give repentance to Israel and forgiveness of sins. And we are witnesses to these things, and so is the Holy Spirit whom God has given to those who obey him.'*

Epistle:

**Revelation 1: 4-8**

*John to the seven churches that are in Asia:*

*Grace to you and peace from him who is and who was and who is to come, and from the seven spirits who are before his throne, and from Jesus Christ, the faithful witness, the firstborn of the dead, and the ruler of the kings of the earth.*

*To him who loves us and freed us from our sins by his blood, and made us to be a kingdom, priests serving his God and Father, to him be glory and dominion for ever and ever. Amen.*

*Look! He is coming with the clouds;*

*every eye will see him,*

*even those who pierced him;*

*and on his account all the tribes of the earth will wail.*

*So it is to be. Amen.*

*'I am the Alpha and the Omega', says the Lord God, who is and who was and who is to come, the Almighty.*

Response: *This is the Word of God.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**The Gospel: John 20: 19-31**

*When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, 'Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you.' When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, 'Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained.'*

*But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, 'We have seen the Lord.' But he said to them, 'Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe.'*

*A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, 'Peace be with you.' Then he said to Thomas, 'Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe.' Thomas answered him, 'My Lord and my God!' Jesus said to him, 'Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe.'*

*Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name.*

**Response:** *The Gospel of Christ.*

**Thanks be to God.**

**\*HYMN:** #176 VU – "Who Is There on This Easter Morning" (Dudley-Smith/Shaw)  
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- 1 Who is there on this Easter morning  
runs not with John to find the grave?  
Nor sees how, death's dominion scorning,  
Jesus is risen, strong to save?  
Who is there on this Easter morning  
runs not with John to find the grave?**
- 2 Who has not stood where Mary grieving  
to that first Easter garden came;  
for very joy but half-believing  
whose is the voice that calls her name?**

**Who has not stood where Mary grieving  
to that first Easter garden came?**

- 3 Who is there doubts that night is ended?  
Hear from on high the trumpets call!  
Christ is in triumph now ascended,  
risen and reigning, Lord of all!  
Who is there doubts that night is ended?  
Hear from on high the trumpets call!**

MEDITATION ~Rev. Don Johnson (see attached sermon)

## **WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

### **THE PRESENTATION OF OUR OFFERINGS**

Offertory Verse: #155 VU – ***"Jesus Christ is Risen Today"***

(Davidica)

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- 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!**

Offertory Prayer

**We bring our gifts to you, Lord God,  
with cheerfulness and a joyful heart.  
Grant that with our gifts  
we may also offer  
a ready mind and a willing spirit  
to show forth in our lives  
the truth of the gospel;  
through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

### **PRAYERS**

#### **PRAYER BEFORE the ANNUAL MEETING**

(Celebrate God's Presence, pg. 560)

**Gracious God,  
as we begin our Annual Meeting,  
give us wisdom in our speaking,  
attentiveness in our listening,  
and sound judgement in our decision-making.  
Keep us thankful for your presence,  
and for our life together.  
These things we ask for the sake of your glory,  
and in the name of Jesus. Amen.**

## THE ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

### A CONCLUDING PRAYER

(Eric Milner-White & G. W. Briggs)

**O God,**

**you lead us by ways we do not know,  
through joy and sorrow,  
through victory and defeat,  
beyond our understanding.**

**Give us faith to see your guiding hand in all things;  
that being neither lifted up by seeming success,  
nor cast down by seeming failure,  
we may press forward wherever you lead,  
to the glory of your name. Amen.**

**\*HYMN: #586 VU – "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection"** (Boyce-Tillman/Barnard)  
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- 1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of new life in Christ.**
- 2 We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;  
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;  
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
expressive love alive in every heart.  
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,  
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,  
including all in circles of our love.**

## THE BLESSING

### CHORAL BENEDICTION

**May the Lord go with you,  
let him take your hand.  
Keep His love within you,  
until we meet again. Amen.**

### POSTLUDE – "Rejoice the Lord is King"

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(Darwell/Sanborn)  
~Joanne Diplock