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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 Fourth Sunday of Easter  
May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2022  
Christian Family Sunday

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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** – “*Andante*” from *Piano Trio, Opus 17*  
*(Music played with permission under license #A-620529 One License)*

(Schumann)  
~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.*

**THE LIGHTING of the CHRIST CANDLE and the UKRAINE 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 the Lord has made:*

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

*This is the day of the Lord:*

**Our Saviour, Christ, is risen!**

*He has conquered sin and death,*

**The power of love has overcome,**

**And God has given us the victory! Alleluia!**

**PRAYER OF THE DAY**

(VU#557)

**In you, O God, every family on earth receives its name.  
Illumine the homes of this earth**

**with the light of your love,  
granting courage to those who are hurt or lonely,  
endurance to those who care for sick family members,  
and wisdom to those in fearful times of change.**

**We thank you for gifts of love we have received  
from mother, father, spouse, child, or companion.**

**As we have been loved by you and by others,  
so may we love.**

**Grant us your peace, through Jesus the Christ. Amen**

**\*HYMN: #187 VU – "The Spring Has Come"**

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(Murray/Gibson)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 The spring has come, let all the church be part of it!  
The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!  
New light, new day, new colour after winter grey.  
New light, new day,  
the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!**
- 2 The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!  
The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it!  
New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ.  
New leaf, new thrust,  
the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!**
- 3 The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it.  
Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it.  
New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit.  
New bud, new shoot,  
the spring has come, new people are the flowers of it!**

## **THE WORD OF GOD**

### **LEARNING TIME and DEDICATION of PRAYER SHAWLS**

#### **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.**

\***HYMN:** #492 *Blue Hymnary – "Lovingly the Shepherd"*

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(Katsunoff/Hewlett)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Lovingly the Shepherd, seeking the lost sheep,  
Found it tir'd and hungry, on the mountain steep.  
Jesus paid the price, great the pain and loss;  
To redeem the world, at great pain and loss,  
To redeem the world, to redeem the world,  
Jesus Christ laid down his life upon the Cross.**
- 2 Precious is the lost coin, sought with love and care,  
And with joy the owner found her treasure rare. R**
- 3 Tenderly the Father welcomes home His son;  
Though once dead he liveth, love at last has won. R**

Scripture Reader: *Del Sexsmith*

The First Lesson:       **Acts 9: 36-43**

*Now in Joppa there was a disciple whose name was Tabitha, which in Greek is Dorcas. She was devoted to good works and acts of charity. At that time she became ill and died. When they had washed her, they laid her in a room upstairs. Since Lydda was near Joppa, the disciples, who heard that Peter was there, sent two men to him with the request, 'Please come to us without delay.' So Peter got up and went with them; and when he arrived, they took him to the room upstairs. All the widows stood beside him, weeping and showing tunics and other clothing that Dorcas had made while she was with them. Peter put all of them outside, and then he knelt down and prayed. He turned to the body and said, 'Tabitha, get up.' Then she opened her eyes, and seeing Peter, she sat up. He gave her his hand and helped her up. Then calling the saints and widows, he showed her to be alive. This became known throughout Joppa, and many believed in the Lord. Meanwhile he stayed in Joppa for some time with a certain Simon, a tanner.*

The Second Lesson:       **Revelation 7: 9-17**

*After this I looked, and there was a great multitude that no one could count, from every nation, from all tribes and peoples and languages, standing before the throne and before the Lamb, robed in white, with palm branches in their hands. They cried out in a loud voice, saying, 'Salvation belongs to our God who is seated on the throne, and to the Lamb!'*

*And all the angels stood around the throne and around the elders and the four living creatures, and they fell on their faces before the throne and worshipped God, singing, 'Amen! Blessing and glory and wisdom and thanksgiving and honour and power and might be to our God for ever and ever! Amen.'*

*Then one of the elders addressed me, saying, 'Who are these, robed in white, and where have they come from?' I said to him, 'Sir, you are the one that knows.' Then he said to me, 'These are they who have come out of the great ordeal; they have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb. For this reason they are before the throne of God, and worship him day and night within his temple, and the one who is seated on the throne will shelter them. They will hunger no more, and thirst no more; the sun will not strike them, nor any scorching heat; for the Lamb at the centre of the throne will be their shepherd, and he will guide them to springs of the water of life, and God will wipe away every tear from their eyes.'*

Response: *This is the Word of God.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**CHOIR ANTHEM:** "The Gift of Love"

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(Hopson)  
~Joanne Diplock

The Gospel: **John 10: 22-30**

*At that time the festival of the Dedication took place in Jerusalem. It was winter, and Jesus was walking in the temple, in the portico of Solomon. So the Jews gathered around him and said to him, 'How long will you keep us in suspense? If you are the Messiah, tell us plainly.' Jesus answered, 'I have told you, and you do not believe. The works that I do in my Father's name testify to me; but you do not believe, because you do not belong to my sheep. My sheep hear my voice. I know them, and they follow me. I give them eternal life, and they will never perish. No one will snatch them out of my hand. What my Father has given me is greater than all else, and no one can snatch it out of the Father's hand. The Father and I are one.'*

Response: *The Gospel of Christ.*  
**Thanks be to God.**

**SERMON** ~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**"

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(Davidica)

- 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

*...O Risen Christ*

**Open our eyes to your mercy in the world.**

\*HYMN: #236 VU – "Now Thank We All Our God"

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(Rinckart/Crüger)

~Joanne Diplock

- 1 Now thank we all our God, with heart,  
and hands, and voices,  
who wondrous things has done,  
in whom this world rejoices;  
who from our mother's arms has blessed us on our way  
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.**
- 2 O may this bounteous God  
through all our life be near us,  
with ever joyful hearts  
and blessed peace to cheer us,  
and keep us strong in grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
and free us from all ill in this world and the next.**
- 3 All praise and thanks to God  
for all that has been given,  
the Son, and Spirit blest  
who dwell in highest heaven,  
the one eternal God, whom heaven and earth adore;  
for thus it was, is now, and shall be evermore.**

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 – "Ukrainian Lullaby"

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(arr. Hankinson)

~Joanne Diplock