

Central Queens Pastoral Charge
United Church of Canada
April 17, 2022 – 6:30 am

Easter Sunrise Service

Gathering

Longing for meaning.

As the world wakes up, once more:

Aware of so much brokenness.

Between the graveyard and the cracked boulder:

Looking for signs of God's presence.

In the sound of the waves, the song of a bird:

Hoping to hear God's voice.

In this time and place, together and alone:

Yearning for new life.

Song

Morning Has Broken

VU #409

1. Morning has broken like the first morning,
Blackbird is spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them, springing forth from the word!
2. Sweet the rains new fall sunlit from heaven,
like the first dewfall on the first grass.
Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden,
sprung in completeness where God's feet pass.
3. Ours is the sunlight! Ours is the morning
born of the one light Eden saw play!
Praise with elation, praise every morning,
God's re-creation of the new day!

Prayer

God of love and life, there are times when we feel that we have lost you, that you have gone far away, out of reach: as we stand by a hospital bed, sit in a lonely home, separated from family; as we struggle with growing gaps of memory, watch someone we love suffering, when the world news makes us despair;

Easter Morning

in a frosty garden, by a graveside, on a cold shore, among the world's waste, we grieve your absence, our loss. And yet you have not gone away, you are there mysteriously, even in the darkest places, even when they – and we – feel empty. There, most of all, you are present: you are there for us. In Jesus you lived and died as God-with-us, Immanuel. And you came back to life, in our lives. Out of death's silence you speak a living Word. Speak to us and through us, now, living, loving God. **Amen**

Scripture Reading Luke 23:55-24:5

Reflection

Hymn

Jesus Christ is Risen Today

VU #155

Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!

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!

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!

Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!
praise eternal as his love; hallelujah!
praise him, all you heavenly host, hallelujah!
Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

Blessing

May God bless you where you are now, and when you journey on to where you are called to be: a place that will change you, and where you can make a difference; where you may be a sign of God's love as you live out the Good News. **Amen**