

**KIMBERLEY UNITED CHURCH**  
**MARCH 31<sup>ST</sup>, 2013**  
**“EASTER SUNDAY”**

**WE GATHER TO CELEBRATE**

*(An \* means stand, if you are able.)*

*A warm welcome to everyone on this joyous Easter Sunday. Please note, for this morning only, that the time for sharing announcements will take place while the offering is being received.*

**PROCESSION OF EASTER SYMBOLS**

**\*LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**\*EASTER PROCLAMATION**

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**All: Christ is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

**\*CHORAL ACCLAMATION (KUC Choir)**

*(VU # 958, Halle, Halle, Halle)*

**\*CALL TO WORSHIP**

There is surprise. **Christ is risen!**

There is wonder. **Christ is risen!**

There is joy. **Christ is risen!**

God's love is here. **Christ is risen indeed!**

**\*HYMN VU # 179 “Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks”**

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**Life-giving God, the shadows and gloom of Good Friday have been dispersed by the light and colour of Easter Sunday. We rejoice in the power of your love that turns our sorrow into joy, our despair into hope, our discouragement into faith-filled living. Help us, this Easter morning, to burst out of the tombs that entrap us. With joy and thanksgiving, we pray in the name of the risen Christ who lives among us. Amen**

**WE SHARE STORIES OF FAITH**

**SHARING STORIES**

**\*SONG MV # 121 “Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah”**

**READING FROM ISAIAH “The Glorious New Creation”**  
*Isaiah 65:17-19,22,24-25, Pgs. 607-608, Hebrew Scriptures, NRSV*

LUKE'S GOSPEL "The Resurrection of Jesus"  
*Luke 24:1-12, Pg. 860, Christian Scriptures, NRSV Bible*

Good news, for us today!  
**Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM "Midnight Sharpness, Starfields, Fading"  
*(Voices United # 181, Words: Neil Lemke; Music: David Kai)*

REFLECTION

MUSICAL INTERLUDE

## **WE RESPOND TO GOD'S LOVE**

\*HYMN VU # 166 "Joy Comes with the Dawn"

MISSION & MINISTRY MOMENT

PRAYER REFRAIN *(MV # 21)*

**Open our hearts, open our minds.  
Open our lives to you, O loving God.  
Open our hearts.**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*With grateful hearts, O God...Hear our prayers.*

OFFERING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*OFFERTORY *(MV # 191)*

**What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?**

**I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.**

\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**You, O God, are the Easter One. You are the holy source of resurrection. You are the dancing spirit of life. We offer these gifts in gratitude for hope returned, for the mystery of your grace, and for the promise of new life. In the name of the risen Christ, we pray. Amen**

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

One: God is with us.

**Many: God takes delight in our delight.**

One: May we give thanks for this holy presence.

**Many: May we give thanks for this holy time.**

One: Gathered here, we remember all our sacred moments.

**Many: Gathered here, we remember all who walk in faith.**

One: Gathered here, we remember our sacred story and the banquet that Jesus asks us all to share.

**All: We remember and we give thanks to God!**

*(Keri Wehlander, Circles of Grace, page 83, adapted)*

*(Presider's words)...Therefore, with all creation and the community of saints we celebrate the gift of new life as we say together...*

**All: Holy, holy, holy God, power of life and love!**

**Heaven and earth abound with your blessing.**

**Hosanna, through the ages. Blest is the One who comes to bring your love and justice to our world.**

*(Words of Institution)...And so we say together...*

**All: As one community we rejoice in your gifts, welcome your presence and inspiration, and praise you with all who have been refreshed and renewed through this sacred tradition.**

JESUS' PRAYER VU # 959, sung in unison

COMMUNION - SEATED

PASS THE PEACE

May the peace of Christ be with you.

**And also with you.**

PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION

**Easter God, you have met us in bread and wine and surprised us with joy. Send us out into the world dancing with delight, with hallelujahs ringing in our hearts, to share your peace and hope with all we meet. With gratitude for the living Christ, we pray. Amen**

*(Fire and Bread, Iona Community, p. 23, adapted)*

## **WE GO FORTH IN GOD'S LOVE**

\*HYMN VU # 155 "Jesus Christ is Risen Today"

\*COMMISSIONING

One: Just like the women, who went to the tomb on Easter morning ready to offer care for a loved one, may we reach out to the world with love and compassion.

**All: And like those women, who left the empty tomb and shared the amazing news of resurrection, may we be witnesses to the new life rising within and around us this day and in the days to come.**

**\*BENEDICTION**

**\*SUNG BLESSING "Go, Make a Difference" (MV # 209)**

**Go make a difference.**

**We can make a difference.**

**Go make a difference in the world.**

**Go make a difference.**

**We can make a difference.**

**Go make a difference in the world. (x2)**

**POSTLUDE**

**A Happy and Blessed Easter to Everyone!**