
Chilliwack United Church
3rd Sunday of Easter
10:30 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome & Greeting

Gathering Song

Hymn No. 8 MV

“And On this Path”

And on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide,
and on this path, the gates of holiness are open wide!

Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide,
So enter in, the gates of holiness are open wide!
Open wide! Open wide! Open wide!
The gates are open wide!

Call to Worship

Welcome into the presence of the Risen Christ!

We come, in anticipation of meeting the Holy One.

We will open our minds to the significance of the Easter stories;

We come, ready to explore the power of the resurrection.

We will listen for God’s truth in the scriptures;

We come, eager to welcome the Risen Christ into our lives.

The spirit of Christ is among us.

Hallelujah!

Prayer of Approach (In Unison)

Holy God, you moved among humanity in the life of Jesus and revealed your great power in the resurrection story. We marvel at how the Risen Christ moved among his friends and even ate with them. Help us to discover the truth of this experience and what it might mean for our lives. Grant us the gift of understanding as we read the scriptures seeking guidance for our lives. Amen.

Opening Hymn No. 642 VU “Be Thou My Vision”

Prayer of Confession (In Unison)

The resurrection story is hard to understand. We are so locked into the limits of our earthly understanding, God, that we are puzzled by the events we read in scripture. We confine our thoughts to our own experience and too easily say, “that’s not possible”. And yet...

*Silent Prayer (time to sit in God's
Loving and Forgiving presence)*

Assurance of Pardon

We read that, “God opened the disciples’ minds to understand the scripture” and, when we ask, God will do the same for us. May it be so.

Thanks be to God!

Anthem “What a Friend”

Theme Conversation

Hymn No. 412 VU “This is the Day”

New Testament Scripture

Acts 3:25-26

You are the descendants of the prophets and of the covenant that God gave to your ancestors, saying to Abraham, “And in your descendants all the families of the earth shall be blessed.” When God raised up his servant, he sent him first to you, to bless you by turning each of you from your wicked ways.’

Responsive Psalm No. 4

Page 727 VU

Gospel Reading

Luke 24:36b-48

While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ They gave him a piece of broiled fish, and he took it and ate in their presence.

Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Thanks be to God. Amen.

Reflection

Hymn No. 662 VU

“Lead Me, God”

Life & Work of the Church

Presentation of Our Offering

Offertory Hymn No. 581 VU (Verse 2) “When We Are Living”

Through all our living, we our fruits must give.

Good works of service are for offering.

When we are giving, or when receiving,

We belong to God, we belong to God.

Prayer of Dedication (In Unison)

**Bless these gifts, O God, and those donated through PAR,
in response to the many good things you have given us.
Help us as a church to use them to do your work – helping
the vulnerable, challenging the seekers, celebrating your
presence among us. Amen.**

Hymn No. 400 VU (Seated)

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying”

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Lord, send your Spirit in this place;

Lord, listen to your children praying,

Send us love, send us power, send us grace!

Prayers of the People

The Lord’s Prayer

No. 959 VU

Hymn No. 159 VU

“The Strife is O’er”

Commissioning & Blessing

Sung Blessing

No. 649 VU

- Sing Twice -

(You are invited to join hands with those around you to form a "blessings circle")

Walk with me, I will walk with you
and build the land that God has planned
where love shines through.

Postlude

*The church has a supply of **hearing units** for improved sound in the sanctuary. If you wish to use a set for the Sunday service, please pick one up from the sound booth at the back of the sanctuary.*

Announcements

Leading the Service Today:

Worship Leader; Carolyn Gaunt

Musician; Rod Swanson

Music Director; Marilyn Taves

Scripture Reader; Jim Jones

Budget Summary

Average Weekly Revenue Required to Service our 2018 Operating Budget	\$ 3,301.00
Average Weekly Revenue to March 31, 2018	2,584.00
<i>Deficit as of March 31, 2018</i>	<i>(6,311.00)</i>
<i>Deficit as of March 31, 2017</i>	<i>(16,737.00)</i>
Average Mission & Service Weekly Revenue Required to Service our 2018 Objective (2018 Goal: \$10,000.00)	\$ 192.00
Average Mission & Service Weekly Revenue Received to March 31, 2018	170.00
<i>Mission & Service Funds Received to Date – March 31, 2018</i>	<i>2,358.00</i>
<i>Mission & Service Funds Received to Date – March 31, 2017</i>	<i>2,350.00</i>

For your information, complete regular Monthly Financial Statements are posted in the Narthex on the bulletin board next to the ramp.

Sunday, April 15, 2018

There will be a Congregational Meeting immediately following the service on Sunday, April 22. We will be amending our structure to comply with the United Church of Canada Manual. We will also elect new Trustees and give them signing authority for our investments.

Our next pot luck lunch will be held on Sunday, May 6 *NOT May 11.* Bring your favourite food to share and enjoy a time of fun and fellowship.

Representatives from Mt. Shannon, Rosedale and Chilliwack United Churches met on Sunday, April 8 at Mt. Shannon United to explore the possibilities of finding a future together. In order to get to know each other better, our churches will be regularly taking turns hosting a '3 church service'. Watch your bulletin for upcoming social gatherings.

It's time to renew your United Church Observer subscription! The annual subscription fee remains the same as last year, \$25.00; an incredible value for an internationally awarded publication! ***Deadline for renewal is Friday, May 11. If you pay by cheque, please make your cheque payable to CHILLIWACK UNITED CHURCH. Unfortunately, we are unable to issue income tax receipts for your payment.*** The United Church Observer publishes stories relevant to our lives and world today from a uniquely United Church perspective. ***In the current issue of The Observer; 5 Reasons We Seriously Need to Protect Our Oceans from Plastic;*** At least eight million tonnes of plastic end up in our oceans every year. And the World Economic Forum predicts that by 2050, the plastic in the ocean will outweigh the fish. Here are more reasons we should be worried.

We will be sharing our worship space with our local United Church neighbours. Mt. Shannon and Rosedale United Churches will be joining us on Sunday, April 29 with Rev. Nick Judson and Rev. Trevor Malkinson leading the service.

For Sale – A couple of church items are for sale and on display in the hall. Maybe you or someone you know would be interested in them; oak desk and chair \$90.00; new bulletin board 3' x 4' \$20.00. Phone the church office at 604-792-4634 or Julie at 604-858-7583.

Mothers' Day Tea & Fashion Show: Clear your calendar now on Saturday, May 12 for our Mothers' Day Tea & Fashion Show! It's going to be bigger and better than ever. You will be excited to hear all about it, but we are not letting the cat out of the bag just yet... Keep checking your bulletins for more information. See you on May 12!



BC Conference is now accepting applications for children, ages 8 to 12, to attend and participate in the Children at Conference Program May 31 to June 3 in Penticton, BC. This program offers an opportunity for children from across BC to gather and participate in the worship and work of the Annual Meeting of the BC Conference of the United Church of Canada. Applications must be received no later than Monday, May 15. If you have questions, call Mary Nicol at the BC Conference office, 1-800-934-0434, extension 327.

Watch your bulletin for information about Rev. Bethan Theunissen's upcoming dissertation presentations. The dissertation will be presented in two parts; "What on Earth is Happening to the Church in the West: Decline and the Generations" and "The Stories of Two Progressive Congregations Bucking the Decline Trend and Young-Adult-Filled".

We continue to collect non-perishable food items for the Salvation Army Food Bank. The need in our community continues long after Christmas. Your donation can be placed in the Salvation Army Barrel located in the Narthex.

Donations of cancelled postage stamps is greatly appreciated. The stamps are passed on to Eastern Star. Stamps are used to help purchase dressings for cancer patients.

**Chilliwack United Church
Monday, April 16 to Sunday, April 22**

Monday, April 16

No meetings scheduled for today.

Tuesday, April 17

1:00 Thrift Shop Open

7:30 Choir Practice

Wednesday, April 18

10:00 Thrift Shop Open

10:30 Drop In Bible Study

Thursday, April 19

10:00 Thrift Shop Open

Friday, April 20

10:00 Thrift Shop Open

Saturday, April 21

12:00 Chilliwack United Soup Kitchen

Sunday, April 22

10:30 All Ages Worship Service

12:00 Congregational Meeting

Chilliwack United Church

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***Minute for Mission
Mission & Service 101***

Have you ever wondered what Mission & Service really is? Where did it come from? Well, I am going to tell you!

Mission & Service is how we live out the call of the church to do God's mission.

Mission & Service wasn't always called Mission & Service. Before 1925, the three original denominations that joined to create The United Church of Canada—Presbyterians, Methodists, and Congregationalists—saw mission as an important part of church life and supported it in many ways.

Since church union, the name for the way we support the mission and service of the church has gone through many changes: first came the Woman's Missionary Society along with the Home and Global Mission Boards, then the Missionary and Maintenance Fund, and later the Mission and Service Fund. Now, it is simply the Mission & Service of The United Church of Canada.

Mission & Service is not a separate fund within the church. It is the foundation of how we offer healing and hope in a hurting world. Mission & Service supports education programs; women's empowerment; food, housing support, and advocacy to alleviate poverty; assistance for theological students, lay leaders, and camping; congregational support; healing the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous people; youth programming like Rendez-vous, and much more!

Mission & Service is the heart and soul of The United Church of Canada. If you already give, thank you so much. If you do not give, please join me in making Mission & Service a regular part of your life of faith! Loving our neighbour is at the heart of our Mission & Service.

(Minutes for Mission, Page 17)