



April 20, 2025

Melville United Church
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**Melville United Church
Easter Sunday
April 20, 2025**

*Presiding: Rev. Linda Butler
Ministry of Music: Colleen Weber*

Prelude

Welcome & announcements:

Land Acknowledgement

Lighting the Christ Candle

One: Jesus Christ is the Light of the world.
A light which even death cannot extinguish.

All: Alleluia! Hallelujah!

Call to Worship

One: Christ has risen!

All: Christ has risen indeed. Alleluia!

One: This is Love's doing.

All: It is awesome in our eyes.

One: This is the day that God has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.

Hymn: Christ the Lord Is Risen Today VU 157

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah!
all creation join to say; Hallelujah!
raise your joys and triumphs high; Hallelujah!
sing, O heavens, and earth reply: Hallelujah!
- 2 Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah!
fought the fight, the battle won. Hallelujah!
Lo, our sun's eclipse is o'er! Hallelujah!
Lo, he dwells in death no more! Hallelujah!
- 3 Lives again our glorious King: Hallelujah!
where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah!
Once he died, our souls to save: Hallelujah!
where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!
- 4 Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven, Hallelujah!
praise to you by both be given! Hallelujah!
Every knee to you shall bow, Hallelujah!
risen Christ, triumphant now. Hallelujah!

Opening Prayer

Hymn: Hallelu, Hallelu

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelu, Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

(repeat)

Children's Time: Expressing Joy

Music Ministry: Hallelujah! Resurrection Day! *Words by Larry Shackley and Robert Lowry. Music by Larry Shackley*

Gospel Reading: John 20:1-18 reader Millie Cumming

The Resurrection of Jesus

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

Jesus Appears to Mary Magdalene

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Sermon: A Garden Encounter

Hymn: Who Is There on This Easter Morning

VU 176

- 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!

Joys / Concerns

Prayers of the People

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.

Offertory invitation

Offering Hymn: What Can I Do? 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. (x2)

Offertory Prayer

Hymn: Thine Is the Glory VU 173

- 1 Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:
endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.

- 2 Lo, Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb!
Lovingly he greets us, scatters fear and gloom.
Let the church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth: death hath lost its sting. R
- 3 No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life;
life is nought without thee: aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to thy home above. R

Benediction and Commissioning

One: Beyond the stone-sealed tomb is a dance called resurrection.

All: We will move with it.

One: Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed!

All: Alleluia! We will live in the Spirit of the resurrected One.

All: Amen.

Postlude

Welcomers: Vivian and Havey Andrews, Barb Gregory

Counters: David Gohn, Lynne Lamb

Worship Schedule

April 27 th	Actively Responding	Social Justice & Outreach
May 4 th	3 rd Sunday of Easter	Rev. Linda Butler
May 11 th	4 th Sunday of Easter	Rev. Felicia Urbanski
May 18 th	5 th Sunday of Easter	Rev. Tom Watson