## **Congregational Response**

**VU 37** 

"Gloria, Gloria in excelsis Deo, Gloria, Gloria, alleluia, alleluia. Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest! Glory to God, glory to God, hallelujah, hallelujah!"

#### **Our Response**

Reflection

**Hymn** "Now the Green Blade Rises" insert VU 186

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

#### We Are Sent Forth

**Closing Hymn** "Thine is the Glory" insert VU 173

**Commissioning** (please remain standing, if comfortable)

All: The stone has been rolled away!
We go out with joy this Easter morning!
May the hope and power of this holy day strengthen us as we go out to be your Easter people.
We will let our hallelujahs ring!
Alleluia!

### **Congregational Response**

(verses 6,3) VU 229

"God of the ages, God near at hand,
God of the loving heart,
how do your children say joy,
how do your children say Home?
God of the rainbow, God of the cross,
God of the empty grave,
how does the creature say Grace,
how does the creature say Thanks?"

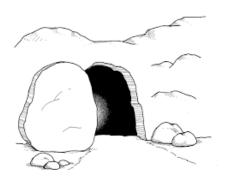
The Benediction "We go in peace, may the blessing of the Resurrecting God be with us always."

Three-fold Amen

# Steveston United Church Sunday April 4, 2021 - 10:00 a.m.

Rev. Brenda Miller - (church) 604-277-0508

## Easter Sunday



#### We Gather As God's People

## **Lighting the Christ Candle!**

All: "And even the darkness could not put it out.

Let the Light of Christ fill this space! Amen!"

#### Call to Worship

One: They went to the tomb just as the sun was beginning to rise.

Eyes downcast, hearts heavy.

But what they found there, remained in their hearts forever.

Not the shadow of death, but a New Light!

All: As an Easter People we follow the light of Christ.

One: He is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

**Opening Hymn** "Jesus Christ is Risen Today" VU 155

Jesus Christ is risen today, Alleluia! Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia! Who did once, upon the cross, Alleluia! Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia! Hymns of praise then let us sing, Alleluia! Unto Christ, our heavenly King, Alleluia! Who endured the cross and grave, Alleluia! Sinners to redeem and save, Alleluia!

But the pain which He endured, Alleluia! Our salvation hath procured, Alleluia! Now above the sky He's king, Alleluia! Where the angels ever sing, Alleluia!

Sing we to our God above, Alleluia! Praise eternal as His love, Alleluia! Praise Him, all you heavenly host, Alleluia! Father, Son, and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

#### **Prayer of Approach**

One: God of New Life,

All: we look around expecting death,
but instead we see New Life!
Resurrections are everywhere!
Hope is within us, expectations are high,
and faith is plentiful.
We see lives being transformed,
fear replaced with confidence,
and new possibilities taking shape.
We praise you for the Good News of the resurrection.
Alleluia! Amen!

## **Sharing the Peace of Christ**

One: Rejoice! God has given us an amazing gift!

The peace of the Risen Christ be with you all.

All: And also with you.

### **Learning Together Story**

## **Prayer of Confession**

(The Moderator, the Rev. Richard Bott)

One: Easter morning takes us by surprise.

All: I am. We are. Creation is.

Broken and whole – a hallelujah of life.
Interconnected,
not only by the building blocks of our physical beings,
but by your love, O God! ....

Creation is. We are. I am.
One in you, O God!
Forgive us and make us part of the Easter story.
Forgive us on this happy morning. Amen.

**Words of Assurance** God says, "Let go of things that are not life-giving.

Let go of all that needs to die, in order that

you may Rise to New Life."

Thanks be to God.

#### We Present Our Offering

**Offering Invitation** "What would you give for an empty tomb?

What would you give for a risen saviour?

What would you give for a restored community? What would you give for a gospel that lasts forever?

#### **Offertory Refrain**

VU 542

"We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gifts may be; all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O God, from thee."

## **Prayer of Dedication**

All: Loving God, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the one who was, and is, and who will always be.

We stand in awe of your mystery and of your faithfulness.

Make strong our desire to be generous so that we may continue to change the world, bringing your justice, peace, and love. Amen.

## We Listen For God's Word

Psalter Psalm 118: 1-2, 14-24 (parts 1,2,3 VU p. 837) Hebrew Scripture Isaiah 65: 17-25 (pew Bible p. 607) Christian Scripture Luke 24: 1-12 (pew Bible p. 860)

One: The word of God for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God.