



WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

**Fourth Sunday of Easter
April 21, 2024**

Acknowledging the Territory

For thousands of years, Indigenous people have walked this land, weaving their identity and their spirituality intimately with the land. We acknowledge that we are on the unceded territory of the Algonquin Anishinaabeg people. May we grow into living with respect on this land, moving into reconciliation through peace and friendship with all who live, work and worship on it.

The Gathering

Gathering Music: *Come in, Come in and Sit Down*

VU 395

The Life & Work of our Community of Faith

Lighting of the Christ and Affirming Candles

We light the Christ candle to symbolize the presence of Christ's Spirit, alive within us, this day and every day.

We light the Affirm candle to proclaim to the members of the LGBTQ2SIA+ communities and their allies that they are truly welcomed and accepted in this place.

Responsive Welcome

Welcome

Welcome to this sacred place of belonging where we embrace the sacredness of life and recognize the dignity of each person, spirit-filled with the image of God, the Mystery in whom we live and move and have our being.

Welcome to all who have no church home, need strength, want to follow Christ, have doubts. Welcome to visitors and to new and old friends.

Welcome to grandparents, to mothers, fathers, aunts, uncles, siblings, youth, couples and single people.

Welcome to people of all colours, cultures, abilities, gender identities, and sexual orientations, to old and young, to believers and questioners – and welcome to questioning believers.

This day, we are all invited to live into God's love, peace and justice. The peace of Christ be with you.

And also with you.

Hymn:

I've Got Peace Like a River

VU 577

Call to Worship

The good shepherd lays down their life for the sheep.

We know love by this, that we ought to lay down our lives for one another.

The good shepherd knows their own and their own know them.

How does God's love abide in anyone who has the world's goods and sees a sibling in need and yet refuses to help?

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

By this we will know that we are from the truth.

By this we will know that Christ abides in us, by the Spirit we have been given.

Let us worship God.

Opening Prayer

**We are your people, O God –
the sheep of your pasture,
the flock you have gathered.**

**Lead us beside still waters;
teach us the way of righteousness;
and feed us at your table;
through Jesus Christ,
our good shepherd. Amen.**

(Children come forward while the song is played)

Hymn: Circle Song

Come and join the circle, come and take my hand.

Come and join the circle, come and be my friend.

Gather round and see, what the world can be.

Come and join the circle, come and share God's word with me.

Children's Message:

Amelia

Hymn:

Jesus Loves Me

VU 365

(Children leave for Sunday school)

We Listen to God's Word

Scripture

Acts 4:5-12

Charges continue to be laid upon the apostles and they continue to be brought before the courts. In this passage, Peter testifies before the high priests.

John 10:11-18

In Jesus' continuing discourse and sermons with his followers, he continues to call for their faithfulness amidst Roman persecution. After healing a man born blind, he visits him to ask if he believes in him. Then, Jesus declares, with his followers, that he is the Good Shepherd.

Anthem

Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

*By Thurpp/Ortiz/Clampett arr. Sorenson
Guitar: Jim Lamb*

Message

The Truth About our Shepherd

Quiet Reflection and Prayers

Hymn:

Are You a Shepherd?

MV 126

We Respond to God's Word

Minute for Mission:

OMRA

Maria

Offering Invitation

Little children, let us love, not in word or speech, but in truth and action.

Offertory Prayer

Gracious God, we give you thanks that you have shown us the meaning of love through Jesus Christ, who gave his life for us. Show us how to share Christ's love by giving our lives for one another; to the glory of your holy name. Amen.

Prayers of the People

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.**

Hymn:

Put Peace in Each Other's Hands

MV 173

Commissioning

Beloved, let us love.

**Not in word or speech,
but in truth and action.**

We go in peace to love and serve our God.

Blessing

Threefold Amen

Postlude

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Portions of this service of worship have been adapted from:

“Easter 4,” *Seasons of the Spirit: Seasons FUSION*, Lent-Easter 2012, p.p. 141-146.

Kimberly Bracken Long, “Fourth Sunday of Easter,” *Feasting on the Word*, Liturgies for Year B, volume 1, Advent through Pentecost Worship Companion, Louisville: Westminster John Knox Press, 2014, 161-164.

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OFFICE HOURS: MONDAY – THURSDAY 9:00 AM-4:00PM

Our Lay Reader today is Robert Sims. Thank you for your part in our worship service this morning. If you would like to be a lay reader in the future, email Janet Campbell at jicampbell@hotmail.com.

Thank you to the production team, ushers, and coffee hosts for bringing us today's worship service and coffee and conversation time.

May Packet Submission Date is April 22nd

Welcome to Emmanuel! If you are a newcomer or visitor, we invite you to sign our **Guest Book** and join us in a time of fellowship in the CE Hall following worship.

Thanks to Maria Rigby for sharing with us about the work of OMRA in our community as a part of our Minute for Mission this morning.

Join our **Zoom Coffee Time** on Tuesday and join the discussion! This session we ask: *What environmental or climate-related issues weigh on your mind the most? What are we doing as a community to address critical environmental/climate issues? Is there anything more we can do?*

On **April 21** take part in a **Harmony Circle for Palestine** hosted by Rideau Park. The conversation will be led by Spiritual Advisor and Elder, Albert Dumont, and a lovely Palestinian youth – a grade 9 student who was born in Gaza and who moved to Canada in 2021. After the formal conversation, we will open up the meeting for a Sharing Circle.

Find the zoom invite on our website's upcoming events section!

Faith in Community is a shared bible study group run by Emmanuel's Multifaith neighbours from *St. Aidan's and Martin Luther Churches*, the theme is how we can care for our community, and the role faith plays in that care. They will be hosting their **shared bible study at Emmanuel at 11 am on the 23rd**. Join us as we share coffee & tea with new friends.

You are invited on April 29th at 6:00 pm in the church basement to join with volunteers from the ***Go with The Flow*** charity as they assemble reusable menstrual care kits. Contact Bill McLeish for more info, bill3alex@gmail.com.

Would you like Offering Envelopes? Offering envelopes provide many benefits - convenience, privacy (unique envelope #, no name) and more importantly ease of recording of donations for an Income Tax receipt at year end. To order, please speak with Keith Jeacle, Envelope Secretary or email envelope.secretary@emmanuelunited.ca .

Grant will be away from the 22nd to the 26th, celebrating his father Tone's life with family in St. John's. We wish him and his family joy and comfort as they gather at this time. Rev. Steve Clifton will cover any Pastoral Care Emergencies during this time.

Did you watch the Eclipse on April 8th? If you kept your **ISO special viewing glasses** – please consider donating them! There is an organization collecting glasses to send to Latin American churches to distribute so that children there can safely view the October 24 eclipse in the southern hemisphere. Drop your glasses off at the church in David Wray's mail slot, or if you want to share the address with others it is: Eclipse Glasses USA PO Box 50571 Provo, UT. 84605

Take part in Emmanuel's **Day Pilgrimage** "*No One Stands Alone*" on **Wed. May 8th 9:45-2:00** (the rain date is May 15th) at **Vincent Massey Park**. To Register, or for more information add your name to the sign-up sheet opposite the CE hall, or contact either Irene (ijsb47@gmail.com) or Jill (halifaxmaclean@gmail.com).

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

Sunday, April 21 Worship Coffee and Conversation JAM Palestine Harmony Circle	10:00 am 11:00 am 11:30 pm – 1:30 pm 6:30 pm – 7:30 pm	Sanctuary C.E. Hall/Kitchen Sanctuary Zoom
Monday, April 22 Take Time to be Wholey Christie Lake Kids Christian Meditation	10:30 am - 11:30 am 4:00 pm-8:00 pm 7:00 pm	C.E. Hall C.E. Hall/Kitchen Zoom
Tuesday, April 23 Tai Chi Quilting Coffee Time Multifaith Bible Study Coffee	9:30 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am - 3:00 pm 10:00 am -11:00 am 10:30 am – 1:00 pm 2:00 pm - 3:00 pm	C.E. Hall Rm 7, 9/10 Zoom Lounge/C.E. Hall Three Sisters
Wednesday, April 24 Women’s Group Active Artists Teleos Voices Rock Medicine	11:00 am - 2:00 pm 10:00 am – 12:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:00 pm - 9:30 pm	Lounge C.E. Hall Zoom Sanctuary
Thursday, April 25 Tai Chi Discussion Group Emmanubells Senior Choir Al-Anon	9:30 am – 11:30 pm 10:00 am - 11:30 am 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm 7:30 pm - 9:00 pm 7:00 pm - 9:30 pm	C.E. Hall Zoom Basement Sanctuary C.E. Hall
Friday, April 26 Take Time to be Wholey	10:30 am - 11:30 am	C.E. Hall
Saturday, April 27 NMRA	9:00 am – 5:00 pm	C.E. Hall