



WELCOME TO EMMANUEL UNITED CHURCH

Easter Sunday

April 5, 2026

The Gathering

Acknowledging the Territory

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality, and culture of the Anishinabeg Algonquin people who are the traditional guardians of the land on which we worship this morning - land which remains unceded. We acknowledge the work of past, present and future caretakers of this territory who share the light of their traditional knowledge. We have the desire to work towards reconciliation and acknowledge that we must live with responsibility and respect on this land.

Hymn:

The Day of Resurrection

VU 164

If you brought a potted plant for the Easter Cross, please come forward to place it in the cross during the singing of the hymn

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 2SLGBTQIA+ 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: *Good Christians All, Rejoice and Sing*

VU 169

Call to Worship:

Let us take up our tambourines and go forth in the dance of the merrymakers!

For God's steadfast love endures forever!

Come, let us go up to Zion, to the Lord our God!

Come, let us worship God!

Opening Prayer:

**O Giver of the risen Christ,
before sending her as the first witness
to your resurrection glory,
you revealed to the grieving Mary
the breadth, the length, the height and the depth
of your steadfast love
with the simple message "Do not be afraid."
Resurrect in us a bold love
that overcomes fear
and sends us to recount what you have done
through words of comfort
catalyzing witness,
and love of neighbour,
to the glory of your holy name,
on this Easter Sunday morning. 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:

Val

Hymn: **Hallelu, Hallelu**

A Capella

Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah!

Praise ye the Lord!

Minister of Worship and Pastoral Care: **Rev. Grant Stuckless**
Pastoral Care Provider: **Dr. Ron MacDonald**
Music Director: **Ann McNamee**
Pianist & Organist: **Abigail Sánchez Rojas**
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OFFICE HOURS: TUESDAY - THURSDAY 9:00 AM-4:30 PM,

The office will be closed on Easter Monday, April 6.

Today our Lay Reader is Kirstin Jeacle, Ushers are Jill MacLean and Bob Frederking, and the Coffee Hosts are Marie Iluba, Latisha Joseph, Kormassa Soriba and Joyce White. Thank you to the tech team, decorators, and all the people that make the life and work of the church possible.

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.

Join **Let's Talk Tuesdays**, on Zoom. This week's discussion topic is Easter. Easter is rich with symbols, rituals, and traditions—light, water, music, gathering. Which of these has stayed with you over the years, and why do you think these continue to speak to you?

This week **Areta Crowell** will lead the Thursday Morning Discussion Group (Heretics) in a continuation of our discussion on **Sabbath Economics**. Sabbath Economics was developed by theologian Ched Meyers, who believes we have responsibility to promote significant change in our society. Biblical selections which we'll be looking at this week include those from the time of Samuel through to Mary's Magnificat and Jesus' sermons. All are welcome to join our group - for all sessions or just ones of particular interest - your choice. Contact the church office or any member of Heretics for a Zoom invitation.

Emmanuel's **Men's Club** meets for breakfast on Saturday, April 11th at 8:30 am at Rogers Italian Bistro in Trainyards.

Next Sunday, April 12th, will be **Holy Humour Sunday**. Think "whimsey" when you are getting dressed to come to church.

ACTIVITIES THIS WEEK

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| Sunday, April 5 Sunrise Service Worship Coffee and Conversation | 8:30 am 10:00 am 11:00 am | Sanctuary Sanctuary C.E. Hall |
| Monday, April 6 Office Closed Christian Meditation | 9:00 am – 4:30 pm 7:00 pm – 8:00 pm | Office Zoom |
| Tuesday, April 7 Tai Chi Let's Talk Tuesdays Coffee Social | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am – 11:00 am 2:00 pm – 3:00 pm | C.E. Hall Zoom Three Sisters |
| Wednesday, April 8 Quilting Active Artists Property & Grounds Voices Rock Music | 10:00 am – 3:00 pm 11:00 pm – 2:00 pm 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm 8:00 pm – 9:30 pm | Lounge/C.E. Hall Library Zoom Sanctuary |
| Thursday, April 9 Tai Chi Heretics Discussion Group Emmanubells Al Anon Choir | 10:00 am – 12:00 pm 10:00 am – 11:30 am 6:00 pm – 7:30 pm 7:00 pm – 9:30 pm 7:30 pm – 9:00 pm | C.E. Hall Zoom Lounge C.E. Hall Sanctuary |
| Friday, April 10 Take Time to be Wholey | 10:30 am – 11:30 am | C.E. Hall |
| Saturday, April 11 Men's Club Breakfast | 8:30 am – 10:30 am | Roger's Italian Bistro |