

**STONY PLAIN UNITED CHURCH**  
**MARCH 31, 2024**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

Stony Plain United Church & Mewassin United Church  
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**WELCOME to our service this morning!**

Join **Zoom Meeting** via computer (with password) **DO NOT POST ON WEB OR FACEBOOK**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83364019239?pwd=TIEyd2c2aXUra1dDcHdvNlp4Y3Q4UT09>  
Zoom teleconference Link info: Meeting ID: 833 6401 9239    Password: 4745  
Via phone: +1 587 328 1099 Canada - dial in .    +1 587 328 1099 , , 83364019239 - direct

**THANKS TO THE MEN'S CLUB FOR BREAKFAST AT STONY!**

**SP: HYMN SING**

**WELCOME**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**INTRODUCTION TO THE THEME**

**WE GATHER TOGETHER BEFORE GOD**  
*on traditional territory of Treaty Six Peoples and of the Métis Nation*

**(SP) GIFT OF MUSIC:** Choir "Blessed One, Messiah!"  
Words: Rose M. Aspinall; Music: Mary McDonald

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Written by Roddy Hamilton and posted on the New Kilpatrick Parish Church website.  
<https://www.nkchurch.org.uk/original-liturgy>    **Used with permission.**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

Written by Julie Hutton. **Gathering** Lent/Easter 2021 (*Year B*) page. 42. Used with permission.

**HYMN: MV #194 "Bread of Life, Feed My Soul" (All Verses)**

**Verse 1**

Bread of life, feed my soul, as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole.  
Bread of life, fill my heart with the grace and mercy you impart.

**Verse 2:** I have heard your voice calling, "Come, my friend, and share  
in the feast that is laid out for you to show how much I care."

**Verse 3:** Bread of life, help me live a life as pure and true as Jesus did.  
Bread of life, help me see the boundless love of Christ for you and me.

**Verse 4:** I have heard your voice calling, “Come, my friend, and share in the feast that is laid out for you to show how much I care.”

**Verse 5:** Bread of life, feed my soul, as the presence of the Spirit makes me whole. Bread of life, fill my heart with the grace and mercy you impart.

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## JOYS AND CONCERNS

### PRAYERS OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

#### THE LORD’S PRAYER (Unison)

**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, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

## AND LISTENING TO GOD’S WORD FOR OUR LIVES

**(SP) GIFT OF MUSIC:** Choir “Didn’t I See My Lord”

Words and Music: Mark Hayes

### THEME TIME

**HYMN: VU #155 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**

#### Verse 1

Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!  
Our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!  
Who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!  
Suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!

**Verse 2:** Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!  
Unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!  
Who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!  
Sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!!

**Verse 3:** But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!  
Our salvation have procured; hallelujah!  
Now above the sky he’s King, hallelujah!  
Where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!

**Verse 4:** Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!  
Praise eternal as God’s love; hallelujah!  
Praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!  
Praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

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**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

~ from a collection of prayers posted on the Worship@North website. <https://northchurchindy.wordpress.com/> Adapted. Used with permission.

**SCRIPTURE READINGS: SP Readers Garry Scheuerman & Meredith Adams**

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**RESPONSIVE PSALM SELECTION: VU pg. 837 Psalm 118 Parts 1, 2 & 3**

**Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Part One (1 – 4)**

Let Israel now say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

Let the house of Aaron say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

Let those who fear God say:

**“God’s love endures for ever.”**

**Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Part Two (14 – 18)**

God is my strength and my song; God has become my salvation.

**There are shouts of joy and deliverance in the tents of the righteous.**

The right hand of God does mighty things; the right hand of God raises up.

**The right hand of God does mighty things.**

I shall not die, but live; and I shall proclaim what God has done.

**God indeed punished me, but did not give me over to death.**

**Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

**Part Three (19 – 24)**

Open to me the gates of the temple, that I may enter and give thanks to God.

**This is the gate of God; through it the righteous shall enter.**

I thank you for you have answered me; you have become my salvation.

**The stone which the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is God’s doing, marvellous in our eyes.

**This is the day that God has made, let us rejoice and be glad in it!**

**Refrain: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!**

Music: Albert Ham ca. 1900 Public Domain

**GOSPEL LESSON: Mark 16:1-8**

**REFLECTION: “The Cornerstone of Our Christian Faith”**

**HYMN: VU #166 "Joy Comes With the Dawn"****REFRAIN:**

Joy comes with the dawn; joy comes with the morning sun;  
joy springs from the tomb and scatters the night with her song,  
joy comes with the dawn.

**Verse 1**

Weeping may come; weeping may come in the night,  
when dark shadows cloud our sight.

**REFRAIN****Verse 2**

Sorrow will turn, sorrow will turn into song,  
and God's laughter make us strong.

**REFRAIN****Verse 3**

We will rejoice, we will rejoice, and give praise,  
to the One who brings us grace.

**REFRAIN**

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**THAT WE MIGHT LIVE WITH INTENTION****INVITATION TO GIVE**

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**OFFERTORY: VU #539 "God of All Good" Verse 3**

Maker, whose bounty all creation shows, Christ, by whose willing sacrifice we live,  
Spirit, from whom all life in fullness flows, to you with grateful hearts ourselves we give.

Words: Albert F. Bayly 1962 alt. Music: Sydney Watson 1964 By permission of Oxford University Press. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License A-718663

**DEDICATION OF GIFTS (*Unison*)**

**God of love, we offer our gifts of time, spiritual gifts, and financial gifts as a sign of our love for you and the world. We ask a special blessing on these gifts where you meet us in our suffering, and raise us up, so that all may come to know of your abiding love. O God, we offer our gifts as you have given them to us. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.**

**CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION****WELCOMING ALL TO THE TABLE****THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*first 6 lines Responsive the rest One voice*)**

Christ is risen!

**Hallelujah! Christ is risen indeed!**

Open your hearts.

**We open them to the Lord.**

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**PREPARING THE TABLE****THE BREAD AND CUP ARE SHARED**

(SP Hymns during distribution: MV #121 "Hey Now! Singing Hallelujah!"; VU #158 "Christ is Alive"; VU #161 "Welcome, Happy Morning"; VU #173 "Thine is the Glory")

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION (*Unison*)**

**Spirit of life, in our sharing of bread and wine you have enlivened us with your grace.**

**Strengthen us as your children that we may lift the shroud of the world's hurt and fear. Clothe us with your love and send us into the world to bring your hope and healing. Amen.**

**AND WE LEAVE TO SERVE GOD IN THE WORLD****SENDING HYMN: VU #187 "The Spring Has Come"****Verse 1**

The spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

The world has changed, and God is at the heart of it!

New light, new day, new colour after winter grey.

New light, new day, the spring has come, let all the church be part of it!

**Verse 2:**

The sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

The world expands, let's spread the Gospel way in it!

New leaf, new thrust, new greening for the love of Christ.

New leaf, new thrust, the sun is warm, let all God's children play in it!

**Verse 3:**

The spring has come, new people are the flowers of it.

Through wind and rain, new life is in the showers of it.

New bud, new shoot, new hope will bear the Spirit's fruit.

New bud, new shoot, the spring has come, new people are the flowers of it!

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**CARRYING THE LIGHT WITH US****COMMISSIONING**

Written by Bob Root, *Gathering*, Lent - Easter 2021 (Year B) page 49. Used with permission.

**BLESSING**

**SUNG RESPONSE:**

VU #586 "We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection"

**Verse 1**

We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
 We shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
 We shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
 Tales of a love that will not let us go.  
 We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
 We'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;  
 We'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
 Within the vision of new life in Christ.

**Verse 2**

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;  
 We'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;  
 We'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
 Expressive love alive in every heart.  
 We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,  
 Raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
 We'll leap and dance the resurrection story,  
 Including all in circles of our love.

Words: June Boyce-Tillman 1993. Music: Traditional Irish melody, arr. John Barnard 1982. Words copyright © 1883 Stainer & Bell Ltd. Used by permission of Hope Publishing Company. All rights reserved. Reprinted under One License #A-718663

**MUSICAL POSTLUDE**

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**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

As we come together, we respectfully acknowledge that we are on Treaty 6 territory of Alberta, Regions 2, 3 and 4 within the historical Northwest Métis Homeland. .  
 We honour all the many First Nations, Métis, and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We recognize that many have come throughout the years to make this place their home. As treaty People, Indigenous and non-Indigenous, we share the responsibility of finding authentic ways to ensure that the spirit of Reconciliation and Treaty 6 is honoured and respected.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS MARCH 31, 2024**

**CHURCH DIRECTORIES HAVE ARRIVED:** Our Church Directories are here. If you had your photo taken at one of the sessions last fall, or asked to use your photo from the previous directory, there is a booklet for you. Please see Fran for Mewassin Directories and Sue for Stony Plain ones.

**CARD RECREATORS:** The Card Recreators will **NOT** meet next Thursday, March 28.

**BREAKFAST MAR 31:** Thanks to the Men's Club for Breakfast this morning..

**UCW APRIL 3, 1:30 PM.** We will begin in the council room on the second floor where we will see slides about the history of Palestine from the World Day of Prayer resources. UCW is a member of the Women's Inter Church Council of Canada which prepares W D of Prayer materials and manages the grants. You can find the link on the United Church web page under UCW. All ladies welcome.

**LENTEN PROJECT:** Our Lenten Project concludes today. **This week's recipe** is Cheese Bread. Thanks very much to Mewassin for providing all the material for our Lenten Journey and also to the Worship Committee for providing some of the weekly bread recipes.

**UPDATE: LIVE MUSIC & CHOCOLATE FRIDAY, APRIL 19:** CATERING SERVICES at SPUC presents...An EVENING of LIVE MUSIC and CHOCOLATE! Friday, April 19 2024 at SPUC will be an enchanting evening of more than 8 performances by talented, local musicians entertaining with a variety of musical genres, while you enjoy an array of treats and desserts from a chocolate buffet in your '**dress to impress**' finery! (Yes, you are encouraged to wear formal/semi-formal attire!) Tickets are available online on eventbrite: <https://www.eventbrite.ca/e/an-evening-of-live-music-and-chocolate-tickets-854832766817?aff=oddtcreator> or from the SPUC office during the week, or by contacting Darren at 597-926-8898 or by emailing [catering@stonyplainunitedchurch.com](mailto:catering@stonyplainunitedchurch.com) **Only 75 tickets will be available.** Doors Open 5:30 Pm; Music Starts 6:00 Pm; Chocolate Buffet Opens 6:15 Pm. **This is a 13+ Event. Tickets 16 + are \$35; 13-15 are \$**

#### **WEEKLY ACTIVITIES**

Ukulele Group      Wednesdays, 6:15 pm  
Choir                Wednesdays, 7 pm  
Card Recreators:    Thursdays, 10 am

#### **MEETINGS & SPECIAL EVENTS**

Sunday, Mar 31      8:45 am SP Breakfast, thanks to the Men's Club  
Wed. Apr 3          1:30 pm UCW Meeting  
Friday April 19      Live Music & Chocolate Night  
Sunday Apr 21      Stony Plain AGM after church

**2024 LENTEN JOURNEY – Nourishing our Soul**  
**Easter Sunday Christ is the Living Bread**

Today is a day for celebration; let our hearts and our souls feel alive, as we move forward with hope everlasting. Let us nourish not only ourselves, but while the bread is still warm let's encourage one another to gather round and share in the feast. We are welcomed by Jesus to his table, to be forgiven, transformed, and sent back out into the world with a sense of purpose, a sense of renewal. It is on this day that we celebrate the resurrection of our Lord; we celebrate new hope, new life, and the promise of a better day.

### **Cheese Bread**

#### **Ingredients**

- 1-1/2 cups milk
- 2 tbsp butter or hard margarine
- 2 cups grated cheddar cheese
- 1-1/2 tsp salt
- large egg yolks
- 2 tsp granulated sugar
- 2 x ¼ oz (2 x 8 g) active dry yeast
- 6 cups all-purpose flour
- 2 tsp butter or hard margarine (softened for brushing tops)

#### **Directions**

1. Scald milk in medium saucepan. Remove from heat.
2. Stir in next 4 ingredients. It is not a problem if cheese doesn't melt smooth. Cool to lukewarm.
3. Stir second amount of sugar into warm water in small bowl. Sprinkle yeast otop. Let stand 10 minutes. Stir to dissolve yeast. Add to cooled cheese mixture. Mix. Pour into large bowl.
4. Work in enough flour until dough pulls away from sides of bowl. Turn out onto floured surface. Knead 8 to 10 minutes until smooth and elastic. Place in greased bowl, turning once to grease top. Cover with tea towel. Let stand in oven with light on and door closed about 1 hour until double in bulk. Punch dough down.
5. Divide into 2 equal parts. Shape 1 part into loaf and place in greased 9 x5 x3 inch loaf pan. Divide second part into 3 pieces. Roll each piece into 18" rope. Pinch 3 ends together. Braid ropes loosely, then pinch remaining 3 ends together. Place in greased 9 x13 inch pan. Cover each pan with tea towel. Let stand in oven with light on and door closed about 30 minutes until doubled in size.
6. Bake in 375 degrees F for 25 to 30 minutes. Turn out onto racks to cool
7. Brush warm tops with butter. Makes 1 regular loaf and 1 braided loaf