

# Anglican & United Church Ministries

Home of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican  
& Vegreville United Churches



## The Day of Resurrection — Easter Sunday

**A Blended Service of Holy Communion  
in the Anglican & United Church Traditions  
Worship Leader: The Rev. Laureta Blondin**

**Music provided by Companions on the Journey & Ellen Johnstone**

**Monetary gifts of cash or personal cheque can be  
placed in the offertory plates by the front door.**

(\* = Please stand, but only if it is comfortable to do so.)

# W

**elcome in the name of Christ** to the Anglican and United Church Ministries in Vegreville and thank you for joining us on this special day. We pray that you enjoy your time with us and that your spirit is enriched as we sit together at the feet of our Saviour. We believe that no matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey God welcomes you... and so do we! If you are visiting us, a warm welcome to you. We pray that you and your family are blessed and experience Christ's love in this morning's service. God's richest blessings be on you!

The congregation of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and Vegreville United Church is committed to the ongoing work of being fully affirming churches. Inspired by the radical hospitality of Jesus Christ, we welcome everyone into the life of our congregations, without exception to ability, age, race, place of origin, ancestry, marital status, gender identity, sexual orientation, life stage, or any other basis by which a person can be pre-judged. You are invited to join us at this intersection of faith and life as we share God's grace with one another and the world through worship and ministries of healing, reconciliation, and justice.

The congregation of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church and Vegreville United Church respectfully acknowledges that we are located on ancestral Treaty Six Territory land ᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭᑭ (Siksikaitsitapi), a traditional gathering place, travelling route and home for diverse indigenous peoples including the Nehiyawak (Cree), Tsuut'ina (Sarcee), Niitsitapi (Blackfoot), Nakota Sioux, Haudenosaunee (Iroquois), Métis, Dēnē Sųłı́nē (Chipewyan), Anishinaabe (Ojibway-Saulteaux), Inuk (Inuit), and many others whose histories, languages and cultures continue to influence our vibrant local communities. We give thanks for their hospitality and the opportunity to share common ground.

Children are welcome at all services! We believe it is very important for families to worship together. Don't feel your child must be absolutely quiet or still, for we are glad to have children — and all their wiggles, giggles, and squiggles — as part of our community and worship life! After all... as an old saying goes, "faith is caught, not taught!"

# The Day of Resurrection – Easter Sunday

*Welcome to worship on this special day.*

*Today's service begins with the Liturgy of Light and the blessing of the Paschal Candle, which symbolizes Christ's breaking of the darkness of sin and death to bring us all the Easter victory. The Paschal Candle shines as our symbol of the resurrection throughout the Easter season, as well as at all baptisms and at all funerals. After the blessing, the day is proclaimed with the ancient Easter shout, joyous songs and, festive musical offerings and the word of God that proclaims the victory of Christ for us all. In churches around the world today, new members will be baptized and received into our Easter family, and then all the baptized are invited to meet the risen Lord in the bread and the wine of Holy Communion.*

*Thank you for joining us on this special day. We hope the blessings of the Risen Lord are yours this day and always.*

## The Gathering

### Musical Prelude

### Welcome

### Land Acknowledgement

**All As we gather to worship, let's respectfully pause to remember we live and work and worship on Treaty 6 lands that are, by law, the unceded territory of the original First Nations peoples.**

**Creator of all, give us one heart and one mind that we may live with respect on this land and live in peace and friendship with all diverse peoples who now call this land home. Amen.**

# Liturgy of Light

*All stand and face the paschal candle in the rear of the church  
as the presiding minister says:*

*One* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*One* Let us pray.

*One* O God, you are like a refiner's fire, and your Spirit kindles the hearts of your faithful people. Bless this flame and those who keep this Easter celebration so that, burning with desire for life with you, they may be found fit to take part in that festival of Light which has no ending, through Jesus Christ our Lord.

*All* **Amen.**

*One* Christ yesterday and today,

*All* **the beginning and the end,**

*One* Alpha and Omega; all time belongs to him, and all ages;

*All* **to him be glory and power,  
through every age and for ever. Amen.**

*The Christ Candle is lit.*

*One* May the light of Christ who rises this day in glory scatter the darkness of our hearts and minds.

*One* Let us pray.

*All* **Almighty God, pour out your abundant blessing on this lighted candle, so that all who share in your holy mysteries may be filled with your grace and spiritual blessings. Once we were in darkness, but since we have become the Lord's people, we are in the light. Help us to live as people who belong to the light, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

***As the Paschal is raised, the Presiding Minister proclaims the resurrection, moving it to the front of the sanctuary, the minister stops two times and again boldly proclaims the resurrection.***

***One*** (boldly) Christ is Risen!

***All*** (boldly) **He is risen indeed!**

***As the Paschal is placed next to the font, the Minister says:***

***One*** May the light of Christ, rising in glory,  
banish all darkness from our hearts and minds.

***One*** Here stands the light of Christ to light all our worship.

***All*** **Thanks be to God.**

**♪ Opening Hymn .....*Jesus Christ is Risen Today***

1. Jesus Christ is risen today, alleluia!  
our triumphant holy day, alleluia!  
who did once, upon the cross, alleluia!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Alleluia!
2. 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!
3. But the pains which he endured, alleluia!  
our salvation have procured; alleluia!  
now above the sky he's king, alleluia!  
where the angels ever sing. Alleluia!
4. Sing we to our God above, alleluia!  
praise eternal as God's love, alleluia!  
praise our God, ye heavenly host, alleluia!  
praise the Son and Holy Ghost, Alleluia!

***WORDS: Latin hymn, 14th cent.; tr. in Lyra Davidica, altered; Charles Wesley, stanza 3  
MUSIC (LLANFAIR 7.7.7.7. with Alleluias): Robert Williams***

## \* Call to Worship

*One* (boldly) Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*All* (boldly) **The Lord has risen, indeed, Alleluia!**

*One* Worthy is Christ, the Lamb who was slain! Alleluia!

*All* **He gives us new life and hope through his resurrection!  
Alleluia!**

*One* Rejoice then, even in your distress.

*All* **We shall be counted worthy when Christ appears.**

*One* God has claimed us as his own.

*All* **God has called us from our darkness into the light of  
his day.**

*One* (boldly) Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*All* (boldly) **The Lord has risen, indeed, Alleluia!**

### ♪ Hymn

### **Glory to God on High** (CP #365)

1. Glory to God on high and peace to all on earth.  
We worship you, we give you thanks, our heavenly King.  
We give you praise, almighty God and  
Father Blessed in glory bright.
2. Our Saviour, Jesus Christ, The Father's only Son,  
the sacrificial Lamb, who saves the world from sin,  
have mercy Lord. Beside the Father's  
hand enthroned, now hear our prayer.
3. You only are the Lord. You only are most high.  
You only are the holy one, Lord Jesus Christ.  
And now you reign with Father and with  
Spirit one in glorious light.

*TEXT: Glory to God (Gloria in excelsis, Greek hymn. 200?); para. Paul Gibson (1932- ) ©*

*MUSIC: John Darwall (1731-1789)*

# Prayer for Easter Sunday

*One* Let us pray.

*All* **Almighty God, you have exalted your only Son Jesus Christ with great triumph to your kingdom in heaven. Mercifully give us faith to know that, as he promised, he abides with us on earth to the end of time; who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. Amen.**

# Proclamation of God’s Holy Word

**First Reading ..... Acts 10.34–43 [NRSV]**

<sup>34</sup>Then Peter began to speak to them: ‘I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup>but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup>You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup>That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup>how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup>We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup>but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup>not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup>He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup>All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.’

*Reader* The Word of the Lord.

*People* **Thanks be to God.**

## **Psalm 118.1–2, 14–24**

- 1 Give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; \*  
**his mercy endures for ever.**
- 2 Let Israel now proclaim, \*  
**"His mercy endures for ever."**
- 14 The Lord is my strength and my song, \*  
**and he has become my salvation.**
- 15 There is a sound of exultation and victory \*  
**in the tents of the righteous:**
- 16 "The right hand of the Lord has triumphed! \*  
**the right hand of the Lord is exalted!**  
**the right hand of the Lord has triumphed!"**
- 17 I shall not die, but live, \*  
**and declare the works of the Lord.**
- 18 The Lord has punished me sorely, \*  
**but he did not hand me over to death.**
- 19 Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*  
**I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the Lord.**
- 20 "This is the gate of the Lord; \*  
**he who is righteous may enter."**
- 21 I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*  
**and have become my salvation.**
- 22 The same stone which the builders rejected \*  
**has become the chief cornerstone.**
- 23 This is the Lord's doing, \*  
**and it is marvellous in our eyes.**
- 24 On this day the Lord has acted; \*  
**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

**One** Let us pray.

**All** **Holy and mighty God, your Son's triumph over sin and death has opened to us the gate of eternal life. Purify our hearts that we may follow where he has gone and share in the radiance of his glory. We ask this for the sake of our risen Lord. Amen.**

**Second Reading ..... Colossians 3.1–4** [NRSV]

**3**So if you have been raised with Christ, seek the things that are above, where Christ is, seated at the right hand of God. **2**Set your minds on things that are above, not on things that are on earth, **3**for you have died, and your life is hidden with Christ in God. **4**When Christ who is your life is revealed, then you also will be revealed with him in glory.

**Reader** The Word of the Lord.

**People** **Thanks be to God.**

♪ **Gradual Hymn..... Thine is the Glory**

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.*

**[Refrain:]**

***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. [Refrain]*
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. [Refrain]*

**WORDS:** *Edmund Louis Budry 1884, trans. Richard Birch Hoyle 1923*

**MUSIC:** *Harmonia Sacra ca. 1753, arr. From George Frideric Handel 1747*

**The Gospel ..... Matthew 28.1–10 [NRSV]**

**One** The Lord be with you.

**All** **And also with you.**

**One** This is the Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ according to Matthew.

**All** **Glory to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**28**After the sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. <sup>2</sup>And suddenly there was a great earthquake; for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it. <sup>3</sup>His appearance was like lightning, and his clothing white as snow. <sup>4</sup>For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. <sup>5</sup>But the angel said to the women, 'Do not be afraid; I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. <sup>6</sup>He is not here; for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. <sup>7</sup>Then go quickly and tell his disciples, "He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him." This is my message for you.' <sup>8</sup>So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy, and ran to tell his disciples. <sup>9</sup>Suddenly Jesus met them and said, 'Greetings!' And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshipped him. <sup>10</sup>Then Jesus said to them, 'Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers to go to Galilee; there they will see me.'

**One** The Gospel of Christ.

**All** **Praise to you Lord Jesus Christ.**

**Sermon ..... The Rev. Laureta Blondin**

# Renewal of Our Baptismal Covenant

*One* Do you believe in God the Father?

*All* **I believe in God, The Father almighty,  
creator of heaven and earth.**

*One* Do you believe in Jesus Christ, the Son of God?

*All* **I believe in Jesus Christ, his only Son, our Lord.**

**He was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit  
and born of the Virgin Mary.**

**He suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and  
was buried. He descended to the dead.**

**On the third day he rose again. He ascended into heaven,  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.**

**He will come again to judge the living and the dead.**

*One* Do you believe in God the Holy Spirit?

*All* **I believe in God the Holy Spirit, the holy catholic Church,  
the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins,  
the resurrection of the body, ✠ and the life everlasting.**

*One* Will you continue in the apostles' teaching and fellowship,  
in the breaking of bread, and in the prayers?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*One* Will you persevere in resisting evil and,  
whenever you fall into sin, repent and return to the Lord?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*One* Will you proclaim by word and  
example the good news of God in Christ?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

*One* Will you seek and serve Christ in all persons,  
loving your neighbour as yourself?

*All* **I will, with God's help.**

**One** Will you strive for justice and peace among all people, and respect the dignity of every human being?

**All** **I will, with God's help.**

**One** Will you strive to safeguard the integrity of God's creation, and respect, sustain and renew the life of the Earth?

**All** **I will, with God's help.**

## The Prayers of the People

***Members of the congregation may sit or stand –  
in whatever posture they are most comfortable for prayer.***

*We hold the following ministries, communities, and people in prayer. During the Prayers of the People, we bring before God the needs of others and ourselves. Please consider offering these requests to God in your own daily prayers throughout this week.*

In the power of the Holy Spirit, let us pray to the Father of our risen Lord Jesus, on behalf of the world, the Church, and one another. Our response to, Alleluia, risen Lord," is "hear our prayer."

Thank you, dear Father, for the victory of Jesus over all that hurts and destroys your people. Tune our hearts to sing his praise. Purify our spirits so we may see his beauty forever. Fortify our minds to learn the depths of his love. Open our mouths to proclaim his triumph over our ancient enemy. Direct our hands – one to clasp his nail-scarred hand, the other to draw a fellow sinner closer to his loving embrace. Fill us with your Spirit, so that in all things, we bear witness to his love  
(pause) Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Ever seeking your glory, we pray for the church. Today...

- in the Anglican World Communion cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and the leadership of *La Iglesia Anglicana de Mexico* as well as the Edmonton Diocese's companion Diocese of Buyé in Burundi, Africa.

- in the United Church of Canada cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and leadership of the *Fundy-St. Lawrence Dawning Waters* Region.
- in the Anglican Church of Canada cycle of prayer, we pray for the people of the *Diocese of Ontario* and the Rt. Rev. William Cliff, their Bishop.
- in the Northern Spirit cycle of prayer, we pray for Leigh Sinclair, our chair, for the Rev. Adam Hall, our Pastoral Relations Minister, as well as the people and the leadership of the *Killam Pastoral Charge*.
- in the Anglican Diocese of Edmonton cycle of prayer, we pray for the Rt. Rev. Stephen London, our Bishop as well as the people and leadership of *St. Patrick*, Edmonton.
- in our local community cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and the leadership of *St. Martin of Tours Roman Catholic Church*.
- in our wider ecumenical cycle of prayer, we pray for all churches who celebrate Christ's resurrection this day.
- in our indigenous cycle of prayer, we pray for the people and the leadership of the *Métis Nation of Alberta*.

Look with kindness upon your Church as it worships your risen Son. Make it radiant in faith, lovely in holiness, and beautiful in charity. By its words and deeds, bring many to know and adore Jesus as Saviour and Lord  
(*pause*) Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Fill our persecuted sisters and brothers with faith, courage, and joy. Let their faces shine with confidence in the victory of Jesus. Let that light shine on their enemies, so they turn to him in repentant faith  
(*pause*). Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Feed the people of this congregation with the milk and honey of sincerity and truth. Make us lovely with your mercy, forgiveness, and goodness. Use us to draw all whom we meet into your adopted family, so together we may sing: "Christ is risen! Alleluia" (*pause*)! Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We ask your blessing upon all who hear this Gospel with disbelief, doubt, bitterness, or scorn. Give us wise words and loving hearts, so we share the hope that is in us on account of Jesus' resurrection. Give them new, or renewed, faith in Christ, for he is their hope and heart's desire (*pause*). Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Bestow your peace upon this sin-stained world. Teach all who wield authority and power, in any field or enterprise, to use those gifts wisely and humbly. And give to all – especially those who are poor, forgotten, grieving, or despairing – a foretaste of the joys you have prepared for all who love you (*pause*). Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

Even in this glad season, good men and women risk their lives to protect others from fear, sickness, injustice, and violence. Shield, strengthen and direct them. Let their words and deeds accomplish your will. Keep them safe, support their loved ones, and speed the day when war shall be no more (*pause*). Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We pray that Jesus' triumph over sin and death may bless all who suffer in body, mind, or spirit, including those we name before you now aloud or hold within the silence of our hearts (*long pause and include all the names on the insert*). Along with those for whom no one prays, turn mourning into singing, and exchange the sackcloth of sorrow for the mantle of praise and the garment of joy. Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

O most kind and loving Father, thank you for the lives and the faithful witness of those who have already gone "farther up and farther in" to your glorious Kingdom. At your appointed time, may we, with all the redeemed of every time and place, stand before your throne and sing your praise in strains of triumphant gladness for ever and ever. (*pause*). Alleluia, risen Lord, **hear our prayer.**

We praise and magnify you, most holy Father; in the power of your Holy Spirit, we entrust our prayers and petitions to you in the strong name of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. **Amen.**

## **Confession**

*One* Jesus Christ, risen Master and triumphant Lord,  
we come to you in sorrow for our sins,  
and confess to you our weaknesses and unbelief.  
We have lived by our own strength,  
and not by the power of your resurrection.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

*One* We have lived by the light of our own eyes,  
as faithless and not believing.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

*One* We have lived for this world alone,  
and doubted our home in heaven.  
In your mercy, forgive us.

*All* **Lord, hear us and help us.**

*All* **O King enthroned on high, filling the earth with your glory: holy is your name, Lord God almighty. In our sinfulness we cry to you to take our guilt away, and to cleanse our lips to speak your word, through Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.**

## **Absolution**

*One* Almighty God have mercy upon you, pardon and deliver you from all your sins, confirm and strengthen you in all goodness, and keep you in eternal life; through Jesus Christ our Lord ✠.

*All* **Amen.**

## \* The Peace

*One* The peace of the Lord be always with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*Members of the community greet those around them with a sign of peace (handshakes or hugs) and words like "The peace of the Lord be with you." This ancient tradition is an appropriate response to the peace that God gives to those who hear and do his word.*

## The Celebration of Holy Communion

### Invitation to Generosity

*One* We have glimpsed into the empty tomb and been touched by the mystery. So, like Mary, we cannot be silenced. We cannot keep our gifts to ourselves. We will now receive the offering so our gifts can help spread the marvelous news.

\* ♪ **Offertory Hymn** ..... **Alleluia No. 1** (CP #405)

#### Refrain

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Thanks To The Risen Lord**

**Alleluia, Alleluia, Give Praise To His Name**

1. Jesus Is Lord Of All The Earth  
He Is The King Of Creation **[Refrain]**
2. Spread The Good News O'er All The Earth  
Jesus Has Died And Is Risen **[Refrain]**
3. We Have Been Crucified With Christ  
Now We Shall Live Forever **[Refrain]**
4. Come Let Us Praise The Living God  
Joyfully Sing To Our Saviour **[Refrain]**

*WORDS & MUSIC: Donald Fishel (1950-); arr. Betty Carr Pulkingham (1928-). Charles Mallory (1950-), and George Mims (1938-). Text and music © 1973 Word of God Music.*

# Receipt of the Gifts and Preparation of the Table

## \* Prayer of Dedication Over the Gifts

*All* **O God of the empty tomb and the quiet voice, we have walked in a world full of grief and despair. Touch our souls and lighten our spirits. Come, in power and mystery; draw us in to meet the risen Jesus. Bless what we have offered here and help us find our voices to share the astonishing news. In the name of the Risen One, Amen.**

## \* Prayer of Thanksgiving

*One* The Lord be with you.

*All* **And also with you.**

*One* Lift up your hearts.

*All* **We lift them to the Lord.**

*One* Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

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

*One* Blessed are you, gracious God, creator of heaven and earth; we give you thanks and praise for the glorious resurrection of your Son Jesus Christ our Lord; for he is the true paschal lamb who has taken away the sin of the world. By his death he destroyed death, and by his rising to life again he has won for us eternal life. Therefore, joining our voices with the whole company of heaven, we sing our joyful hymn of praise to proclaim the glory of your name.

*All* **Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and might,  
heaven and earth are full of your glory.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

**Blessed is he ☩ who comes in the name of the Lord.**

**Hosanna in the highest.**

*One* We give thanks to you, Lord our God, for the goodness and love you have made known to us in creation; in calling Israel to be your people; in your Word spoken through the prophets; and above all in the Word made flesh, Jesus your Son. For in these last days, you sent him to be incarnate from the Virgin Mary, to be the Saviour and Redeemer of the world. In him, you have delivered us from evil, and made us worthy to stand before you. In him, you have brought us out of error into truth, out of sin into righteousness, out of death into life.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, a death he freely accepted, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: this is my body which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: this is my blood of the new covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore, Father, according to his command,

*All* **we remember his death,  
we proclaim his resurrection,  
we await his coming in glory;**

*One* and we offer our sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving to you, Lord of all; presenting to you, from your creation, this bread and this wine. We pray you, gracious God, to send your Holy Spirit upon these gifts, that they may be the sacrament of the body of Christ and his blood of the new covenant. Unite us to your Son in his sacrifice, that we, made acceptable in him, may be sanctified ✠ by the Holy Spirit.

In the fullness of time, reconcile all things in Christ, and make them new, and bring us to that city of light where you dwell with all your sons and daughters; through Jesus Christ our Lord, the firstborn of all creation, the head of the Church, and the author of our salvation;

by whom, and with whom, and in whom, in the unity of the Holy Spirit, all honour and glory are yours, almighty Father, now and for ever.

*All* **Amen.**

*One* And now, as our Saviour Christ has taught us, let us pray,

*All* **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, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*One* Lord, we died with you on the cross

*All* **Now we are raised to new life.**

*One* We were buried in your tomb.

*All* **Now we share in your resurrection.**

*One* Live in us, that we may live in you.

*One* Behold who you are, become what you receive.  
These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

*All* **Thanks be to God.**

## The Communion

**An Open Table!** Here at the Anglican & United Church Ministries, we believe that when we celebrate Holy Communion, we are all guests at the table, with Jesus himself as our host. We have not earned a place at the table, rather we are invited because of the amazing grace of God. For that reason, this celebration of the Holy Communion is open to all—including children—who wish to know the presence of Christ and the entire community of God’s people, and not merely members of this congregation. This is a joyful feast for all the people of God.

Those who do not wish to receive communion, you are most welcome and encouraged to come forward for a blessing.

Please make your way to the serving station at the front of the sanctuary, by way of a centre aisle. Receive the elements and then return to your seat by an outside aisle.

**Important Health Notice:** For your health and the health of others, please use the hand sanitizer provided in the main aisle before receiving communion. Communion bread is gluten free. There is also both consecrated wine (go to your left) and grape juice (go to your right).

### ♪ Communion Hymn #1..... ***I Have Seen the Lord***

1. “I have seen the Lord,” Mary told them all  
Then she told them what the Lord had said.  
She was overjoyed when He spoke her name  
Jesus Christ is living though He once was dead.
2. Everything has changed; death is overwhelmed  
Life will never ever be the same.  
She was overjoyed when He spoke her name.  
Jesus Christ is living though He once was dead.
3. We have seen the Lord, we have heard His voice  
Recognized Him when He broke the bread

Opened up our eyes, set our hearts on fire  
Jesus Christ is living though He once was dead.

4. Everything has changed; death is overwhelmed  
Life will never ever be the same.

Opened up our eyes, set our hearts on fire  
Jesus Christ is living though He once was dead.

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♪ **Hymn #2** .....***When Mary & Joseph from Bethlehem Town***

1. When Mary and Joseph from Bethlehem Town  
came riding on Olivet hill  
She cradled a child in the blue of her gown  
and gave him her breast for his fill  
And the olives hung heavy and dark on the bough,  
while the hawk circled high on the wing  
And she knew as she carried the child in her arms  
that the child was a God and a king.
2. When Simeon met them, to Mary he spoke of a light  
that would lighten the earth  
His promise to her was a heart that would break  
for the child she had carried to birth  
And the song that he sang was of hope and of peace  
that the child of her womb was to bring  
And she watched as he carried her child in his arms,  
for she knew that he carried a king.
3. When Jesus was hanged on a cross and he died,  
a shadow came over the sun.  
The noon of the day became night, as he cried that  
his life and his mission were done.  
To the cross where he suffered and perished alone

shall the ages their sacrifice bring,  
And the terrible wood shall be changed to a throne  
for the Saviour who died as a king.

4. The soaring cathedral, its worshipping throng  
the vaulted and echoing nave,  
the thunder of choirs united in song  
can but seek for a glory we crave.  
they are graces and gifts we are given as sign  
of a greater more glorious thing  
that we bear from the altar the bread and the wine  
as the body and blood of our king.

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## **Prayer after Communion**

*All*            **God of life, bring us to the glory of the resurrection  
promised in this Easter sacrament. We ask this in the  
name of Jesus Christ the risen Lord. Amen.**

### **\* Benediction**

*Celebrant*    Go now in the blessing of God, who meets death with life,  
hatred with love, and hopeless endings with abundant  
possibilities, to build a community of life, love, and  
flourishing as Easter people, followers of the Risen Christ!

*All*            **Amen.**

## **God Moments**

## **Announcements**

\* ♪ **Recessional Hymn** .....**Crown Him with Many Crowns**

1. Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne;  
hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own!  
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,  
and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.
2. Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,  
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save.  
His glories now we sing, who died and rose on high,  
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.
3. Crown him the Lord of peace, whose power a sceptre sways from  
pole to pole, that wars may cease, absorbed in prayer and praise.  
His reign shall know no end; and round his piercèd feet  
fair flowers of Paradise extend their fragrance ever sweet.
4. Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,  
rich wounds yet visible above, in beauty glorified.  
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me:  
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

*WORDS: Matthew Bridges (1800-1894) and Godfrey Thring (1823-1903), alt.  
MUSIC George Job Elveay (1816-1893)*

\* **The Dismissal**

*Celebrant* We are raised to new life with Christ.  
Go in his peace. Alleluia, alleluia.

*All* **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, alleluia, alleluia.**

\* ♪ **Three-Fold Amen** ♪

***Thank you for joining us today. Please join us for fellowship  
and refreshments in the auditorium following worship.  
We would love to meet you and your family!***

***Happy Easter!***

## **Announcements**

### **The Life and Work of the Church**

**Donations to our churches:** To continue the good work of St. Mary the Virgin Anglican and Vegreville United churches and ensure their ongoing presence in our community, your financial support is most appreciated. Donations can be made by either cash, cheque or e-transfer. Please use one of the envelopes located in the Narthex for cash or cheque donations and place the envelope in the offertory plate by the door. If writing a cheque, please ensure your cheque is made payable to either Vegreville United Church or St. Mary the Virgin Anglican Church. Annual Tax Receipts are provided for all donations totalling \$20 or more per year to the church of your choice. E-transfers for Vegreville United Church can be sent to [vegucc@telusplanet.net](mailto:vegucc@telusplanet.net) and e-transfers for St. Mary's can be sent to [stmarysvegreville@gmail.com](mailto:stmarysvegreville@gmail.com). Cheques can also be delivered to 5126-48 Avenue, Vegreville, AB T9C 1M7.

**Our Upcoming Joint Ministry Schedule:** Our worship services are at 10:00 AM (unless otherwise noted) and alternate between the Anglican and United worship styles at Vegreville United with occasional blended services:

- Apr. 12<sup>th</sup>    **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter:** An Anglican communion service followed by a potluck lunch.
- Apr. 19<sup>th</sup>    **3<sup>rd</sup> Sunday of Easter:** A United worship service.
- Apr. 26<sup>th</sup>    **4<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter:** An Anglican communion service.
- May 3<sup>rd</sup>        **5<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter:** A United communion service followed by a potluck lunch.
- May 10<sup>th</sup>    **6<sup>th</sup> Sunday of Easter** An Anglican communion service.
- May 17<sup>th</sup>    **Ascension of the Lord:** A blended communion service.
- May 24<sup>th</sup>    **Pentecost Sunday:** A blended communion service.
- May 31<sup>st</sup>    **Trinity Sunday:** A blended communion service.