

# Orono United Church, April 12th 2020

## Easter Sunday

### Welcome and Announcements

#### Call to Worship

One: Remember the good news that Jesus promised.

**All: We will not be left alone.**

One: Death cannot contain the purposes of God.

**All: We will rise and live with this hope.**

One: Tears and weeping will be no more.

**All: We will know joy and laughter again.**

One: This is the day the Lord has made.

**All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

One: Rejoice for Christ is risen.

**All: Christ is risen indeed!**

#### The Christ Candle Is Lit

We Sing Hymn            **VU #161**    **“Welcome, Happy Morning”**

Prayer of Approach    (said together)

**Risen Christ, Lord of life, breathe new life into us this day. Inspire us with confidence, and open our hearts anew, to receive your promise of resurrection. Speak to us once more, that we might hear your voice and recognize your presence in our midst. From the darkness of doubt, guide us into the glorious light of faith and love. In your holy name, we pray. Amen.**

#### Good News Time

#### The Lord's Prayer

We Sing Hymn            **VU #179**    **“Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Give Thanks”**

Confession            (said together)

**God of life and love, we rejoice in our own salvation, but find it hard to forgive those who have hurt us. You call us to seek the paths of peace and blessing, to be your face to everyone we meet, but it is easier sticking to well-travelled streets of anger and resentment.**

**We yearn to live in ease, but too often make life hard for people around us. You call us to spread your word of resurrection, to witness to your love and grace for the world, but too often our lips remain silent.**

**Forgive us, Holy One, when we hold on to what we have, rather than share your gifts with the world. Amen.**

### **A moment of Reflection**

#### Words of Assurance

One: The One whom the prophets foretold, and of whom the Gospels testify, lives among us today. In the love of the Creator; in the life, death, and resurrection of Christ; and in the power of the Holy Spirit, we are forgiven.

**All: Alleluia! Amen.**

Gospel Reading: John 20: 1-18

Anthem West Coast Choir – *“Because He Lives”*

Message *Apart – but not forever!*

We Sing Hymn **VU #155 “Jesus Christ Is Risen Today”**

#### The Offering is Received

Offering Response: VU #543 verse 1

***We give thee but thine own,  
What e'er the gift may be;  
All that we have is thine alone,  
A trust, O God, from thee***

Offering Prayer

#### Easter Prayer (Said together)

**God of grace, form us into your Easter people. Too often we hang on to our own fear and despair, refusing to roll away the stones that block our spiritual journeys. Forgive us when we fail to love others as you love us. Help us to live into the mystery of resurrection and new life so that we may embody hope. Breathe into us your spirit, as we live out your good news in this world. Amen**

#### The Sacrament of Holy Communion

We Sing Hymn **VU #173 “Thine Is The Glory”**

We remain standing for the Blessing and Benediction

***Go now in peace, never be afraid;  
God will go with you each hour of every day;  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true;  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe;  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above!  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen.***

Words: Don Besig and Nancy Price, Music: Don Besig © 1999