



FAIRLAWN

Connect with what matters in life.



Fairlawn Avenue United Church
Sunday, April 14, 2024 10:30am
Third Sunday of Easter

Rev. Jean Ward
Rev. Dr. Cameron Watts
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music
Fairlawn Avenue Senior Choir

2.

*Indicates when the congregation is to stand, as able.

Congregational responses, singing and readings in unison are indicated in bold text.

Welcome and Acknowledgements

***Processional Hymn** As We Walked Home at Close of Day

VU #184 (verses, 1, 2, 3 and 5)

**As we walked home at close of day,
a stranger joined us on our way.
He heard us speak of one who'd gone,
and when we stopped, he carried on.**

**“Why wander further without light?
Please stay with us this troubled night.
We’ve shared the truth of how we feel
and now would like to share a meal.”**

**We sat to eat our simple spread,
then watched the stranger take the bread;
and, as he said the blessing prayer,
we knew that someone else was there.**

**Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!
As Mary and our sisters said,
the Lord is risen from the dead!**
(The Iona Community 1988)

A Stilling Prayer to Gather Us

We take time to settle ourselves.
To be still, to be at one with
where we are in this season of our lives.

Our bodies, part of our worship,
helping to bring our hearts and our souls before the Creator.

And in the silence we breathe out
and breathe in
knowing that God,

our closest breath, is with us.
In the stillness we join with all of creation and hold silence together.

[We hold silence]

***For sun and soil
for wind and rain
for seed and sprout
for our dependance
and our belonging
and for the many hands
we give our thanks
and we offer ourselves.
Amen.***

Introit

This is the Day

E. Daley

This is the day which the Lord hath made,
let us rejoice and be glad in it!
(Psalm 118:24)

Sharing Peace

Anthem

O Risen Lord

K. Lee Scott (b. 1950)

O risen Lord, most glorious Son,
Now is the mighty battle won:
Songs of praising we are raising: Alleluia!

On the third morning he arose,
Shining in vict'ry o'er his foes;
Earth is singing, heaven is ringing: Alleluia!

After the death that him befell,
Christ our Lord has harrowed hell,
Sing with gladness, gone is sadness: Alleluia!

The Lord of all things lives anew,
And all his saints are rising too:
May our living be thanksgiving: Alleluia!
(John Mason Neale, 1818-1866, alt.)

4.

Scripture

Luke 24:36–48

(Common English Bible)

While they were saying these things, Jesus himself stood among them and said, “Peace be with you!” They were terrified and afraid. They thought they were seeing a ghost.

He said to them, “Why are you startled? Why are doubts arising in your hearts? Look at my hands and my feet. It’s really me! Touch me and see, for a ghost doesn’t have flesh and bones like you see I have.” As he said this, he showed them his hands and feet. Because they were wondering and questioning in the midst of their happiness, he said to them, “Do you have anything to eat?” They gave him a piece of baked fish. Taking it, he ate it in front of them.

Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, “This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things.”

Reading

Tomorrow’s Child

Rubem Alves (1972)

What is Hope?

It is a presentiment that imagination is more real and reality less real than it looks.

It is a hunch

that the overwhelming brutality of facts

that oppress and repress is not the last word. It is a suspicion

that reality is more complex

than realism wants us to believe

and that the frontiers of the possible

are not determined by the limits of the actual

and that in a miraculous and unexpected way

life is preparing the creative events

which will open the way to freedom and resurrection...

The two, suffering and hope, live from each other.

Suffering without hope

produces resentment and despair,

hope without suffering

creates illusions, naiveté, and drunkenness...

Let us plant dates
 even though those who plant them will never eat them.
 We must live by the love of what we will never see.
 This is the secret discipline.
 It is a refusal to let the creative act
 be dissolved in immediate sense experience
 and a stubborn commitment to the future of our grandchildren.
 Such disciplined love
 is what has given prophets, revolutionaries and saints
 the courage to die for the future they envisaged.
 They make their own bodies
 the seed of their highest hope.

Reflection

Touching the Wounds of the World

Rev. Jean Ward

***Hymn**

The Risen Christ

VU #168

**The risen Christ, who walks on wounded feet
 from garden tomb through darkened city street,
 unlocks the door of grief, despair, and fear,
 and speaks a word of peace to all who hear.**

**The risen Christ, who stands with wounded side,
 breathes out his Spirit on them to abide
 whose faith still wavers, who dare not believe,
 new grace, new strength, new purpose they receive.**

**The risen Christ, who breaks with wounded hand
 the bread for those who fail to understand,
 reveals himself, despite their lingering tears,
 enflames their hearts, then quickly disappears.**

**May we, Christ's body, walk and serve and stand
 with the oppressed in this and every land,
 till all are blessed and can a blessing be,
 restored in Christ to true humanity.**

(Nigel Weaver 1993)

6.

Prayer for Others

Despite it all,
this we believe:

***Goodness is stronger than evil;
love is stronger than hate;
light is stronger than darkness;
life is stronger than death.
Victory is ours, victory is ours
through Him who loved us.***

Introduction of Offering

Offertory Anthem

Eastertide Carol

arr. Richard Proulx (1937-2010)

Rise up in early morning;
Sing of the risen Saviour.
*Sing tidings of salvation with alleluias ringing,
In cymbalis, in cymbalis bene sonantibus.*

Go forth ye saints, to meet him;
Light up your lamps of gladness.
*Sing tidings of salvation with alleluias ringing,
In cymbalis, in cymbalis bene sonantibus.*
(text: R. P., after John Damascene, ca. 754)

***Presentation of the Offering**

**In gratitude and humble trust
We bring our best today,
To serve your cause and share your love
With all along life's way.
O God, who gave yourself to us
In Jesus Christ, your Son,
Teach us to give ourselves each day
Until life's work is done.**

***Recessional Hymn**

To Show by Touch and Word

VU #427

**To show by touch and word
devotion to the earth,
to hold in full regard all life
that comes to birth,**

we need, O God, the will to find
the good you had of old in mind.

Renew our minds to choose
the things that matter most,
our hearts to long for truth
till pride of self is lost.
For every challenge that we face
we need your guidance and your grace.

Let love from day to day
be yard-stick, rule, and norm,
and let our lives portray
your word in human form.
Now come with us that we may have
your wits about us when we live.

(Ron Klusmeier 1974)

***Blessing**

*As we leave this place,
may we keep in step with You,
walking humbly,
seeking justice,
living faithfully,
bringing Your peace and wholeness
to a broken and unjust world.*

***Choral Commissioning**

E. Daley

(The choir will sing through once, and then the congregation is invited to join in.)

May God's love surround you,
may God's wisdom guide you,
may God's light shine upon you,
until we meet again.

Postlude



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**The Senior Choir of Fairlawn Avenue
Eleanor Daley, Director of Music**

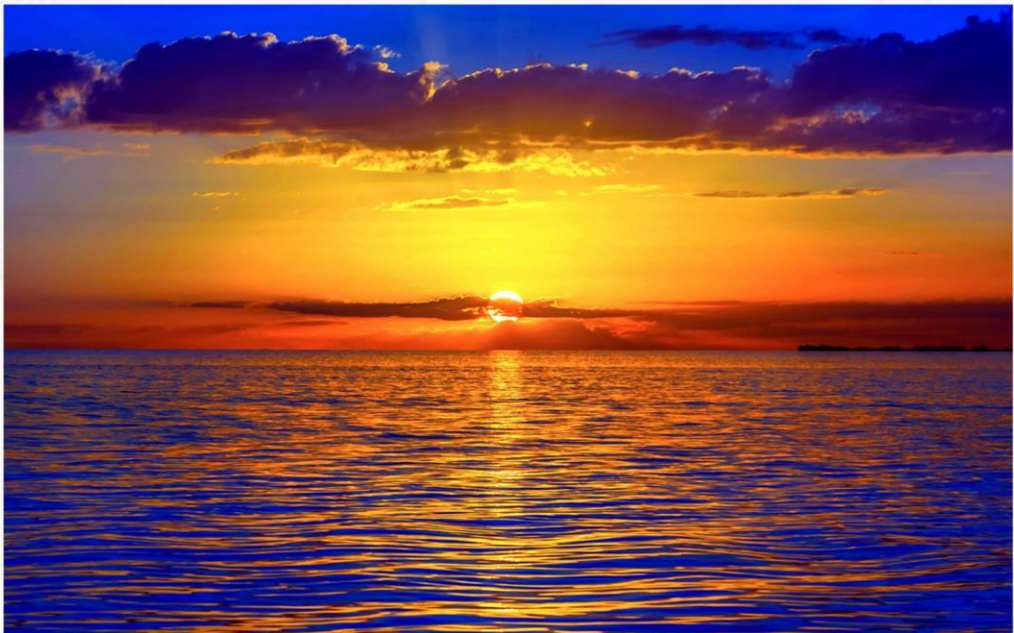
presents

Requiem

by Mark Hayes

with

Chamber Orchestra



Sunday, April 21 at 10:30am



28 Fairlawn Avenue
www.fairlawnchurch.ca