

A SUGGESTED ORDER OF SERVICE FOR SUNDAY MAY April 29th, 2018
Conference Annual Meeting Sunday
THEME “This much we know”

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Call to Worship

The Word of life spoke:

so we could hear the 'Alleluias!' of the angels.

The Word of life reached out:

so we could touch the hope which heals us.

The Word of life walked out of death's dread tomb:

so we could follow him into life forever.

(written by Thom M. Shuman)

GATHERING HYMN:

PRAYER OF APPROACH: *(in unison)* On this glorious morn, O God,

We praise your name and thank you for your faithfulness.

We marvel once again at the wonder of the resurrection of Jesus like kids finding hidden Easter eggs. We are just as surprised as the women who came to the tomb that day.

We ask that this resurrection wipe away the tears from our eyes;

Bring hope to the hopeless, open the eyes of the blind, set the prisoners free and bring healing and wholeness to those who need it.

Lord we ask that this resurrection bring a revolution of justice.

May the hungry be fed, the outcast be welcomed, the downtrodden lifted up, and those who are in poverty may be enriched.

Lord we ask that this resurrection bring renewal of our lives, restore our broken relationships, deepen our relationship with you, deepen our relationship with one another, and empower us to bring the good news of your resurrection to others.

Amen, *(written by RevAbi, RevGalsBlogPals)*

A TIME FOR THE CHILD IN ALL OF US

CHILDREN'S HYMN:

THOUGHT PROVOKING: a poem - **GREAT DIVIDE**

There are many smart minds
and many rank fools
 who spend their days
 among those who camp

on the wrong side of Easter.
There are many good souls
and many corrupt
who become bogged down
among those who camp
on the wrong side of Easter

There are many leaders
and many followers
who live in the dark
among those who camp
on the wrong side of Easter.

There are many god-fearers
and many godless
who die in the cold
among those who camp
on the wrong side of Easter.

There are a few dear saints
and many of small faith
who have found boundless life
among those who camp
on the right side of Easter.

(written by B D Prewer)

LESSONS:

Psalm 118

Acts 10: 34-39

Mark 16: 1-8

MESSAGE: Presidents Message

The Creed

We are not alone,
we live in God's world.

We believe in God:
who has created and is creating,
who has come in Jesus,
the Word made flesh,
to reconcile and make new,
who works in us and others
by the Spirit.

We trust in God.

We are called to be the Church:
to celebrate God's presence,
to live with respect in Creation,
to love and serve others,
to seek justice and resist evil,
to proclaim Jesus, crucified and risen,
our judge and our hope.

In life, in death, in life beyond death,
God is with us.
We are not alone.

Thanks be to God.

HYMN:

TITHES AND OFFERINGS:

OFFERING PRAYER:

As we offer our gifts to you, Loving God, remove any doubts about how they might be used, as you offer food to the hungry, hope to the despairing, joy to the grieving, and peace to the broken. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

PASTORAL PRAYER

Two voices may be used.

We bring the diverse needs of church and world before God.

Let us pray.

God of Easter, our sure saviour and faithful friend, wherever the irrepressible grace of Christ Jesus is known, may it be freely shared. We pray for teeming millions around the world, and for your servant the church, at work in every land.

We pray for the witness of the church in whatever community it is set. Keep it loyal through times of harassment and suffering and, what is more difficult, keep it faithful in times of prosperity and comfort.

We pray for the church wherever it is in dialogue with other religions. Keep it humble yet absolutely true to its own gospel, and what is more difficult, keep it open to anything you want to say to us through other faiths.

We pray for our nation with its many strengths and considerable flaws. Bless those political and community leaders whom we respect and cherish, and what is more difficult for us to ask, we pray for your blessing on those who disappoint, frustrate and anger us.

We pray for other nations and their leaders, especially those that are struggling against heavy odds to maintain the wellbeing of their citizens. and what is more difficult, we pray for any nations that despise or would spitefully abuse us.

We pray for friends and family who love us well and whom we love dearly, in happiness or in grief, in success or failure, in sickness or in health; and what is more difficult, we pray for those prickly souls among relatives or neighbours whom we find it hard to like.

We pray for the hardworking immigrants who have brought skills and wealth to our nation, and whose diverse cultures have so enriched us; and what is more difficult we pray for those refugees who come uninvited to our shores with nothing but their pitiful need.

We pray, Saviour and Friend, for each other gathered here today. We especially pray for those who are suffering physical or emotional ills with scant complaint; and what is more difficult, we pray for any who seem to advertise even minor aches and pains with repetitious stories.

God of the Easter Christ, please endow us with more of his kind of love, that we may give of our best without looking for personal profit and go on our way rejoicing even when we are misunderstood or rebuffed. For yours is the kingdom of love, the power of love, and the glory of love, now and forever.

Bind us to God forever, we pray, as we say together, Our Father.....

CLOSING HYMN:

CLOSING WORDS:

Go into the world with the delight of faith.

We go forth to dance and to sing the resurrection story.

Go into the world with spirit's filled by the Spirit's joy.

We go forth to celebrate new life given and proclaimed.

(Written by Gord Dunbar)

Suggested Hymns:

- VU158 – Christ is alive
- VU178 – Because you live, O Christ
- VU187 – The spring has come
- VU409 – Morning has broken
- VU79 – Arise your light has come
- VU405 – New every morning
- VU509 – I, the Lord of sea and sky
- VU603 – In loving partnership
- VU703 – In the bulb there is a flower
- VU586 – We shall go our with hope of resurrection

