

Sunday, April 25, 2021  
Third Sunday of Easter

Prelude

Call to Worship

We gather together  
in the name of the One who bids us come.  
We gather together  
to hear the words of the One who is Love.  
We gather together  
to sing praises of the One who teaches peace.  
Come, let us worship!

~ The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada Worship Service—Peace in Community,  
prepared by Miriam Spies.

Opening Hymn - #233

*The Day of Resurrection*

Prayer of Confession

God has reconciled us to God's own self and to one another,  
and has made us one community of love.

Yet we struggle with the sins that Christ has already conquered.  
We separate ourselves through, hostility, judgment and seeking our betterment at the  
expense of another; One who like us, is made in your image.

God has given us many ways to enjoy our unity and expressions that are intended to  
bless one another.

Yet we struggle to fully embrace and recognize the joy that comes in the morning and  
gives us the sight that comes as we trust in you together.

God of peace, help us to not only see the path towards reconciliation but to choose that  
path as a way of life.

Assurance of Pardon

Passing of the Peace

Minute for Mission

Prayer for Illumination

First Reading

Psalm 133:1-3

1 How very good and pleasant it is  
when kindred live together in unity!  
2 It is like the precious oil on the head,  
running down upon the beard,  
on the beard of Aaron,

running down over the collar of his robes.  
3 It is like the dew of Hermon,  
which falls on the mountains of Zion.  
For there the Lord ordained his blessing,  
life forevermore.

Sermon Song -

Hosanna

Second Reading

Ephesians 4:11-16

11 The gifts he gave were that some would be apostles, some prophets, some evangelists, some pastors and teachers, 12 to equip the saints for the work of ministry, for building up the body of Christ, 13 until all of us come to the unity of the faith and of the knowledge of the Son of God, to maturity, to the measure of the full stature of Christ. 14 We must no longer be children, tossed to and fro and blown about by every wind of doctrine, by people's trickery, by their craftiness in deceitful scheming. 15 But speaking the truth in love, we must grow up in every way into him who is the head, into Christ, 16 from whom the whole body, joined and knit together by every ligament with which it is equipped, as each part is working properly, promotes the body's growth in building itself up in love.

Sermon

Embracing one another through Christ in a Time of Separation

Affirmation of Faith

We believe in the triune God,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
who gathers, protects and cares for the church  
through Word and Spirit.  
This, God has done since the beginning of the world  
and will do to the end. Amen.

~ from the Confession of Belhar

Prayer of Dedication

Offering Song -

Make Us One

Doxology

Praise God from Whom all blessings flow! Praise Him all creatures here below!

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise Him above, ye heavenly host; Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost!

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Pastoral Prayer/Lord's Prayer

Final Hymn - #39

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

Dismissal/Benediction

Postlude