

SUMMERLAND UNITED CHURCH
celebrating faith
seeking justice and
serving others in a loving community

Sunday, April 4th, 2021 ☞ 10 a.m.
EASTER SUNDAY



A Joint Sunday Service for Summerland and Westbank United Churches
April 4th, 2021 – Rev. Donald Schmidt - Presiding
Judi Ritcey: PowerPoint – Summerland United
Words of Welcome: – Kathryn McLaughlin Summerland United
Scripture Reading: Helen Reid – Westbank United

GATHERING TIME
INTRODUCTION & EXPLANATION
TERRITORIAL ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

9:45AM
Rev. Donald Schmidt
Rev. Donald Schmidt

ANNOUNCEMENTS
BELL RINGING
WORDS OF WELCOME

Kathryn McLaughlin - Summerland United

A warm welcome to our friends from Summerland, Westbank and Penticton United Churches who are with us today and to all those joining us from other locations. If there are any visitors today from other congregations or other places, we welcome you and thank you for joining us this morning. If you are comfortable, please unmute yourself and tell us where or what congregation you are from. Please remember to re-mute yourself.

MOMENT OF SILENCE TO VIEW THE CONGREGATION

Friends, we gather apart but together. I invite you now to switch to gallery view or scroll through your screen to witness the children of God gathered with us today.

LIGHTING THE CANDLE

Rev. Donald Schmidt

WE HEAR THE GOOD NEWS

Mark 16: 1-8 – Common English Bible
Helen Reid, Westbank United

WE SING TOGETHER

Christ Is Alive

CALL TO WORSHIP

From the Whole People of God

Alleluia! Today is the most important day of our church year. Alleluia!

Alleluia! Praise God!

Alleluia! Jesus Christ is risen today!

Alleluia! Praise God!

Alleluia! We celebrate resurrection!

Alleluia! Praise God!

Alleluia! God's power is love and life!

Alleluia! Praise God!

OPENING PRAYER - *from Seasons of the Spirit*

Rev. Donald Schmidt

God of grace and power, we have longed and prepared for this joyous day. On Ash Wednesday we humbled ourselves before you; on Maundy Thursday we learned a new commandment; on Good Friday we cried at the foot of the cross; on Holy Saturday we kept vigil; and on this blessed Sunday we rejoice in the risen power of love, hope, and new life. Make this rising real in our own lives. Let us be people of love, hope, and new life. Let us be people of joy. In Jesus' name. Amen.

WE SING TOGETHER

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today – VU 155

SCRIPTURE READING

John 20: 11-18
Helen Reid – Westbank United

REFLECTION

Rev. Donald Schmidt

WE SING TOGETHER

Good Christians All Rejoice and Sing -VU 169

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Donald Schmidt

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Traditional Version

OFFERING

Rev. Donald Schmidt

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Donald Schmidt

We offer you our whole lives, loving God – knowing that you can take our gifts, our thoughts, our smiles, our hopes and our dreams, and use them to change the world. Amen.

HOLY COMMUNION

Rev. Donald Schmidt

We awaken with the dawn to rejoicing, "Hallelujah, Christ is risen!"

Christ is risen indeed.

We sing songs of praise and proclaim the goodness of God, "Hallelujah, Christ is risen!"

Christ is risen indeed.

We take and share the bread of life, cup of salvation, "Hallelujah, Christ is risen!"

Christ is risen indeed.

We carry hope forward, lifting our eyes to see the beauty of creation, "Hallelujah, Christ is risen!"

Christ is risen indeed.

We remember Jesus' simple words to the disciples: that he would not eat again until he was in the Realm of God. And then, on the day of resurrection he broke bread with the disciples, proclaiming to them and to the world the simple truth: the Realm of God is among us even now. And so we celebrate a simple feast of bread and juice this day, and remember the presence of the risen Christ in our lives and in our world.

Let us pray:

Christ of humble beginnings, we gather at the table today remembering how to rejoice. Remind us of your gathering presence as you invite us to the table to feast. We hold the bread of life and cup of salvation and remember to take and eat. Help us to take and eat your gift of love become salvation. We carry our worship within, returning to our daily lives with full hearts and eager hands. Help us to be your hands and feet in this hungry, hurting world. Amen.

**WE SING TOGETHER
BLESSING
CHAT ROOMS**

Thine Is the Glory – VU 173
Rev. Donald Schmidt

MINUTE FOR MISSION

April 4 - Work Brings New Life: Jesse's Story Part 2

Meaningful work helps Jesse—and all of us—thrive.

Jesse in the hydroponic greenhouse at Stella's Circle. - *Photo Credit: Stella's Circle*



After a brain injury and the death of his mother, Jesse found himself homeless and sleeping in a storage unit. Now, thanks to employment training and support programs run by Mission & Service partner Stella's Circle combined with his hard work, Jesse is a trained greenhouse technician. He leads a new social enterprise that grows produce for sale. One day, Jesse hopes to supply restaurants with the produce he and others grow.

What does work mean for him? "It means maintaining my independence. It means building confidence. It means instilling purpose. It makes me feel functional," says Jesse.

Supporting job training and employment programs has never been more important. Because of the pandemic, 114 million more jobs were lost in 2020 than in 2019.

Four times more jobs were lost during the pandemic than during the global financial crisis in 2009.[1]

All of us work at something, whether we are paid or unpaid. When our values match what we spend time working at, we find meaning in life. People who are unable to work not only struggle to pay the bills, but their sense of meaning and self-worth suffers too.

That's why your generosity through Mission & Service supports job training programs here at home and around the world.

Meaningful work helps us thrive. Maybe that's why, in the Bible, "work" is mentioned more than 800 times. In the Easter story, the work of Passover preparations set the table for Jesus' divine work order: "This is my body given for you; do this in remembrance of me."

Mission & Service supports programs that help people find meaningful employment and renewed life. It's one of the ways you and I participate in God's holy, resurrecting work every day. Thank you for your generous support.