**Summerland United Message - April 23/20**

Greetings Friends,

Welcome to the Third Sunday in Easter. The gospel story for this Sunday comes from Luke’s Gospel and tells us about an encounter between the Risen Jesus and two disciples. Just like Mary in the Garden, the disciples did not immediately recognize Jesus as they are walking and talking with him. Even as the conversation grew deeper in an exploration of the scriptures and the Messiah they didn’t recognize Jesus. They were amazed and excited at the words this strange person was sharing with them yet they still didn’t recognize Jesus. The story goes on to tell us that it is not until Jesus breaks the bread that recognition comes and the disciples realize who he is and run to tell other disciples of their experience.

It is indeed easy to talk about our faith. You can know the bible and the teachings of the Jesus and the prophets.  We can say that we love everyone. Ultimately, though, the proof of all this talk is in our actions. Do our actions reflect our words?

During Jesus' ministry he not only spoke of God’s love for everyone, he showed God’s love for everyone by breaking bread with everyone. To break bread, to share a meal with someone is to acknowledge them as a person, and beloved of God.

For Jesus, sharing a meal with people who were deemed outcasts, marginal or sinners was proof of his love for them.

As soon as Jesus broke the bread the disciples recognized him, because they remembered all of the times Jesus had broken bread with those deemed unworthy and used those occasions to enact,  to incarnate, to provide a concrete example of God’s love for all people.

As we hear this story this Sunday may we commit ourselves to honest introspection and ask ourselves if our actions are a reflection of what we say we believe.

See you all on Sunday,

Armand

**What You will Find In The Announcements**

Your Invitation to our Sunday Zoom Service

Some Notes about this Sunday’s Service

An Invitation to A Zoom Coffee Time Next Week

A Word from the Finance Committee

Links to Music and Prayers

**Your Invitation to Our Sunday Morning  Zoom Service**

Email or phone Armand for a link to the service: summerlandrev@shaw.ca

**Notes About the Sunday Service**

1. You are invited to light a candle where you are at the same time as the candle is lighted in the service.

2. This Sunday we will share in a Virtual Communion Service.

To participate in communion please have some bread (bread, soda cracker, rice crackers, muffin, cookie etc.) and juice (any kind, water, wine, etc) available where you are watching the service from. Be sure to gather these items before the service so that they are available at Communion time.

3. Once again we will be using the Breakout Rooms after the service for our coffee/community time

4. You can begin joining the Service at 9:45am and use the time before the service to say high to others

**An Invitation to Gather for Coffee Via Zoom**

You are invited to a Zoom Coffee Time next Tuesday April 28 from 10am – 11am.

The Zoom information will come out in an email on Monday.

Come along and chat with your friends.

**A Word from the Finance Committee**

Thanks so much to those of you who have continued to make your donations to the church.

*We now have 2 new ways* for you to continue your support of Summerland United Church.

* The church is able to accept e-transfers directly from your bank. The email address you will need to  use if you choose this method is [summerlandunitedfinance@shaw.ca](mailto:summerlandunitedfinance@shaw.ca)

* We can also accept donations through Canada Helps (they do take a 4% administrative fee). Use the Donate Button on our church website or log into CanadaHelps.org. Search for Summerland United Church. Click on “Learn More” and then click on the “Donate” button. Receipts for donations made through Canada Helps will be mailed from that organization.

We also continue to welcome donations by:

* Mail to Summerland United Church, Box 155, Summerland BC, V0H 1Z8
* Leave in the drop box under the office window at the church
* Call Fred (250-494-2551) or Carol (250-494-3057) for pick-up

**Links to Music and Prayers**

A Link to a Prayers Page on the United Church of Canada Website <https://www.united-church.ca/prayers>

A Prayer by Richard Bott the Moderator of the United Church of Canada

For Sabbath pause, thank you, God.  
For my foolish flaws, thank you, God.  
For laughter's roar, thank you, God.  
For love's open door, thank you, God.  
For the night that sings,  
for the sleep it brings,  
for the breath,  
the life,  
in joy,  
in strife...  
thank you, God.

Link to the Song “We Rise Again” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Dkwj1hppsrs>

Link to the Song “The Prayer” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=SfVrpafcELI>

Link to the Song “Bridge Over Troubled Water” <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WrcwRt6J32o>