

**BULLETIN NOTATIONS**

VU-Voices United Hymn Book | MV-More Voices Hymn Book  
Music printed & streamed with permission  
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\* *Indicates to please stand, if able*

*“And death shall have no dominion.” - Dylan Thomas*

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

**INTROIT:** HWC 105 (*refrain*)

**He is Lord, He is Lord!  
He has risen from the dead and He is Lord!  
Every knee shall bow, every tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**He’s my Lord, He’s my Lord.  
He has risen from the dead and He’s my Lord.  
And my knee shall bow, and my tongue confess  
that Jesus Christ is Lord.**

**CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Christ has risen from death.

**He has broken the chains of the grave.**

The devil has been given a blow behind the ear!

**Where O death is your sting?**

Where O grave is your victory?

**Death has been swallowed up in victory.**

And death shall have no dominion!

**Hallelujah. Thanks be to God.**

Let us worship. Let us pray.

**GATHERING PRAYER:** (*in unison*)

**Our gracious and loving God,  
as we look into an empty tomb  
we see only freedom.**

-2-

**Freedom from the fear of death and the burden of guilt.**

**This is not an empty place,**

**it is full of Your presence**

**as we make a home for You**

**to live in our praises.**

**May we gain strength from our worship**

**to live out our lives as Easter people.**

**May You be honoured this morning.**

**In the Name of our Risen Christ we pray. Amen.**

**\*HYMN VU 157:** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**CONFESSION OF OUR EASTER FAITH:** VU 918 – The Apostles’ Creed

**DOXOLOGY:**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.**

**Praise Him all creatures here below;**

**Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts.**

**Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.**

SOLO: “Alleluja from ‘Exultate, Jubilate’” – W.A. Mozart

*Soloist: John Donald*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON:** John 20: 1-18 *LAY READER: Trudy Pickersgill*

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself.

Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping?' She said to them, 'They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.' When she had said this, she turned round and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, 'Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?' Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, 'Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.' Jesus said to her, 'Mary!' She turned and said to him in Hebrew, 'Rabbouni!' (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God."' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Let us hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.  
**Thanks be to God.**

INVITATION TO OFFERING

**\*SUNG RESPONSE: VU 540**

**Grant us, God, the grace of giving,  
with a spirit large and free,  
that ourselves and all our living  
we may offer faithfully.**

**\*OFFERING PRAYER: (in unison)**

**Gracious God,  
You have taught us that it is better to give than to receive.  
You have blessed us with abundance  
and we can never out-give you.  
Receive these offerings that come from our hearts  
as well as our hands.  
May Your blessing magnify their benefits.  
We pray in the Name of Jesus who gives us all things. Amen.**

CHOIR ANTHEM: "Awake! Arise! Go Forth!"

PASTORAL PRAYER

*(Lord hear our prayer, and in your love, answer)*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER: (sung - VU 959)**

**Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name,  
your kingdom come, your will be done  
on earth as in heaven.  
Give us today our daily bread.  
Forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us.  
Save us from the time of trial  
and deliver us from evil  
for the kingdom, the power and the glory are yours,  
now and forever.**

**\*HYMN VU 159: "The Strife Is O'er"**

MESSAGE: "The Centurian Who Got It"

**\*CLOSING HYMN HWC 213: "Because He Lives"**

**1 God sent His Son, they called Him Jesus,  
He came to love, heal, and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Saviour lives.**

**Refrain**

**Because He lives I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future.  
And life is worth the living just because He lives.**

**2 How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride, and joy he gives;  
But greater still the calm assurance,  
This child can face uncertain days because He lives. Refrain**

**3 And then one day I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives. Refrain**

\*BENEDICTION

\*SING: HWC 220 (*refrain*)

**He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.**

\*CHOIR POSTLUDE: "Hallelujah Chorus" – G.F. Handel

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MARY MAGDALENE LOOKED AT THE RISEN CHRIST  
AND THOUGHT HE WAS A GARDENER.  
SHE HAD NEVER SEEN A RISEN CHRIST BEFORE  
UNTIL THE GARDENER SAID, "MARY".  
THE INFINITE, ALL-KNOWING, CREATOR GOD  
REACHED OUT ACROSS THE UNIVERSE  
AND TOUCHED THE HEART OF THIS WOMAN  
WHEN HE CALLED HER BY NAME  
AND STOOD BEFORE HER IN THE FORM OF THE RISEN JESUS.  
AND SO, GOD CONTINUES TO TOUCH HEARTS  
AND CALL US BY NAME BECAUSE OF THE RESURRECTION.  
GBC.

**LARGE PRINT HYMNS and RESPONSIVE READINGS**  
are available on the pew as you enter the sanctuary.

**AFTER WORSHIP**, everyone is invited to stay  
for refreshments and fellowship  
in the Board Room & Friendship Room on the lower level.

**PRAYER LIST**  
As we face life's challenges, we are encouraged by those who surround us with their prayers. If you would like your name to appear on the prayer list, please tell the minister or a member of the Pastoral Care Committee.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**A JOINT SERVICE** will be held next Sunday April 7, at Fenwick United Church, beginning at 10:00 am.

**CAKE WALK:** Stay after coffee hour next Sunday April 7 at Fenwick United for their annual Children's Church Cake Walk! Please see the insert in your bulletin for details.

**THE WEEK AHEAD AT FONTHILL UNITED**

Tuesday April 2	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
	9:00 am	Badminton
	10:30 am	Outreach Committee Meeting
	1:30 pm	Book Club at residence of Joan Wells
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
Wednesday April 3	4:00 pm	Music Lessons (Friendship Rm.)
	6:00 pm	A Cappella Niagara Practice
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
Thursday April 4	3:30 pm	Music Lessons
	6:00 pm	Cubs & Beavers
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
Friday April 5	9:00 am	Badminton
	2:00 pm	Music Lessons
	3:00 pm	Choir Practice
	4:45 pm	Sportball
	8:00 am	Montessori Preschool
Saturday April 6	1:00 pm	Music Lessons
Sunday April 7	6:30 pm	Pickle Ball
	11:00 am	Music Lessons
	<b>10:00 am</b>	<b>Joint Worship Service – at Fenwick United Church</b>

**TO MAKE A DONATION TO FONTHILL UNITED CHURCH,  
YOU ARE WELCOME TO:**

- 1) Mail a cheque to the church at: Fonthill United Church, Box 926, Fonthill ON L0S 1E0.
- 2) Drop your cheque donation, anytime, through the mail slot in the exterior office door at the church.
- 3) Bring cash donations into the office when the church office is open.
- 4) Send an e-transfer to: [fonthilu@vaxxine.com](mailto:fonthilu@vaxxine.com).
- 5) Sign up for the pre-authorized remittance program (PAR).  
Contact the church office to register.

***Donations on Sundays may be placed in the offering plate at the entrance to the sanctuary. We thank you for your support!***

# Fonthill United Church

## March 31, 2024

### Easter Sunday

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**MISSION STATEMENT**

Words inspire us. Music uplifts us.  
United in God's love,  
we strive to be an inclusive community,  
learning together and supporting others with compassion.

**CONTACT INFORMATION**

Church Office ..... 905 892-6433  
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