Riverbend United Church
Exploring Faith, Engaging Community

April 20, 2025

EASTER DAY

We Gather Together

Prelude — Sherry Steele

Call to Worship — Christine Ens, Lay Leader

One: Christ is risen!
All: Christ is risen indeed!
One: Let all the earth proclaim the joy.
All: Let all heaven show forth in praise.
One: Christ is risen!
All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*Opening Hymn — *Jesus Christ is Risen Today* — VU 155
Marvin Severson, Trumpet

Welcome / Our Church in Ministry — Rev. Valerie Oden

Land Acknowledgement (in Unison)

We acknowledge that we are located on Treaty 6 Territory. We respect the history, languages, and cultures of First Nations, Métis, Inuit, and all First Peoples of Canada, whose presence continues to enrich our vibrant community.

Opening Prayer *(by J. McMurtry)*

**God of resurrection, you have rolled the stone away and the tomb of our world has been opened wide.
With the dawn has come a new creation.
Let our celebration today empty our tombs, renew our lives, and release your power.
Through the risen Christ we pray, Amen.**

We Listen for the Spirit Stirring

*Hymn — *This is the Day* — MV 122

Children are invited to come forward as we sing this hymn.

Children's Time — Alec Gallant, Children's Coordinator

*Hymn — *Halle, Halle, Halle* — VU 958

*Passing the Peace of Christ

As we pass the peace, children are invited downstairs. There is a family room behind the piano where the service can be seen and heard, and a volunteer will help care for younger children. They are also welcome to remain in worship.

Scripture Reading — John 20: 1-18

Anthem — *Glory to God* — RUC Choir
(Words: J.P. Williams; Music: M. Barrett)

Reflection — Rev. Valerie Oden

We Respond with our Lives

*Hymn of Response — *Joy Comes with the Dawn* — VU 166

Prayers of the People

Prayer Hymn — *Spirit God, Be Our Breath* *vss. 1-3* — MV 150

Unison Prayer

**Source of life,
You are with us:
in the person of Jesus who welcomed all and proclaimed truth to power;
in the risen Christ who brings hope eternal and calls us into new life.**

**You are with us:
in the beauty of the earth,
in the rhythm of the seasons,
in the mystery of time and space.**

You are with us. Alleluia! Amen.

Invitation to Offering Our Gifts

The Offertory *Set Free Your Alleluias (Arr: Martin)* RUC Choir

We are passing the Offering plates this morning. Gifts are also welcome by e-transfer to: contactus@riverbendunited.org. The ministries of Riverbend United Church are possible because of the generous gifts of our members and friends. Thank you for your ongoing support!

*Closing Hymn *Thine is the Glory* VU 173

*Benediction

Postlude Sherry Steele

***denotes you are invited to stand as you are able and inclined*

"VU" refers to the red hardback hymnal *Voices United*
"MV" refers to the spiral bound songbook *More Voices*

Hearing headsets are available at the AV desk. Or you can turn your hearing aide to T-Coil to connect directly to the sound system.

Welcome to Riverbend United Church

If you're new with us, we'd love to meet you. Please fill out a Welcome Card found in the narthex if you'd like to be included in our weekly emails with upcoming events and announcements or receive a call from our minister.

RUC Garage Sale – May 8-10

Donations accepted beginning May 4th.
Volunteers needed. Please see the Announcements.
Thank you!

Looking ahead:

May 25	Young Family Event after worship
May 29 - June 1	RUC hosts the N. Spirit Regional AGM
June 8	United Church 100th Anniversary Celebration

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