***Intercessions***

Gathering up all our prayers into one, we pray as Christ taught us: *Spoken Lord’s Prayer*

*At the breaking of the bread*

The gifts of God, for the people of God!

**Thanks be to God!**

*All are welcome to come forward to receive communion.*

Post-Communion Prayer

**Loving God, at this table of joy**

**you feed us with your Easter life.**

**Send us from this table**

**to tables throughout the world,**

**to love and serve in Jesus’ name. Amen!**

**Choir Anthem: “Rejoice!”** *By Joseph M Martin*

**SENDING**

* *Joys and Celebrations*
* *Announcements*

Blessing and Commissioning

**Hymn : VU # 352 Lord of the Dance**

**Dismissal:**

Go in Peace! Share the joy of Easter!

**Thanks be to God! Alleluia!**

**Postlude!**

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**Claremont United Church**

[www.claremontunitedchurch.com](http://www.claremontunitedchurch.com)

Church office: 905 649 1363

Minister: Rev. Lionel Ketola, BA, M. Div.

Minister of Music: Gabrielle Untermann

**Sunday April 17, 2022, 11:00 am**

**Easter Sunday**

**Greeting**

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*Words of Welcome & Land Acknowledgement*

Flowering the Cross: **VU # 958 Halle Halle Halle**

**Lighting the Christ Candle**

There was a man named Jesus, whose risen presence brought healing and hope to all who he met.

And he said **“I am the light of the World”.**

**Call to Worship**

Christ is risen!

**Nothing could contain God’s love!**

Creation is alive …

**The earth is slowly transformed with**

**the promise of spring’s warmth and life**

Hope is alive…

**Deep within the trees, sap runs,**

**nourishing buds that will become green growth**

**and fragrant blossoms**

Our Senses are alive …

**The Spirit calls us out of our winter’s sleep,**

**into a renewed sense of care**

**and responsibility for the earth.**

Joy is alive…

**Jesus calls us into the fullness of his resurrected life! Alleluia!**

**Hymn: VU # 155 Jesus Christ is Risen Today**

Prayer of the Day

**God of new creation,**

**from the womb of the earth**

**you raised the Lord of Life:**

**may we receive the word of the women**

**who braved the soldier’s spears**

**and met him in the dawning light;**

**may we live with morning joy**

**that love will never die,**

**through Jesus Christ,**

**the resurrection and the life. Amen.**

**WORD**

Time with the Children

Song with the Children: VU # 175 This Is The Day

First Reading: Isaiah 65: 17 – 25

*Steve & Cameron Watts*

**Psalm 118, parts 1 – 3, VU page 837**

Holy Gospel: John 10: 11 - 18

Sermon: Rev Lionel

**Hymn: VU 179 Hallelujah, Hallelujah Give Thanks**

**TABLE**

Invitation to the Offering

**Sung Offertory Verse; VU 232, Joyful Joyful v2**

**All your works with joy surround you,**

**earth and heaven reflect your rays,**

**stars and angels sing around you,**

**center of unbroken praise.**

**Field and forest, vale and mountain,**

**Flowery meadow, flashing sea.**

**Chanting bird and flowing fountain**

**Sound their praise eternally.**

**Prayer of Dedication for the Gifts**

**Ever-living God, the good news of Jesus’ risen life among us fills us with hope and joy.
May these gifts bring new life and new hope**

**to our neighbours, near and far.**

**We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

**Holy Communion**

May God be with you

**And also with you**

Lift up you hearts

**We lift them up to God**

Let us give thanks to our creator

**It is right to give our thanks and praise**

Blessed are you, God of New Life!

Our senses are open to the gift of Jesus’ risen life,

in all of the sights and sounds and smells of Spring!

We rejoice in the goodness of life!

And so, with high voices from the sky, deep voices from the sea, and ancient voices from the forests, we join in the happy song of all creation: (VU 173, v 1, Thine is the Glory)

**Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son:**

**Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**

**Angels in bright rainment rolled the stone away,**

**Kept the folded grave-clothes where the body lay.**

**Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son:**

**Endless is the victory thou o’er death hast won.**

This Easter morning we are thankful that you have declared us free: free from our decaying tombs, free from past ways of being, free from judgment and despair. In the presence of the Risen Jesus, you fill our hearts with promise, and you set out feet on a new and joyful path!

We remember Jesus, who on the night that Jesus was betrayed …

Our hearts are filled with joy for the gift of your new life among us. May all that we say and do proclaim the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

TenderGod, send your life-giving Spirit

upon us and upon these gifts of bread and cup.

**May we know your risen presence**

**in the breaking of the bread.**