

Welcome to the worship service of  
**St. Andrew's United Church**, Chalk River, Ontario  
on this **2<sup>nd</sup> Sunday of Easter**

April 11, 2021

Kindly enter this time centering on God, prepared to meet God.

### GATHERING IN COMMUNITY

#### SCRIPTURAL GREETING/WELCOME

Acts 4:32,33 – “Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great might and power the apostles gave their testimony of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all.”

#### LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE 1 John 1:5-7a (NRSV)

“This is the message we have heard from him and proclaim to you, that God is light and in him there is no darkness at all. If we say that we have fellowship with him while we are walking in darkness, we lie and do not do what is true; but if we walk in the light as he himself is in the light, we have fellowship with one another.”

**WE ARE CALLED TO WORSHIP:** Based on Psalm 133 from VU pg 856  
Behold, how pleasant, how good it is when God's people are together.

**How pleasant and how harmonious when we gather together.**

Fragrant as precious oil running on Aaron's beard,

**fresh like the morning dew on Zion's holy hill.**

Behold, how pleasant, how good it is when God's people are together

**where God bestows rich blessings, life forevermore.**

**How pleasant and how harmonious when we gather together.**

**CENTERING PRAYER/ PRAYER OF CONFESSION:** Creator God, your Spirit is in us and our church. Keep us energized by your presence, so that we are not content with the way things are. Help us to keep your spirit alive so we live as people of God even though our pandemic world causes us frustration and grief. Help us remember we are more than members meeting in a building – we are more. Help us remember at the heart of our church is a mission – a calling – from Jesus saying, “As the Father sent me, so I send you.” May we live into that calling, living the life Jesus lived, showing respect and care for all God's creation. Guide us and support us in sharing the good news that Christ lives and so too we live with the strength of the Spirit, as disciples of Jesus, to whom be glory with God, this day and every day. Amen.

(based on a prayer by *Carol Frost*, Minnedosa U.C., Minnedosa, Man. In *Gathering L/E* 2021 pg. 45)

**Point to Ponder:** In these pandemic times when contact with anyone is restricted how do we live out our calling? Do you experience Jesus' love for you any differently or do you still recognize Jesus' love in you day to day living? How do you help others experience that love?

### HEARING GOD'S WORD

**SCRIPTURE READING:** Acts 4:32-35

#### MINISTRY OF MUSIC

**GOSPEL READING:** John 20:19-31

**MESSAGE:** “We Are Not Alone”

**HYMN:** “Jesus Bids Us Shine” VU 585

### OUR RESPONSE TO THE WORD

#### COMMUNITY LIFE

**COMMUNITY PRAYER:** Gracious and loving God, you have said, “where two or more are gathered, you are there.” We have gathered in this time and space as your community of faithful disciples. We offer ourselves, our time and talents, to serve and live out the life Jesus offered as an alternative to the norm of his day, we offer the same in our day. We are grateful for the many gifts of love we receive each day and we look forward to paying them forward. All we offer is in the name of Jesus. Amen

“Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying” VU 400

**PASTORAL PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER:**

Hymn: “This Is the Day” VU 175

### *BLESSING*

**GO NOW IN PEACE**

VU 964

3X