



**Sunday, April 23, 2023**

**ST. PAUL'S UNITED CHURCH**

Minister: Rev. Karen Ptolemy-Stam

Music Director: Victoria Warwick

Readers: Doreen Gunson, Carol MacDonald

Singers: St. Paul's Choir, Bay Sound Choirs

Tech Team: Glenn Erwin, Gabriela & Rick Dell, Bruce Wilcox

**WELCOME AND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**CALL TO THE GATHERED WITH VOICE AND SONG** (Sung by guest Choirs)

**OPENING HYMN: MV#122 "This is the Day"**

This is the day that God has made; we will rejoice and be glad!

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Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu! We will rejoice and be glad!

Singing hallelu, singing hallelu, singing hallelu! We will rejoice and be glad!

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE:**

As we light this Christ candle, may it remind us that Christ is in us and in our world.



**SUNG RESPONSE: "Halle Halle Hallelujah"**

Halle Halle Hallelujah! Halle Halle Hallelujah!

Halle Halle Hallelujah, Hallelujah, Hallelujah!

**OPENING PRAYER:** Read by Carol MacDonald

**ANTHEM:** "In the Arms of an Oak" sung by Bay Sound Children's Choir

**THEME CONVERSATION**

**SCRIPTURE READINGS:** Acts 2:14a, 36-38; Luke 24:13-35, read by Doreen Gunson

**SERMON:** "On the Road to Emmaus"

**HYMN: VU#184 "As We Walked Home at Close of Day" (tune of VU# 472)**

1. As we walked home at close of day, a stranger joined us on our way.  
He heard us speak of one who'd gone, and when we stopped, he carried on.
2. "Why wander further without light? Please stay with us this troubled night.  
We've shared the truth of how we feel and now would like to share a meal."
3. We sat to eat our simple spread, then watched the stranger take the bread;  
and, as he said the blessing prayer, we knew that someone else was there.
4. No stranger he, it was our eyes which failed to see, in stranger's guise,  
the Lord who, risen from the dead, met us when ready to be fed.
5. Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
As Mary and our sisters said, the Lord is risen from the dead!

**GIVING OF OUR GIFTS**

**OFFERTORY MUSIC** "The Blessing" sung by Bay Sound VIVO choir

**SUNG RESPONSE: MV# 182 "Grateful"**

Grateful for the life you give us, thankful for your Holy Son,  
joyful in your Spirit flowing over all, O God of Love.  
Grateful for the Bread of Heaven, thankful for your Holy Word,  
joyful in your mercy flowing, we will praise you!

## **OFFERTORY PRAYER**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE/LORD'S PRAYER:** Read by Carol MacDonald

## **CLOSING HYMN: VU# 232 "Joyful, Joyful We Adore You"**

1. Joyful, joyful we adore you, God of glory, life and love;  
hearts unfold like flowers before you, opening to the sun above.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness, drive the gloom of doubt away;  
giver of immortal gladness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All your works with joy surround you, earth and heaven reflect your rays,  
stars and angels sing around you, centre of unbroken praise.  
Field and forest, vale and mountain, flowery meadow, flashing sea,  
changing bird and flowing fountain, sound their praise eternally.
3. You are giving and forgiving, ever blessing, ever blest,  
wellspring of the joy of living, ocean depth of happy rest!  
Source of grace and fount of blessing, let your light upon us shine;  
teach us how to love each other, lift us to the joy divine.
4. Mortals join the mighty chorus which the morning stars began;  
God's own love is reigning o'er us, joining people hand in hand.  
Ever singing march we onward, victors in the midst of strife;  
joyful music leads us sunward in the triumph song of life.

## **COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

### **SUNG BENEDICTION: VU# 884 "You Shall Go Out With Joy"**

You shall go out with joy and be led forth with peace;  
The mountains and the hills will break forth before you;  
there'll be shouts of joy, and all the trees of the field  
will clap, will clap their hands!  
And all the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the field will clap their hands,  
the trees of the field will clap their hands  
while you go out with joy.

## **POSTLUDE**