

**TRINITY-ST.ANDREW'S UNITED CHURCH**

**The United Church of Canada  
An Affirming Congregation**



**Easter Sunrise service  
6:30 am in Gosport,  
April 5, 2026**

## **Friends hear these words from the Gospel of Matthew, chapter 27**

### ***The Guard at the Tomb***

The next day, that is, after the day of Preparation, the chief priests and the Pharisees gathered before Pilate and said, “Sir, we remember what that impostor said while he was still alive, ‘After three days I will rise again.’ Therefore command the tomb to be made secure until the third day; otherwise, his disciples may go and steal him away and tell the people, ‘He has been raised from the dead,’ and the last deception would be worse than the first.” Pilate said to them, “You have a guard of soldiers; go, make it as secure as you can.” So they went with the guard and made the tomb secure by sealing the stone

### ***Time of waiting***

**Sing together three times,  
then observe a moment of silence:**

Wait for the Lord, God’s time is near  
Wait for the Lord, be strong, take heart!

### **(Full minute of silence)**

Reader: Hear these words from the Gospel of Matthew  
**Matthew 28:1-10**

### ***The Resurrection of Jesus***

28 After the Sabbath, as the first day of the week was dawning, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary went to see the tomb. 2 And suddenly there was a great earthquake, for an angel of the Lord, descending from heaven, came and rolled back the stone and sat on it.<sup>3</sup> His appearance

was like lightning and his clothing white as snow. 4 For fear of him the guards shook and became like dead men. 5 But the angel said to the women, “Do not be afraid, for I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. 6 He is not here, for he has been raised, as he said. Come, see the place where he lay. 7 Then go quickly and tell his disciples, ‘He has been raised from the dead, and indeed he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him.’ This is my message for you.” 8 So they left the tomb quickly with fear and great joy and ran to tell his disciples. 9 Suddenly Jesus met them and said, “Greetings!” And they came to him, took hold of his feet, and worshiped him. 10 Then Jesus said to them, “Do not be afraid; go and tell my brothers and sisters to go to Galilee; there they will see me.”

**Response:**

This is the Gospel of the Risen Christ

**Jesus Christ is risen today. Hallelujah! Hallelujah!  
Hallelujah!**

**Hymn: VU 155, Jesus Christ Is Risen Today**

- 1 Jesus Christ is risen today, hallelujah!  
our triumphant holy day, hallelujah!  
who did once, upon the cross, hallelujah!  
suffer to redeem our loss. Hallelujah!
  
- 2 Hymns of praise then let us sing hallelujah!  
unto Christ, our heavenly King, hallelujah!  
who endured the cross and grave, hallelujah!  
sinners to redeem and save. Hallelujah!

- 3 But the pains which he endured, hallelujah!  
our salvation have procured; hallelujah!  
now above the sky he's King, hallelujah!  
where the angels ever sing. Hallelujah!
- 4 Sing we to our God above, hallelujah!  
praise eternal as God's love; hallelujah!  
praise our God, ye heavenly host, hallelujah!  
praise the Son and Holy Ghost. Hallelujah!

Words: Lyra Davidica 1708, et al. Music: Lyra Davidica 1708; descant . Derek Holman  
1971. Descant copyright © 1971 Derek Holman

### **Prayer (from Voices United)**

**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.**

### **Breaking Bread together**

This is the body of Christ broken for you!  
**Thanks be to God.**

### **While we are sharing the meal, let us sing: VU 266, Amazing Grace**

- 1 Amazing grace, how sweet the sound  
\* that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found,  
was blind, but now I see.

- 2 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear,  
and grace my fears relieved;  
how precious did that grace appear  
the hour I first believed.
- 3 Through many dangers, toils, and snares,  
I have already come;  
'tis grace that brought me safe thus far,  
and grace will lead me home.
- 4 The Lord has promised good to me,  
this word my hope secures;  
God will my shield and portion be  
as long as life endures.
- 5 When we've been there ten thousand years,  
bright shining as the sun,  
we've no less days to sing God's praise  
than when we'd first begun.

Words: John Henry Newton 1779, alt; v5 anon. From A Collection of Sacred Ballads. Music: from Virginia Harmony 1831, adapt. And harm. Edwin O. Excell. 1900.

### **Closing Prayer (from Voices United)**

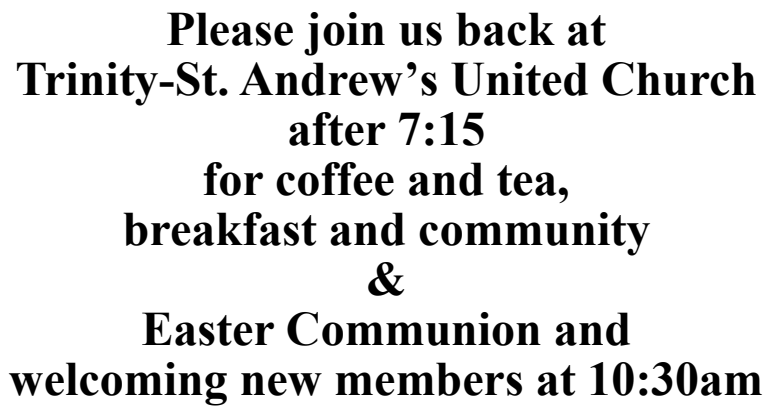
**God of grace and glory,  
by the death and resurrection of your Beloved  
Child  
your reign of wholeness has been unleashed  
within our bent and broken world.  
Open us to your empowering grace  
that we may be bearers of your  
world-redeeming love;  
through the resurrected Christ,  
our dignity, our power, and our peace. Amen.**

## Closing song:

### VU 412 This Is The Day

- 1,4 This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made, that our God has made;  
we will rejoice, we will rejoice,  
and be glad in it, and be glad in it.  
This is the day that our God has made,  
we will rejoice and be glad in it.  
This is the day, this is the day  
that our God has made.
- 2 Open to us, open to us  
your gates, O God, your gates, O God;  
we will go in, we will go in,  
to your holy place, to your holy place.  
Open to us your gates, O God,  
we will go in to your holy place.  
Open to us, open to us  
your gates, O God.
- 3 You are our God, you are our God,  
we will praise your name, we will praise your name;  
we will give thanks, we will give thanks,  
for your faithfulness, for your faithfulness.  
You are our God, we will praise your name,  
we will give thanks for your faithfulness.  
You are our God, you are our God,  
we will praise your name.

Words: v.1 unknown , vv2. R. Gerald Hobbs 1987, 1995. Music; Fijian folk melody, arr. Darryl Nixon 1987. Words v. 2,3 copyright © 1987 , 1995 and arrangement copyright © 1987 Songs for a Gospel People.



**Please join us back at  
Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church  
after 7:15  
for coffee and tea,  
breakfast and community  
&  
Easter Communion and  
welcoming new members at 10:30am**

Trinity-St. Andrew's United Church exists to ensure that all people may grow in their relationship with God through Jesus Christ. We are committed to creating a community where all people are welcome regardless of age, gender, race, sexual orientation, gender identity, differing abilities, ethnic background or economic circumstances. Welcome to our worship today! If you have any questions, our greeters will be happy to assist you. TSA provides a safe and healthy environment for all who enter our building by eliminating or minimizing as much as possible, the use of products and fragrances whose scent or other properties, are known to trigger allergic or other hazardous reactions.



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