

LARGE PRINT ORDER of SERVICE



EASTER SUNDAY: 9:00am and 11:00am

Welcome on April 12, 2009

**Social time with coffee and refreshments follow
our Worship Service in the Social Hall**

We are a house of prayer for all people and are pleased that you're able to join us in worship and celebration at MCC Toronto. Whoever you are, wherever you are from, you are welcome! Even if this is your first time here, you are invited to participate fully in every part of the service as much or as little as you like.

**We are a joyful, spiritual community of people committed to being an inclusive, affirmative, caring church.
Our vision is to be a bridge.**

Phonic Ears for hearing assistance are available from the technical ministry volunteers at the sound booth.

We ask that you kindly turn your cell phone off during service.

Welcome / Life & Work of the Congregation
One Minute Celebrations
Hand of Friendship

At the ❖ symbol, you are asked to rise in body or in spirit.

Prelude

Were You There?

The Choir

Good News Proclamation

Lighting of the Christ Candle

Were You There?

All: Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
Were you there when he rose up from the dead?
Sometimes I feel like shouting glory, glory, glory!
Were you there when he rose up from the dead?

Easter Procession

Alive In Jesus Christ

Processional Hymn ❖

Christ the Lord Has Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Earth and heaven in chorus say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!
Lives again our glorious king, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once our souls to save: Alleluia!
Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!
Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise, Alleluia!
Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted head, Alleluia!
Made like him, like Him we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!
Amen.

Opening Prayer ❖

One: Ever-living God, may your name be praised!

Many: **Before the worlds began, you existed;
and when this created order disappears, you will
continue to be. . . Majesty and Beauty. . . Justice and
Truth . . . Power and Mercy
Because of the boundlessness of your love, you
opened your womb, pouring forth your own inner life,
giving birth to the world, and bestowing life on it like
your own. Moment by moment, your Spirit continues
to surge through all that is, continually renewing the
creative act with which it all began.
Today we celebrate your mighty act which restored
life to Jesus.
Like the people on that day, we can scarcely believe
this report;
Yet your own living power within us confirms the truth
of the ancient Easter story.
Ever-living God, may your name be praised.
Amen.**

**Anthem
Festival Sanctus**

Prayers of the People

At this time you are invited to name people or circumstances as prayer requests out loud, at the appropriate times (⌘), as you feel comfortable.

One: Gracious God, your abundance surrounds us and sustains us. We thank you for gifts of friendship and new beginnings, for life as it unfolds and new opportunities for growth (⌘) ... God of grace,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of hope, in our lives and in our world there are many troubled by concerns. Some face the uncertainty and pain of illness. Some wrestle with anxiety and fear, about work, about relationships and about themselves. We pray that your healing love may touch these lives (⌘) ... God of hope,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Spirit of compassion, be with us as we face losses in our lives. Where there is disappointment, lead us to joy. Where there is grief, fill us with your peace. Where there is death, help us to say good-bye for now and not for ever. We pray for (⌘) ... God of compassion,

Many: We know you hear our prayers.

One: Breath of the Universe, you have created us for joy. Open our minds to the gracious promptings of your Spirit, increase our trust and guide our hearts in the ways of the truth.

Many: God of many names, you transform us by grace and renew us in peace.

Amen, Amen, Amen!

Sacred Readings

John 12: 23-25

One: Alleluia!

Many: Alleluia!

One: Jesus said to the people,
"Love each other as God loves you."

Many: Alleluia!

John 3: 1-7

One: These are sacred readings.
May they comfort us, inspire us, and challenge us.

Many: Thanks be to God.

**Many: Glory to God all around us,
And to all creation peace!
O God all loving, we thank you
And give praise to you for your glory.
Jesus Christ, one with God,
Guide us, and show us the way.
For you O God are the holy one,
You O God are most high.
To Jesus Christ our trusted friend
And Holy Spirit evermore,
Be blessing and honour and glory,
Be all blessing and honour and glory,
Amen, Amen, Amen!**

Lessons for Life

8 Life Changing Messages from Jesus: From Death to Life

Rev. Dr. Brent Hawkes, C.M.

In many traditions these are called sermons. Lessons for Life are meant to inspire you in your spiritual journey and to challenge you to find ways to put your faith into action. CDs of the Lessons for Life are available at the Information Centre and webcasts (8 week archive) are available at www.MCCToronto.com.

Time of Reconciliation

Anointing, Flow Through Me

Anointing, flow through me

Anointing, flow through me

Let the power of your healing spirit, flow through me

Anointing, flow through me

Prayer of Reconciliation

One: Jesus showed us a way to a new relationship with God, freeing us from whatever binds us, reconciling us with God, with each other, and with ourselves.
And so we pray:

Many: **God, we recognize those times
when we have separated ourselves
from you and each other.**

**We have not always cared for, respected and loved
our world, our neighbour, or ourselves.**

**We have sinned by things we have done,
and by things we have left undone.**

**We open our hearts again to the renewal,
the forgiveness and the freedom you offer...**

A time is provided for silent reflection or confession.

Affirmation of Freedom

One: Hear the good news, God saying to us, "Behold, I make all things new!" In every moment, you are loved, and so you are forgiven, free in the name of God who created you, who dwells within you, and who goes with you always. Amen.

Invitation to Time of Anointing

As we sing together please come forward freely alone or with a friend to receive an anointing for healing so that God's love might transform us in body and spirit. A volunteer will anoint your forehead with oil and offer you a brief blessing.

I Will Pledge This Song to You

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Ev'ry dream I've known, ev'ry heartache, too,
They have all been shared with you
All the times I've failed been untrue to you
I have known your mercy, too.

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Now the way shines clear and your presence here
Gives me strength to carry through
Lord, you are my way
And so ev'ry day I will pledge this song to you

You are holy, you are holy, and my life is in your hands
You are worthy, you are worthy, take my life and all I am

Here I Am Lord

I the Lord of sea and sky.
I have heard my people cry.
All who dwell in shadows now
My hand will save.
I who made the stars of night,
I will make their shadows bright.
Who will bear my light to them?
Whom shall I send?

(chorus)

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
I have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

I the Lord of snow and rain,
I have borne my people's pain.
I have wept for love of them.
They turn away.
I will break their hearts of stone.
Give them hearts for love alone.
I will speak my Word to them.
Whom shall I send? ***(chorus)***

I the Lord of wind and flame,
I will tend the poor and lame.
I will set a feast for them.
My hand will save.
Finest bread I will provide
Till their hearts be satisfied.
I will give my life to them.
Whom shall I send? ***(chorus)***

Jesus' Prayer ❖

**Many: Our creator, who art in heaven,
hallowed be thy name;
thy dominion come;
thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our debts,
as we forgive our debtors.
And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil;
for thine is dominion,
and the power and the glory,
for ever. Amen.**

Offertory

Stephanie Martin

Read about Stephanie on page 2 of Sunday News.

Building Bridges

As we gather our gifts, we celebrate the difference God makes in people's lives through our life as community.

It is only with your generosity that MCC Toronto continues to be a thriving spiritual home. Gifts can be made via credit card, cheque or automatic withdrawal. Other options include publicly traded securities, such as stocks, bonds and mutual funds. MCC Toronto is a registered charity, so we are able to issue tax receipts for the gifts we receive. For more information please visit www.cra.gc.ca/donors, and see your financial advisor to help you make the decision that is right for you.

**One: ...the ushers will come forward to receive our tithes,
and offerings.**

Gathering of our Gifts

Our Journey of Faith

Many: Take a look around you, what do you see?
A world in need of comfort and peace.
We have a vision, we have a way.
Come walk beside us on our journey of faith.
Build a bridge of hope.
Make a path of understanding.
Plant a seed of truth.
Watch it grow. Help it grow.
We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.

Blessing of Gifts

One: God, we offer these gifts out of our abundance to your work in this community. Your love frees us to be generous with each other and inspires us to action as we build bridges in this place and from this place to a world hungry for hope, for justice, and for peace. And so we commission these gifts to your service in the world.

Many: We're building bridges together
On our journey of faith.

Celebration of Holy Communion

We celebrate an open Communion. When you come forward, a volunteer will dip the wafer in the juice, place it in your mouth and offer you a brief blessing. We serve only non-alcoholic wine and the wafers are 100% wheat. We celebrate a variety of understandings about communion and so we believe the bread and juice are transformed in community to be spiritual nourishment for all people. As another way of respecting our Bedrock Belief that there are many paths to God, if you would like a non-Christ centered blessing, simply approach the volunteer with your arms crossed over your chest.

NEW: Self-Administered Communion

Separate communion tables will be set up at the centre back of the Sanctuary on the ground floor and under our DNA banners upstairs.

Instructions for self-administered Communion:

- :: Please cleanse your hands with a drop of sanitary liquid.
- :: Remove the linen
- :: (If you wish) lightly dip host in de-alcoholized wine.
- :: Consume host.
- :: Silent blessing example:
"Know that God loves you unconditionally and is ever-present with you. Amen."
- :: If you are waiting, please maintain an atmosphere of calm reflection as others receive.
- :: Replace the linen

Note: Hosts have been consecrated and are holy. If dropped, please pick-up and consume the wafer; or set it aside on the plate provided, for Altar Guild attention.

One: God is with you.

Many: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

Many: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God.

Many: It is right to give thanks and praise.

One: It is a right and good and joyful thing, always and everywhere, to give thanks to you, loving God, Creator of heaven and earth. Therefore, we praise you, joining our voices with all the company of heaven who forever sing to proclaim the glory of your Name.

Many: Holy, holy, holy one; my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you, holy are you God!
Saint, Saint, Saint Très-Haut, mon coeur te donne louange,
Mon Dieu, mon coeur proclame avec joie,
Tu es le seul Éternel.

One: On the night you were betrayed, you took the bread,
After giving thanks you broke it and said,
"This is my body, broken for you,
And as you do this, remember me."

Many: **"This is my body, broken for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: On the night you were betrayed you held the cup.
After giving thanks, you lifted it up.
"This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."

Many: **"This is my life, poured out for you,
And as you do this, remember me."**

One: So we thank you for the cup and for the bread,
For we see the love you gave and the life you led.
And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.

Many: **And we remember your wondrous love,
You gave your body, you showed your love.**

One: Let us now proclaim the Mystery of our Faith:

Many: **Christ has died!
Christ is risen!
Christ will come again!**

Invitation to God's Table

As others receive, please maintain an atmosphere of calm reflection, and join in singing the communion hymns.

Give Us This Day

Give us this day our daily bread;
You said you would supply all my needs, according to your riches.
I have but to ask, and I shall receive.
To go from here and share this love you've given me,
To show the ones who're lost and help them find the way,
The way to truth and love, so they can be free.
O God, we need your love!
O God, we need your peace!
O God, we need your joy, so we can be free!
Give us this day our daily bread.

There's a Spirit in the Air

There's a Spirit in the air,
Telling people everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world.

Lose your shyness, find your tongue;
Tell the world what God has done:
God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see God's power today.

When believers break the bread,
When a hungry child is fed:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world.

Still God's Spirit leads the fight,
Seeing wrong and setting right:

God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see God's power today.

When a stranger's not alone,
Where the homeless find a home:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world.

May God's Spirit fill our praise,
Guide our thoughts and change our ways.
God in Christ has come to stay.
We can see God's power today.

There's a Spirit in the air,
Calling people everywhere:
Praise the love that Christ revealed,
Living, working in our world.

I Come With Joy

I come with joy to meet my Lord,
Forgiven, loved and free,
In awe and wonder to recall
His life laid down for me,
His life laid down for me.

I come with all from far and near
To find, as all are fed,
The new community of love
In Christ's communion bread,
In Christ's communion bread.

As Christ breaks bread and bids us share,
Each proud division ends.
The love that made us, makes us one,

And strangers now are friends,
And strangers now are friends.

And thus with joy we meet our Lord.
His presence, always near,
Is in such friendship better known;
We see and praise him here;
We see and praise him here.

Together met, together bound,
We'll go our different ways,
And as his people in the world,
We'll live and speak his praise,
We'll live and speak his praise.

Softly and Tenderly

Softly and tenderly Jesus is calling,
Calling for you and for me;
See at the portals he's waiting and watching,
Watching for you and for me.

(chorus)

Come home, come home,
All who are weary, come home;
Earnestly, tenderly Jesus is calling
Calling, "O people, come home!"

Why should we tarry when Jesus is pleading,
Pleading for you and for me?
Why should we linger and heed not God's mercies,
Mercies for you and for me? ***(chorus)***

Time is now fleeting, the moments are passing,
Passing from you and from me;

Shadows are gathering, death's night is coming,
Coming for you and for me. (**chorus**)

O for the wonderful love he has promised,
Promised for you and for me;
Though we have sinned he has mercy and pardon,
Pardon for you and for me. (**chorus**)

Alleluia

Because You Live ❖

Benediction ❖

Many: Amen, Amen, Amen!

Closing Words ❖

Closing Song ❖

Rejoice, Give Thanks and Sing

Rejoice, give thanks and sing;
Your sovereign God adore!
For Christ has robbed death's sting
and triumphs evermore.
Lift up your heart,
lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.

Our Saviour Jesus reigns,
the God of truth and love;
The one who purged our sins
is crowned with power above.
Lift up your heart,
lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.

Christ Jesus cannot fail
to rule both earth and heaven;
The keys of death and hell
Are to the Saviour given.
Lift up your heart,
lift up your voice!
Rejoice, again, I say, rejoice.

Rejoice in glorious hope,
for Jesus Christ shall come,
And take the faithful up
to their eternal home.
We soon shall hear
A heavenly voice
Above the trumpet's sound, "Rejoice!"

Please join us in the Social Hall

Following our service, please join us for refreshments and to meet others. Also find out about events at the Information Centre, and more!

If you have any questions about this service, ask a Deacon.

We care, and we're here to listen

If you would like to pray with someone following today's service please approach the deacon who will be at the front of the sanctuary near the Communion table on the main floor.

We're with you in prayer

You can send in a prayer request in any one of four ways:

1. Through the **prayer book** located in the Chapel,
2. Call **(416) 406-6228 x 114**,
3. Send an e-mail to: **care@mcctoronto.com**, or
4. Through the link on the front page of our website at:
www.MCCToronto.com

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www.mcctoronto.com

Metropolitan Community Church of Toronto
115 Simpson Avenue, Toronto, Ontario M4K 1A1
Tel: (416) 406-6228 Fax: (416) 466-5207
www.mcctoronto.com / info@mcctoronto.com