



ORDER OF WORSHIP

Second Sunday of Easter – April 27, 2025 – 10:30 am

*You are invited to say or sing the bold print

WE GATHER TO WORSHIP

PRELUDE:

Colleen Dearham

WELCOME & NEWS

Anne Snell

How are you today? **We are blessed and highly favoured.**

ACKNOWLEDGING THE LAND

For many years, indigenous folk took care of the land on which we settlers worship today. We newcomers are part of a group that has made promises that were not kept. We are called to walk a path of reconciliation with First Nations, sharing wisdom and growing in faith together.

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE

Rev. Nina Fulford

WE PRAISE AND PRAY

^CALL TO WORSHIP -Responsive

Locked doors will not keep you out;

You want to bring us your peace;

Come, O Risen One. Come into our hearts,

Be with us in our worship, today.

^ PRAYER OF APPROACH: (IN UNISON)

Loving and Powerful God, we come filled with doubt, with fear about what faith will demand, with emptiness and lack of enthusiasm and energy for your demands. May this time of worship fill us with your Holy Spirit that we may have courage to take your forgiving love into the world. Breathe life into us, we pray. Amen

Nina Fulford

^HYMN: VU #341 "Fairest Lord Jesus"

CRUSADERS' HYMN

^ PRAYER OF CONFESSION: (IN UNISON)

Loving and Forgiving Lord, you ask us to forgive when others cause us pain. You ask us to take the first step in healing and reconciliation. You ask us to put aside our tendency to hold onto past hurts, to put the past behind us and to walk confidently into renewed relationships. But we hang back. We hang onto the pain. We hang onto our rights. We hang onto what we deserve. Forgive us, Jesus.

Nina Fulford

(Silent prayer)

^ ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS: (IN UNISON)

You offer us strength to forgive as we have been forgiven. You breathe your loving Spirit into our dry souls and transform us. In Jesus Christ we are forgiven – let us share that forgiveness with all.

Nina Fulford

SPECIAL MUSIC: "I Need Thee Every Hour " Rev Robert Lowry Arr. By Julie A.Lind *Sharon Saint*

^HYMN: VU #382 "Breathe on Me, Breath of God"

TRENTHAM

THEME TIME: "THE CROSS IS EMPTY"

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

^PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION: (in unison) God of Wisdom, open our eyes to your presence in the words of Holy Scripture. Amen

Nina Fulford

John 20:19-31 Good News Translation (*Jesus Appears to His Disciples in a locked room*)
& Acts 5:27-32 Good News Translation (*The Apostles say they only answer to God*)

Anne Snell

John 20:19-31

¹⁹ It was late that Sunday evening, and the disciples were gathered together behind locked doors, because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities. Then Jesus came and stood among them. "Peace be with you," he said.

²⁰ After saying this, he showed them his hands and his side. The disciples were filled with joy at seeing the Lord.

²¹ Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I send you."

²² Then he breathed on them and said, "Receive the Holy Spirit.

²³ If you forgive people's sins, they are forgiven; if you do not forgive them, they are not forgiven."

Jesus and Thomas

²⁴ One of the twelve disciples, Thomas (called the Twin), was not with them when Jesus came.

²⁵ So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord!"

Thomas said to them, “Unless I see the scars of the nails in his hands and put my finger on those scars and my hand in his side, I will not believe.

²⁶ A week later the disciples were together again indoors, and Thomas was with them. The doors were locked, but Jesus came and stood among them and said, “Peace be with you.”

²⁷ Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here, and look at my hands; then reach out your hand and put it in my side. Stop your doubting, and believe!”

²⁸ Thomas answered him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Do you believe because you see me? How happy are those who believe without seeing me!”

The Purpose of This Book

³⁰ In his disciples' presence Jesus performed many other miracles which are not written down in this book.

³¹ But these have been written in order that you may believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through your faith in him you may have life.

Acts 5:27-32 (The Apostles say they only answer to God)

²⁷ They brought the apostles in, made them stand before the Council, and the High Priest questioned them.

²⁸ “We gave you strict orders not to teach in the name of this man,” he said; “but see what you have done! You have spread your teaching all over Jerusalem, and you want to make us responsible for his death!”

²⁹ Peter and the other apostles answered, “We must obey God, not men.

³⁰ The God of our ancestors raised Jesus from death, after you had killed him by nailing him to a cross

³¹ God raised him to his right side as Leader and Savior, to give the people of Israel the opportunity to repent and have their sins forgiven.

³² We are witnesses to these things—we and the Holy Spirit, who is God's gift to those who obey him.”

*This is life-giving Word, for the People of God. **Thanks be to God.***

REFLECTION: "Opening The Locks"

Rev. Nina

WE RESPOND TO GOD

^HYMN: VU #373 "As Comes the Breath of Spring"

DENBY

OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

DOXOLOGY: VU#540 "Grant Us, God, the Grace"

STUTTGART

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (in unison)

In gratitude we offer these gifts. May they be transformed by your grace into service for others. Amen

Nina Fulford

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Nina

LORD'S PRAYER (VU#921)

WE GO TO BE GOD'S PEOPLE IN COMMUNITY

COMMISSIONING (responsive)

The breath of God gives life;

Let us use the life we are given!

The breath of God brings peace;

Peace that we can share;

The breath of God fills us with new life

**Abundant, generous, loving,
life that dares to risk for others**

^BENEDICTION

Rev. Nina

^HYMN: MV #28 "God of the Bible"

POSTLUDE: "I Dance in the Morning" vu 352

Sharon Saint

(We remain grateful for the offerings given today and electronically)

WORSHIP LEADERSHIP

Welcome to Worship at Collier Street United Church.

We are glad you have joined us today in person and online, our worship leaders are:

Rev. Nina Fulford - Guest Worship Leader/Preacher

John Charles (Music Director) & Senior Choir – Music leadership

Terry Tizzard & Mark Sporich – Audio & Visual Projections