



Sunday April 7, 2024  
Second Sunday of Easter

St. Paul's Anglican Church, Uxbridge



Prelude

*Adagio Symphony #5*

Widor

## THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Processional Hymn

*That Eastertide with Joy Was Bright*

CP 231

## Land Acknowledgement

Together we say

**The Township of Uxbridge is situated on the traditional territory of the Huron-Wendat, Haudenosaunee, Mississauga, and Chippewa (Anishinaabe) people. We acknowledge that these lands are covered under the Williams Treaties and are home to many Indigenous communities. We honour, recognize, and respect this nation and Indigenous Peoples as the traditional stewards of the lands and waters on which we now live, work, and play.** (Township of Uxbridge)

**Welcome ...** Good morning. My name is Robin Dhillon. As Richard is on vacation, I will be officiating for our worship this morning. I invite us to take a moment of silence to prepare ourselves to enter into our worship as we ask God to quiet our souls that we may hear Him speaking to us.

*Moment of quiet*

## Call to Worship

**Officiant:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ and the love of God and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with each of us this day and always. **Amen**

**Officiant:** As we begin our worship this day we remember what brings us here.

**All:** **We come seeking peace, hope and a renewing of our faith and God's Spirit in us.**

**Officiant:** This is the house of the Lord. Here we will find what we seek.

**All:** **Help us to open our hearts to God's words and will for us.**

**Officiant:** When we ask for God's help - it will be given to us.

**All:** **Praise be to God who loves and cares for us.**

## Opening Prayer

**Officiant:** God of Hope, we have come this day asking for your mercy. Grant us your pardon. We have come this day seeking peace in our lives. Teach us how to be compassionate disciples for you. We ask this in Christ's name. **Amen.**

## Prayer of Confession

**Officiant:** Let us offer our prayer of confession, saying together

**All:** **God of mercy and compassion, we come before you in honesty about ourselves and our lives. We know we have been unfaithful to you and have not always lived out our baptismal covenant. For our wandering, wayward ways, hear our confessions of sin and selfishness and offer us your forgiveness. We ask for forgiveness and the strength to live each day as your children, as your very people, the Church. We pray to Christ our redeemer as we confess our need in the hope of our salvation and redemption. Amen.**

## Words of Assurance

**Officiant:** Jesus said, "Seek and you will find. Knock and the door will be opened to you. Ask and it will be given to you. God has promised us grace and forgiveness in the love of Jesus Christ. May we receive God's mercy and live the life God desires. In Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

## Collect Prayer

**Officiant:** Almighty and eternal God, the strength of those who believe and the hope of those who doubt, may we, who have not seen, have faith and receive the fullness of Christ's blessing, who is alive and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## Prayer of Illumination

**Officiant:** God of wisdom, as we listen to the Scriptures today, fill our hearts and minds with your living Word, so that our faith in Christ will grow stronger as we build our lives on him. **Amen.**

## THE PROCLAMATION OF THE WORD

**First Reading**      A Reading from the Book of the Acts of the Apostles

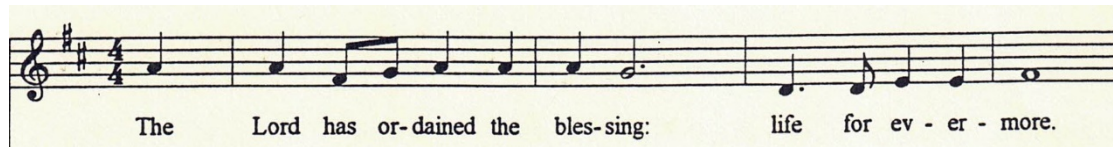
Now the whole group of those who believed were of one heart and soul, and no one claimed private ownership of any possessions, but everything they owned was held in common. With great power the apostles gave their testimony to the resurrection of the Lord Jesus, and great grace was upon them all. There was not a needy person among

them, for as many as owned lands or houses sold them and brought the proceeds of what was sold. They laid it at the apostles' feet, and it was distributed to each as any had need.  
(Acts 4:32-35)

**Reader:** May we hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**People:** Thanks be to God

**Psalm 133**            **refrain:**



**Gospel Reading** – A reading from the Gospel of John

When it was evening on that day, the first day of the week, and the doors of the house where the disciples had met were locked for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. Then the disciples rejoiced when they saw the Lord. Jesus said to them again, "Peace be with you. As the Father has sent me, so I send you." When he had said this, he breathed on them and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the sins of any, they are retained." But Thomas (who was called the Twin), one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. So the other disciples told him, "We have seen the Lord." But he said to them, "Unless I see the mark of the nails in his hands, and put my finger in the mark of the nails and my hand in his side, I will not believe." A week later his disciples were again in the house, and Thomas was with them. Although the doors were shut, Jesus came and stood among them and said, "Peace be with you." Then he said to Thomas, "Put your finger here and see my hands. Reach out your hand and put it in my side. Do not doubt but believe." Thomas answered him, "My Lord and my God!" Jesus said to him, "Have you believed because you have seen me? Blessed are those who have not seen and yet have come to believe." Now Jesus did many other signs in the presence of his disciples, which are not written in this book. But these are written so that you may come to believe that Jesus is the Messiah, the Son of God, and that through believing you may have life in his name. (John 20:19-31)

**Reader:** May we hear what the Spirit is saying to God's people

**People:** Thanks be to God

**Reflection**

**The Apostles Creed**

**Officiant:** Let us confess the faith of our baptism saying,

**All:** **I believe in God, the Father Almighty, Creator of Heaven and earth; and in Jesus Christ, His only Son Our Lord, who was conceived by the power of the Holy Spirit, born of the Virgin Mary, suffered under Pontius Pilate, was crucified, died, and was buried. He descended into Hell; the third day He rose again from the dead; He ascended into Heaven, and sitteth at the right hand of God, the Father almighty; from thence He shall come to judge the living and the dead. I believe in the Holy Spirit, the holy Catholic Church, the communion of saints, the forgiveness of sins, the resurrection of the body and life everlasting. Amen.**

**Choir Anthem**

*Come With Dancing*

Beaudoin

### **Prayers of the People**

#### **The Lord's Prayer**

**Officiant:** As Jesus taught us, we pray together

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory; for ever and ever. Amen**

**Offertory Hymn**

*Praise the One Who Breaks the Darkness*

CP 397

#### **Offertory Prayers**

**Officiant:** God responds to our needs and requests with great generosity. Such is God's great love. Let us share God's love with others through the offering we present this day.

Let us pray

Generous God, we give you our gifts, thankful that your love is overflowing. Bless our offerings so that your love will flow through them to meet the needs of those who cry out to you and to us, in Jesus' name we pray. **Amen.**

#### **Closing Prayer**

**Officiant:** Almighty God, you have given us grace at this time with one accord to make our common supplication to you; and you have promised through your well-beloved Son that when two or three are gathered together in his Name you will hear their requests: Fulfill now, O Lord, our desires and

petitions as may be best for us; granting us in this world knowledge of your truth, and in the age to come life everlasting. **Amen.**

### **Blessing**

**Officiant:** As we conclude our worship today, may we know that we have been given the blessing of God's unfailing love. As we leave this time together, may we feel God's strength within us to face the challenges of the coming week. As we return to our daily lives, may we be committed to the pursuit of peace, revealing to all the world that we are all God's beloved children.  
**Amen.**

### **Recessional Hymn**

*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

**CP 215**

### **Dismissal**

**Officiant:** Beloved of God, we are healed and forgiven by God's grace and mercy. God has poured His love upon us that we may be faithful disciples, offering healing love and compassion to all we meet. May we go in peace and may God's peace always be with us.

Let us bless the Lord. Alleluia!

**All: Thanks be to God. Alleluia!**

**(to be sung by all)**

*Go Now in Peace*

Besig

**Go now in peace ... never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.  
Amen.**

### **Postlude**

*Toccata Symphony #5*

Widor

