L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**2nd Sunday of Easter**

**April 7th, 2024**

**Year B**

**Colour** *White or Gold*

**Scripture Readings**

Acts 4:32-35

Psalm 133

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

**Hymns**

248 – At the dawning of salvation

249 – The day of resurrection

93 – O look and wonder (Psalm 133)

254 – Jesus is risen from the grave (choose verses related to readings)

261 – Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah! (verses 1, 4-8)

256 – Now the green blade rises

**Call to Worship**

We gather with joy, for Easter continues.

**Locked doors have been opened and fear has turned to peace.**

We celebrate the presence of the Risen Christ among us.

**Doubts can be erased and uncertainty turned to faith.**

Let us rejoice and be glad!

**We offer our prayers and praise with humble, hopeful hearts.**

**Prayers of Adoration** **and Confession**

God of new life,

we come to you, rejoicing in the mystery of the

Risen Christ, present among us always, even when we least expect him.

We marvel at your constant love,

your victory over death,

and your resurrecting hope which embraces us in every circumstance.

Trusting in these gifts,

we seek to live as Easter people in every time and place.

Fill us with the gift of your

Holy Spirit in this time of worship,

and grant us your peace through Christ, our Risen Saviour.

**Merciful God,**

**we confess our trust in you can weaken,**

**and we become anxious about many things.**

**We talk about love,**

**but we fear those who differ from us.**

**We cling to our personal agendas,**

**and neglect your call to serve others,**

**especially when that service costs us something.**

**Forgive us.**

**Through the power of your Holy Spirit,**

**rekindle our passion for you,**

**so we can witness to your love in all we do. Amen.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear the words of the risen Christ: Peace be with you.

Receive the peace and forgiveness of Christ,

and share that peace with one another this day and every day. Amen.

**Prayer for Understanding**

Breathe your Spirit upon us, O Lord, as we listen to the Scriptures. Open our minds and hearts to receive your Living Word, and fill us with renewed hope. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

In this season of Easter, we celebrate God’s precious gift to us in Christ’s dying and rising. As we present our gifts to God, may our generosity reflect God’s goodness to us and the hope we have found in Christ Jesus.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God, thank you for the hope we can claim in your resurrecting power. Bless the gifts we bring so they may spread that hope in the world you love. In the name of your greatest gift, Jesus Christ, we pray. **Amen**

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

Thank you, loving God, for your renewing presence in our lives,

and for the many ways you make yourself known to us:

in words spoken in peace,

in actions that embody love,

in creation that awakens wonder within us,

and in worship that inspires faith and understanding.

With memories of the grace you have shown us,

and with confidence in you will yet show us more,

we pray that all people will come to know the life-giving joy we find in Christ.

We pray for those who are feeling fearful, worried, or overwhelmed,

in these days of economic pressure and uncertainty. *(Brief pause.)*

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

We pray for those who face violence and unrest each day,

in countries around the world *(You may name places in the current news)*

and in our own community. *(Brief pause.)*

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

We pray for our national, provincial, and municipal leaders

as they seek solutions to the challenges in our common life. *(Brief pause.)*

Give them wisdom and compassion.

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

We pray for our congregation, for churches in our community,

and for Christians around the world,

especially those facing persecution and danger. *(Brief pause.)*

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

We pray for our neighbours,

especially those struggling with rising costs and scarce housing,

and those who know rejection and discrimination. *(Brief pause.)*

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

We pray for those who are ill, in pain or in grief.

We remember before you, silently or aloud, those on our hearts today:

*Silence for 20-30 seconds.*

Bring them comfort and strength,

Lord Jesus,

**Reveal to them your risen presence.**

God our Maker, hear our prayers,

and use us in ways we may not yet even imagine

to respond to those around us with the love we see in Jesus Christ.

With hopeful hearts we offer the prayer that he taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**Commissioning and Benediction**

Go in faith, with the peace of Christ within you,

to witness to his kindness in the world.

And may God’s resurrecting love open the future for you,

empowered by the Spirit,

and embraced by the presence of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP**

**Mission Moment – Sunday, April 7**

Katia Bien-Aime, a senior nurse and coordinator for a nutrition program in Haiti, recalls a time when a significant number of children failed to return for follow-up care after initial treatment at the nutrition clinic. She knew something needed to be done. In response, PWS&D’s partner, who also runs the original clinic, decided to begin mobile clinics. Today, these mobile units have proven successful in bridging the gap and allowing healthcare providers to get closer to their patients, easier follow-ups and enabling the delivery of crucial basic medical care directly to villages and homes. “It worked,” Katia says. “We were able to get to the really sick kids faster and earlier.” In addition, the mobile units provide tools to make water safe for drinking and to promote better sanitation and hygiene practices.

**DAILY PRAYERS**

**Sunday, April 7** We pray for PWS&D partners who are compassionately walking alongside those suffering from tuberculosis, HIV, leprosy and malaria. May their collective journey toward health and prosperity be filled with strength, support and positive outcomes.

**Monday, April 8** We pray for the Assembly Council as it meets to prepare reports for the upcoming General Assembly, that it will focus on the hopes and possibilities of Christ’s church as we continue in ministry and mission together.

**Tuesday, April 9** We pray for Jill Foster and the ministry of healing and reconciliation she does with Indigenous people, organizations and communities, and her partnership with churches in the Montreal area.

**Wednesday, April 10** On this International Day of Pink, we pray for an end to bullying against the 2SLGBTQIA+ community, and for greater acceptance of diversity, equality, and inclusivity.

**Thursday, April 11** We pray for ministers who are on inter-mission that they will be blessed by a sabbath time where they can be open to the presence of the Holy One in their lives.

**Friday, April 12** We pray for Crieff Hills Retreat Centre, Executive Director Kristine O’Brien and staff as they offer warm hospitality in Jesus’ name.

**Saturday, April 13** As the Women’s Missionary Society synodicals meet for their annual meetings, we pray for the Rev. Sarah Kim, who has been the Executive Director of the WMS since September 2001.