



**LAKE OF BAYS PASTORAL CHARGE**  
Pioneer, Hillside –10:30am

**Sunday Worship, March 31, 2024**  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

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**WE GATHER**

**Lighting of the Christ Candle**  
**Acknowledgement of the Land**

**Introit:** Behold, behold, I make all things new MV#115

"Behold, behold I make all things new,  
beginning with you and starting from today.  
Behold, behold I make all things new,  
my promise is true for I am Christ the way."

### **Call to Worship:**

Lord of new life and new beginnings!

Lord of healing and hope!

We gather to rejoice!

**We gather to sing praise!**

**We gather to worship you a Christ!**

All of nature proclaims your rising.

Even the stones are shouting out!

**Hear us as we too shout**

**loud hosannas and hallelujahs! Amen.**

### **Opening Hymn: Christ the Lord is Risen Today VU #157**

- 1 Christ the Lord is risen today, Hallelujah!  
all creation join to say; Hallelujah!  
raise your joys and triumphs high; Hallelujah!  
sing, O heavens, and earth reply: Hallelujah!
- 2 Love's redeeming work is done, Hallelujah!  
fought the fight, the battle won. Hallelujah!  
Lo, our sun's eclipse is o'er! Hallelujah!  
Lo, he dwells in death no more! Hallelujah!
- 3 Lives again our glorious King: Hallelujah!  
where, O death, is now your sting? Hallelujah!  
Once he died, our souls to save: Hallelujah!  
where your victory, O grave? Hallelujah!
- 4 Hail, the Lord of earth and heaven, Hallelujah!  
praise to you by both be given! Hallelujah!  
Every knee to you shall bow, Hallelujah!  
risen Christ, triumphant now. Hallelujah!

### **Prayer of Approach**

We come with hope and expectation.

**We bring our heart's desire.**

We come with the longing in our souls

**We bring our hunger for life**

We come seeking God's Wisdom.

**We bring all our questions and our doubts**

**We bring all our hopes and our fears.**

## **WE LISTEN**

**Scripture Reading: Mark 16:1-8**

Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

**All: Thanks be to God.**

**Gradual Hymn: In the Bulb There is a Flower VU#703**

1 In the bulb there is a flower;  
in the seed, an apple tree;  
in cocoons, a hidden promise:  
butterflies will soon be free!  
In the cold and snow of winter  
there's a spring that waits to be,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

2 There's a song in every silence,  
seeking word and melody;  
there's a dawn in every darkness,  
bringing hope to you and me.  
From the past will come the future;  
what it holds, a mystery,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

3 In our end is our beginning;  
in our time, infinity;  
in our doubt there is believing;  
in our life, eternity.  
In our death, a resurrection;  
at the last, a victory,  
unrevealed until its season,  
something God alone can see.

**Easter Story: The Seed who was afraid to die (same as last year but with images projected for all to see.)**

## **WE RESPOND**

### **Call for Offering**

### **Offertory Hymn "We Give You But Your Own" VU# 542**

We give you but your own,  
whate'er the gift may be;  
all that we have is yours alone,  
we give it gratefully.

Prayer of Dedication

### **Prayers of the People: Paraphrase of Jesus' prayer VU#916**

### **Closing Hymn: We Shall Go Out with Hope of Resurrection VU #586**

1 We shall go out with hope of resurrection;  
we shall go out, from strength to strength go on;  
we shall go out and tell our stories boldly;  
tales of a love that will not let us go.  
We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted;  
we'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed;  
we'll weave a cloth of all the world united  
within the vision of new life in Christ.

2 We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken;  
we'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed;  
we'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer,  
expressive love alive in every heart.  
We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping,  
raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief,  
we'll leap and dance the resurrection story,  
including all in circles of our love.

### **Commissioning and Benediction**

God of Easter  
send us forth to live the power of resurrection,  
that we and all creation  
might be one with the living Christ;  
to whom with you and the Spirit, one holy God,  
All may be blessed, now and forever. Amen.

**Ongoing Stewardship Options:**

- 1. In person and on the plate. (Each congregation has a different practice around this but you can't miss it!)**
- 2. Via PAR (preauthorized remittance). You don't have to think about it again. Money is withdrawn monthly**
- 3. By e-transfer. The email address for donations via e-transfer is [lobunitedchurches@gmail.com](mailto:lobunitedchurches@gmail.com) In the subject line/comment identify to which church you wish to donate, Pioneer, Hillside, Stewart, Dwight or Knox in Dorset.**
- 4. By cheque: If you send a cheque, please make it out to Lake of Bays Pastoral Charge and mail it to: LOB United Churches, P.O. Box 196, Dwight, ON, P0A 1H0, specifying for which church the donation is intended. Thank you.**