



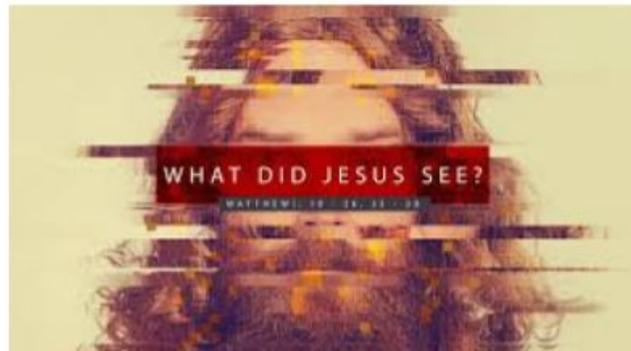
Second Sunday of Easter - A  
April 19, 2020  
Liking Jesus and Being Like  
Jesus

Key Scripture: John 20:21

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

Theme:

Sent Like Jesus



*Welcome All*

† Newcomers please sign our guestbook 

† Special requests may be made through Facebook 

[Contact Us](#)

† Trinity is Welcoming, Open, Inclusive and Accessible.

- Trinity is an Affirming Congregation and is inclusive of folk who find themselves a part of what is described as “LGBTQ+”
- Our church building is closed but our Congregation is Open and Active in a Ministry of Prayer, Service and Care
- Church business will be conducted remotely as much as possible
- Worship will be recorded and posted to FaceBook and our WebPage

## Welcome and Announcements

This week's Phone Tree Message - 15 April 2020 -

### ○ Comfort

Norma Wrightly faithfully sends out a devotion each day by email. They are quite wonderful and should be shared broadly. This is the devotion Norma shared today -

**Much More** - by John Edgerton, Lead Pastor at First United Church of Oak Park, Illinois.

*I will not die but live, and will proclaim what the Lord has done. I am chastened severely, but God has not given me over to death. - Psalm 118:17-18 (NIV)*

April 15th is a special day to me.

On April 15th, 2013, the Boston Marathon was being run. It is one of the oldest peaceful international competitions in the world, and it is the best-attended sporting event in New England by a wide margin. The church I served at that time, Old South Church, sits a quarter of a block from the finish line of the Boston Marathon. We would celebrate the marathon every year and do it to the nines. Hundreds of runners would come to our service for a blessing the day before the marathon.

In 2013, however, the marathon was cut short by a pair of bomb blasts. The days that followed involved a city-wide manhunt; it was the first time I heard the phrase "shelter in place." People were frightened. Their sense of what was normal was shattered.

Afterward, people had a lot of questions.

Would the traditions of the marathon survive? Would the celebratory spirit of the race continue? The following year, 2014, we had our answer: the race was never the same.

It was much more wonderful.

The largest field of runners ever applied. World-class runners (always the toast of the town) shared the spotlight with ordinary people like Carlos Arredondo who had heroically saved people's lives by rushing into danger. The traditions that were dearest became dearer still.

That is the resurrection power of God – life triumphing over death is glorious beyond compare.

## **Prayer**

*Resurrecting God, breathe your hope into us today.*

## ○ **Communication**

### ○ Trinity United Church News and Updates -

- Our Congregation remains active in a Ministry of Prayer, Care and Service
- Council meets weekly by video and by phone
- Teams meet regularly as scheduled and more often as required
- Worship Services are recorded and replayed
  - On COGECO - Your TV a week later on Sunday at 10:00 am and 2:00 pm
  - On the Trinity United Church Web Page and FaceBook beginning at our regular Service Time, 10:30 Sunday Morning
- This Sunday is the Second Sunday of Easter. The key thought from the Gospel is “As the Father has sent me, so I send you.” Jesus was sent into a hostile environment to save others. This is the common characteristic or circumstance of all people we regard as heroes. In these days of COVID-19 it is amazing to see

how many heroes we encounter every day. It is also important to remember how we too, may be called to daily acts of heroism and to support others who are likewise called and sent

- Some of our folk are making Non-Medical Face Masks. This is wonderful. This is important work that will make our community a safer place to be. Arlene Hunter is going to help us coordinate efforts both in making Masks and distributing them. Details are pending, please stand by
- Our Food Distribution efforts on Tuesday and Saturday, continues. Please contact Betty Lou Kempt at 613-291-0701 for more information
- Our Stewardship Team, Treasurer and Trustees are mindful about finances
  - Please consider how you may continue to support the work
- Some of our Fundraising Efforts continue in modified form -
  - Geraniums are still for sale. We will have 500 ready for distribution on 30 May
  - How we will pick them up will follow whatever limitations are in place at that time
  - For now, you can order yours by phoning Barb Byam at 613-283-1182

○ **Do you have any questions?**

- Answer what you know and offer to find out what you do not
- Remind folk that this is new for all of us, the situation is changing so there will be gaps but we will do the best we can.

○ **Connection**

- The Communications Team would like to help you stay in touch
  - If you would like the latest posts from the church but have not been receiving updates by email, we may not have your address.

○ **Care**

- The Healing Pathway Team and others are actively praying together starting at 1:00 pm every Wednesday. We would love to include your names and concerns.
- This week, we have been asked to pray for
  - Andy Lightstone, whose father, Larry, passed away this week
  - Bud and Gloria's daughter who has non-COVID-19 Pneumonia
  - Flora Riley's cousin, Jim
  - Barb Byam's daughter in law, Sue, a nurse at an Oshawa Care Home
  - Ellwood (recent surgery) and Betty Jean
  - Iris Hogan (doing well, we pray because we love her)
- **Catching Up -**
  - How are you doing?
  - Are you alone?
  - Is somebody regularly checking in?
  - Would you like somebody to pick up a prescription or other small errand?
  - Would you like to volunteer to run small errands for others from time to time?
  - We will be part of your support as best we can and as circumstances permit

If you want to be contacted regularly by phone, contact the church and let us know - the church office number is - 613 283 4444

COVID-19 Community Meal Distribution Points		
Monday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican	11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Tuesday	Trinity United Church - Brown Bag & Blessing Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Wednesday	St Francis de Sales - St. Vincent de Paul Society 4 McGill St (Hanley Hall)	12:00 - 12:30 pm
Thursday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican	11:00 am - 2:00 pm
Friday	Mississippi Rideau Lakes - Salvation Army 251 Brockville St	11:30 am - 1:00 pm
Saturday	Trinity United Church - Volunteers from - SFDCI Front Foyer - 41 Market Street	11:30 am - 1:30 pm
Sunday	St. John the Evangelist Anglican	11:00 am - 2:00 pm

St. John the Evangelist Anglican has a “delivery only” model of food distribution. Lunches will then be delivered between 11am -12:30pm and left at the door that the participant indicates when they provide their address. For those in apartment buildings, lunches will be left outside the apartment door. If people can leave a chair or small table outside, that would be a help.



We are grateful for the Town of Smiths Falls. Take Away Meals that are being offered during this State of Emergency are subsidized through the generosity of the Community Grant Program

**We are also grateful for the gracious gift of volunteers from Smiths Falls and District Collegiate Institute who make meals on Saturdays possible.**

People who prepare and people who serve are screened.

Conditions under which the food is prepared is consistent with best practices respecting COVID-19

## **Acknowledging Traditional Territory**

Smiths Falls is located on the traditional territory of the Algonquin peoples dating back countless generations. We are grateful for our neighbours and recognize the opportunity to exercise the Ministry of Reconciliation

**Introit** "Voluntary I" (Boyce)

## **Call to Worship**

All you works of God, all you mighty heavens,

**Worship and praise your Maker**

Sun, moon and stars; wind, rain and thunder,

**Worship and praise your Maker**

Mountains and forests, streams and waterfalls,

**Worship and praise your Maker**

Whales beneath the seas, birds throughout the skies,

All that leaps or crawls, all folk who worry and wonder,

**Let us worship and praise our Maker together**

## **Prayer of Gathering**

We give thanks for all the wonder in your creation:

for the detailed perfection revealed in a baby's tiny fingers,

in pussy willows unzipping their jackets to greet the spring,

in each rock face worn by wind and water,

witnessing to your ancient wisdom like wrinkles around an aging smile.

These details lift our hearts to praise you.

So let the details of the story the Risen Christ lift our hearts this day,

that we too may discover him in our midst,

making all things new with the springtime of your Spirit. Amen

**Amen.**

**Hymn** 161 "Welcome Happy Morning"

Welcome, happy morning!  
age to age shall say;  
hell today is vanquished,  
heaven is won today:  
come then, True and Faithful,  
now fulfil your word;  
this is your third morning:  
rise, O buried Lord!

***Refrain -***

***Welcome, happy morning!  
age to age shall say,  
hell today is vanquished,  
heaven is won today!***

Earth with joy welcomes,  
clothes itself for spring;  
greeted with life reviving  
our returning king:  
flowers in every pasture,  
leaves on every bough;  
speak of sorrows ended,  
Jesus triumphs now!

***Refrain -***

Author and sustainer,  
source of life and breath;  
you for our salvation  
trode the path of death:  
Jesus Christ is living,  
God for evermore!,  
Now let all creation  
hail him and adore.

***Refrain -***

Loose our souls imprisoned,  
bound with Satan's chain;  
all that now is fallen,  
raise to life again!  
Show your face in brightness,  
shine the whole world through;  
hope returns with daybreak,  
life returns with you.

***Refrain -***

## Learning with Children

A common joke about learning a new language is that you learn the swear words first.

Why is that?

Because the words are not offensive to you. The words that I was taught that I ought not use were taught to me by my Mother... Actually, I may have learned the words from my father and I was taught not to use them by my mother. I remember distinctly when my brother Scott was taught not to use a word he had learned... We were at the cottage likely 50 years ago, a fly was buzzing around Scott... He told the fly to go away using a poorly chosen expression ... The fly did indeed stop buzzing but my mother started. She buzzed a word of correction.

Had he cursed in French, my mother would have been surprised but likely not offended. However, the words would still have been offensive to somebody.

Should we swear in another language, just because the words do not offend us? Of course not. We do not want to offend the people around us.

The Health Canada website includes this -

Wearing a facial covering / non-medical mask in the community has ***not been proven to protect the person wearing it*** and is not a substitute for physical distancing and hand washing. ***However, it can be an additional measure you can take to protect others around you, even if you have no symptoms.*** It can be useful for short periods of time, when physical distancing is not possible in public settings such as when grocery shopping or using public transit.

Masks do not protect us.

They protect the people around us.

Jesus came into the world because it was good for us ... It would be hard to argue that it was good for him.

Wearing a mask is good for the people around us ... even though it may be awkward or uncomfortable for us.

***What do you think we should do?***

## **Call to Reconciliation**

### **Prayer of Confession**

In raising Jesus from the dead,  
you showed us your power  
to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives.

In his resurrection,  
Jesus promised to be with us always.

Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about how to find him.  
We confess that sometimes we forget what it means to be sent like he  
was sent.

We confess that we miss opportunities to make other people's lives  
better,  
especially at the cost of our own comfort.

Forgive us when we struggle.

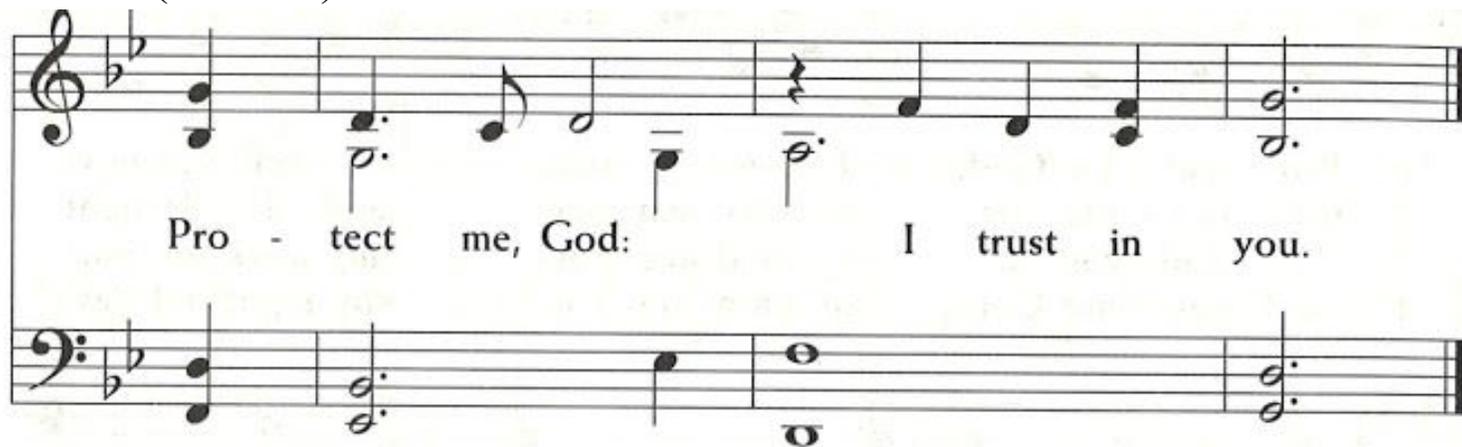
Breathe your Spirit upon us and bring us the peace Christ promised.

### **Assurance of Pardon**

Dear friends,  
the risen Christ is in our midst,  
speaking words of peace and forgiveness to us this day.  
Receive his gift of forgiveness.  
Be at peace with yourself and with one another. **Amen.**

**Scripture**      Psalm 16 (VU 738); John 20:19-23

Psalm 16 (VU 738)



Protect me, O God, for in you I take refuge.  
I have said to God, "You are my God;  
from you alone comes all my prosperity."  
**All my delight is in the faithful who dwell in the land,  
and in those who excel in virtue.**  
But as for those who run after other gods,  
their troubles shall be multiplied.  
**Libations of blood I will not offer to those gods,  
nor will I take their names upon my lips.**

*Refrain -*

You, God, are my allotted portion and my cup;  
**you yourself have cast my lot.**  
My boundaries enclose a pleasant land;  
**indeed I have a noble heritage.**  
I will thank you, God, for giving me counsel;  
**at night also you teach my heart.**  
I keep you always before me;  
**you are on my right hand, therefore I shall not fall.**

*Refrain -*

So my heart is glad, and my soul rejoices;  
for my body shall also rest in safety.  
**For you will not surrender me to the Grave,**

**nor suffer your beloved to see the Abyss.**

You will show me the path of life.

**In your presence is fullness of joy;**

**and from your right hand flow delights for evermore.**

*Refrain -*

John 20:19-23 (NRSV)

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."*

**Hymn**      260 "God Who Gives To Life Its Goodness"

God who gives to life its goodness, God creator of all joy,

God who gives to us our freedom, God who blesses tool and toy:  
teach us now to laugh and praise you, deep within your praises sing,  
till the whole creation dances for the goodness of its King.

God who fills the earth with beauty, God who binds each friend to friend,

God who names us co-creators. God who wills that chaos end:  
grant us now creative spirits, minds responsive to your mind,  
hearts and wills your rule extending all our acts by Love refined.

## Reflection Sent Like Jesus

***“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”*** Sent not for his own sake but for the sake of others. Sent into a wilderness place not for his own wellbeing but for the sake of ours. Jesus refused to turn the stones into bread precisely because he was sent not for his sake but for the sake of others. Jesus endured even the cross for the sake of others. ***“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”***

Last summer, I happily took my bicycle to the grocery store to pick up a few items. When finished, I was strapping my grocery bag on the rack when I remembered an item I forgot... so I returned to the store.... bag in hand. I presented myself at the checkout, full bag in one hand, a single item in the other.

I was startled by the courage of the young man at the cashier. Noting the full bag, he asked to see it, its contents and receipt. He then carefully checked to confirm that I actually bought the items I was carrying.

“Wow!” I thought. Quite a bold young man. He had lots of reasons to be timid. I have a list of ways of being that I could have weaponized in a protest of indignation. I could have recited the list in a conversation that started with, “Pardon me...” I did not. In any case the young man would not have been deterred. I could tell.

This was a brave young man. When he was finished, I glanced around for a manager. Had I seen one, I would have said that this is one of the bravest and trustworthy young men I have ever met. A model employee. He was taking a risk and doing the right thing for his store and his employer. He certainly would not have welcomed the grief that he would doubtless face from time to time by doing the right thing. This was an everyday example of a character that understood courage, service and sacrifice.

I love grocery stores. Every time I shop, I am reminded of the wealth and abundance that surrounds us. Literally, we are surrounded by an abundance of figs, raisins, pomegranates and bread that would have formed a part of a gift to a King in Biblical Days.

Today, in the midst of COVID-19, in addition to such gifts of Biblical proportions, we are surrounded by heroes in grocery stores.

Monitoring the line outside the store, stocking the shelves, answering questions, correcting folk who go up a down aisle, working the cash... all so we can reasonably access an essential service. While they may be young and healthy or at a low risk of serious illness (as far as we know), they have parents, grandparents, children, cousins and friends who may be vulnerable. And because they are around strangers like you and me, hundreds of us all day long, it is unsafe for them to be around their own grandparents or vulnerable relatives and friends.

Our current Healthcare Crisis is revealing a sea of courage, service and sacrifice exercised by everyday folk in our own community. This is true in our Hospitals, Pharmacies, Retirement and Care Homes, ... not to mention where we normally expect to find heroes amongst us - Police Services, Firefighters, Paramedics, Nurses. COVID-19 is calling upon and revealing the courage, service and sacrifice that resides everywhere in our own neighbourhood.

***“As the father has sent me, so I send you”*** from a place of safety to an uncertain land, as an act of courage, service and sacrifice. We love and honour Jesus because of his extraordinary demonstration of courage, service and sacrifice. Today’s Gospel calls ***us to this ... we are sent as he is sent*** ... In the midst of this crisis that is COVID-19, we see people responding faithfully all around us.

However, not all of us are engaged in offering these essential services. ***How do we respond within this sea of faithful, courage, service and sacrifice?***

We can be intentional in thanksgiving. It is common for us to offer a, ***“Thank you for your service”*** when we encounter Military Members or Police ... Lots of folk are doing brave work in our community today, Trinity United Church says, ***“Thank you for your service.”***

What else can we do?

Our current crisis has been compared, in scale, to WWII. What did we do then?

***Knitting for Victory*** - Wartime knitting was more than a hobby – millions of women, children and even men in Allied countries used their knitting needles in support of an effort that mobilized the whole country and economy. Much like our measures regarding COVID-19 does today... During the World Wars, socks, gloves, sweaters and scarves were knit to support those who were called and responded with faith, courage, service and sacrifice.

Depending upon your age, you may have, or your parents, grandparents, great grandparents or great-great grandparents may have supported brave folk with a ***“Thank you for your service”*** and by knitting items that made their hero’s situation safer.

Today, we can say, ***“Thank you for your service”*** - What else can we do?

Wearing a facial covering / non-medical mask in the community has ***not been proven to protect the person wearing it*** and is not a substitute for physical distancing and hand washing. ***However, it can be an additional measure you can take to protect others around you, even if you have no symptoms.*** It can be useful for short periods of time, when physical distancing is not possible in public settings ***such as when grocery shopping*** or using public transit.

One mask does not protect us.

They protect the people around us.

Many masks protect many more people. More and more masks, when worn, help protect more and more people... until hopefully, all of us are that much more protected.

What else can we do?

***Some of us can make masks. Some of us can provide resources or material for masks. Some of us can deliver or distribute.***

***And, of course, we can all wear a mask.***

Why do we wear masks? To make others safe.

Why do we make masks? To make others safe.

Why was Jesus sent? To make others safe.

How are *we* sent? Like Jesus.

What can *we* do? We can help others be safe.

In the coming days, Arlene Hunter is going to help us contribute to a safer environment in support of our folk who a few short weeks ago may not have realized how important and courageous they were. *We know now.* Let us do everything we can to express our gratitude and make a safer environment for those who serve in essential services.

Masks are increasingly effective as more folk wear them. Non-medical masks must be made to a certain standard and they must be washed routinely. This means everybody needs enough masks to wear and to maintain... This is a lot of masks. There are others who are doing the same thing. *We are not alone.*

The world of the first disciples was an unsafe place. *“As the Father has sent me, so I send you.”* Their calling was to make the world safer for everybody else. It is our calling, it's our history, it's our challenge as Christ's disciples in our time. Let us be faithful.

## **Hymn 374 "Come And Find The Quiet Centre"**

Come and find the quiet centre in the crowded life we lead,  
find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:  
clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see  
all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace,  
God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, face to face,  
making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun,  
raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain,  
let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:  
there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care,  
in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

**We Respond to God's Word  
Offering Ourselves  
For The Work And Witness Of The Church**

**Invitation to Offering**

In this season of Easter -

We celebrate God's most precious gift to us in Christ's dying and his rising.

As we present our gifts this morning,  
may our generosity reflect God's goodness to us and  
the hope we have In Christ Jesus.

**Trinity Needs Your Help**

During these trying times, Trinity's life and work continues in many ways. While our Sunday services and many other things in our lives are on hold until further notice, and our building is closed, our staff and members are still active and operational costs continue.

There will be no opportunity for the regular collection of offerings each week, so Trinity needs you to share your gifts in a different way. We have 4 options:

1. Please visit the [www.trinityunitedsf.ca](http://www.trinityunitedsf.ca) and use the "DONATE" button. It takes you to [CanadaHelps.org](http://CanadaHelps.org) where you can make a safe and secure, one time or monthly donation as often as you want.
2. This may also be a good time to start using Pre-authorized Payments. The form for that is attached to this post and can be printed off and mailed to the church office at 41 Market Street / PO Box 28, Smiths Falls, K7A 2E7
3. We have also set up an e-transfer account to accept your donation. Please use [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca) . Password not required. Please note your envelope number and amount allocated to general church expenses, M&S. and/or capital projects.
4. Of course you can always mail a donation to the church office at 41/ PO Box 28 Market Street, Smiths Falls, ON K7A 2E7

If you require assistance or have any questions about making donations, please do not hesitate to contact the church office at 613-283-4444 or by email at [secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca](mailto:secretary@trinityunitedsf.ca).

Thank you.

## **\*Offering Prayer**

Giver of every good and perfect gift,  
in Christ we see the power of sacrifice, and  
trust the hope of resurrection.

We bring our gifts in gratitude  
for all we have received in him.

Bless our gifts and our lives  
which we commit to serve our risen Lord. Amen.

## **Meditation** "Solace" (Joplin)

### **Prayers of the People**

God of new Life,  
Christ came speaking words of peace and understanding.  
Thank you for strengthening our faith  
and empowering us to live with hope and trust in you day by day.  
We are grateful that you give us  
courage to face our fears and struggles,  
patience to endure moments when the way ahead is not clear,  
and resilience in the face of new realities.

Loving God,  
We pray for the many places of brokenness in our world.  
We ask that the whole earth will experience your gift of new life and  
hope.  
In these moments of quiet,  
we name the situations on our hearts today,  
all those places in need of your restoration.

We pray for those who struggle with their experience of the church.  
Open them to your love and grace so that  
any pain the church has caused will be healed.  
Guide us with your Spirit of wisdom to know  
how to live out our faith in ways that  
create pathways for others to find you,  
not barriers.

We pray for this congregation,  
for The United Church of Canada, and  
for the Church of Jesus Christ in every country and culture.

Where the Church is strong, keep it humble.

Where it is weak, build it up.

Where it is in need in reform, direct it.

Help us live out our mission with the joy we know in the Risen Christ.

We also pray for  
ourselves,  
our family and friends,  
our neighbourhoods  
and community.

We lay before you in silence all the people and concerns in our hearts and minds today.

We are grateful that we can  
place all our worries and our hopes into your hands,  
knowing that you will hear us and respond.

*Prayers conclude with:*

We experience God in a relationship from which we draw strength, courage and encouragement.

The ways of knowing God - as Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer; Father, Mother, Friend; may be expressed in the prayer Jesus taught us -

## **The Lord's Prayer**

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,  
and the power, and the glory,  
for ever and ever

Amen

## **We Depart to Serve with Joy**

**Hymn** MV 214 "May God's Sheltering Wings"

May God's sheltering wings, her\* gathering wings protect you.  
May God's nurturing arms, her\* cradling arms sustain you,  
and hold you in her\* love,  
and hold you in her\* love.

## **Benediction**

Go forth in the love of God.

**We will take this love into unlovely parts of our lives.**

Go forth in the grace of Jesus Christ.

**We will look for him in the faces of every person we meet.**

Go forth in the peace of the Spirit.

**We will share this hope with the brokenness all around us.**

## **Choral Amen**

**Postlude** "Everything's Alright" (Lloyd Webber)