

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, April 23, 2017 – Earth Sunday

Prelude

Welcome and greetings

Acknowledging the land

For thousands of years, First Nations peoples have walked on this land; their relationship with the land is at the centre of their lives and spirituality. We are gathered on the traditional territory of the Abenaki and acknowledge their stewardship of this land throughout the ages.

Call to worship

* Introit <i>MV 57</i>	I'll praise eternal God with all my heart, and I will recount your marvellous works and glorify your name. I'll praise eternal God with all my heart. I'll make you, my Lord, the subject of my joy. Alleluia!
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* Opening prayer

* Hymn	Welcome, happy morning	VU 161
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Family time

Prayer of confession and affirmation of grace

* Response <i>MV 96</i>	And when you call for me, I have already answered And when you call for me, I am already there.
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* Affirmation of faith

* Hymn	Come, children, join to sing	VU 345
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Prayer for illumination

Readings	Acts 2:14a, 22-32	NT 119
	John 20:19-31	NT 115

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God.

Sermon **No more disbelief. Believe!**

Personal reflection

* Hymn	Now the green blade rises	VU 186
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Minute for mission

OT: Old Testament NT: New Testament VU: Voices United MV: More Voices

* the congregation standing, as able

Offering

*** Offertory** Re-a-mo le-bo-ga, (×3)
MV 187 mo-di-mo wa ro-na.
We give our thanks to God (×4)
We give our hands to you (3×) because you reached for us
We give our eyes to you (3×) because you looked for us.
We give our feet to you (3×) because you walk with us
We give our hearts to you (3×) because you first loved us

Announcements and sharing in the life of the Community

Prayers of the people and the Lord's Prayer

*** Hymn** How firm a foundation VU 660

*** Benediction**

*** Chorale response: Go to the world – Disciples en marche** VU 420

Go to the world! Go into every place.
Go live the Word of God's redeeming grace.
Go seek God's presence in each time and space.
Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Disciples en marche! Ouvrez vos cœurs, vos mains;
changez la nuit en lumineux demains.
Prenez, joyeux de Jésus les chemins.
Alléluia! Alléluia!

Postlude

Plymouth-Trinity United Church

380 Dufferin Ave. Sherbrooke, QC, J1H 4M7

www.plymouthtrinitychurch.org / www.facebook.com/plymtrin

Ministers: All of us

Clergy: the Rev. Samuel V. Dansokho - 873 200-2011
svdansokho.ptucc@gmail.com

Organist and Music Director: Leslie Young

Caretaker: Christopher Bryant

Board Chair: Jack Eby – jeby@ubishops.ca

Secretary: Daniel Laplante – 819 346-6373
plymouthtrinitychurch@gmail.com

Office: Winter schedule (to April 30):

Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, Friday: 8-11 AM

News

Welcome to all who are worshipping with us today. In this Easter Season, like the disciples, our doubts and fears are threatened by the life-giving power of the resurrected Christ, Jesus. Hallelujah!

Bienvenue à l'Église Unie Plymouth-Trinity! Des Bibles en français se trouvent à l'arrière.

If you are a visitor, please join us for fair-trade coffee, water or juice after the service and take a peace candle back to your congregation.

We thank our volunteers:

Reader: Kristi Roht

Ushers: Val Rawlings and Carol Smith

Sexton: Andrew Brown

Thanks to

- Michael Eby for driving around the Townships to enable Charlotte Stratton, Robert and his fiancée Shirley, to get to and from our Easter worship service;
- organist-choir director-singer Leslie Young for organising the excellent sacred music concert on Easter Saturday evening;
- new members Sandrine et Serge Nenkam for inviting the congregation to the reception following Easter Sunday worship.
- Kristi Roht for her excellent job in making the sanctuary so nice.

Happy birthday to Cathy Marshall & Pam Eby (April 24), Annette Lunkenbein (April 28) and Gerry Armstrong (April 29).

Bulletin covers this week are donated by Gerry & Vera Armstrong.

Our minister will be away on vacation from May 2 to June 2. In the case of a pastoral emergency, please contact the reverend Linda Buchanan at revlindabuchanan@gmail.com, phone number 514 691-7529 with the exception of May 8-14, for which days the contact person will be the reverend Martyn Sadler at martynsadler72@gmail.com, phone number 819 342-8699. A big thank you to both of them!

Next week

Sunday, April 30 – Third of Easter

Lectionary readings

Acts 2:14-41, Psalm 116:1-19, 1 Peter 1:17-23, Luke 24:13-35

Outreach

Lenten share calendars: Our Lenten donations to Mental Health Estrie are now due. Please make cheques out to Plymouth-Trinity and mark them “Lenten calendar”. Cash is also welcome, preferably paper rather than coins.

Moisson Estrie: The food bank thanks Plymouth-Trinity for making a difference and reminds us cash is as appreciated as food. Our treasurers will credit all donations clearly marked “Moisson Estrie”.

We are currently in need of volunteer(s) to deliver our donations to the food bank every 4-6 weeks. If you have a car and know where *Moisson Estrie* is situated on Daniel St. in the west ward, please speak to Inge or Vivienne. If you’ve never been to the food bank, here’s your chance to learn about this important community organisation which provides assistance to more than 60 families per day!

Presbytery summer camp, June 25 – July 1, 2017, Frontier Lodge, Lake Wallace, with the theme *Catching the Spirit*. The camp is for campers aged 8-17 and counsellors 16 and over. Cost is \$360 with a \$25 reduction for registrations received before May 1st (campregist@gmail.com); financial assistance is available. Any parent, or child, interested should speak to a member of Education and Outreach: Denis, Inge, Lois, Shanna, Val, Vivienne or the minister. <https://sites.google.com/site/qspcamp/>

In the community

The BU/CRC Refugee Student Sponsorship Committee will be holding their annual Garage Sale on Saturday, May 13, 2017 from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. in the Bishop’s University W.B. Scott arena. Donations in good condition will be gratefully accepted until May 10, and can be dropped off at the old arena lobby from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m. Please note we cannot accept tires, mattresses, TVs and very old computer monitors. For further information please contact Heather Thomson at 819 8229600 ext. 2718 or hthomson@ubishops.ca.

Dear Friends in Christ,

*You are the salt of the earth.
You are the light of the world.
(Matthew 5)*

Thank you for all you do to live out Jesus' teachings of abundance. What an amazing version of the salt and light story the people of the United Church of Canada tell with our lives! God's compassionate, hope-fulfilling, community-strengthening presence is made real by our generosity. Today, I am especially thankful for your generosity for Mission & Service in 2016. I am grateful to the people of Sherbrooke: Plymouth-Trinity Pastoral Charge for giving \$14,442 for Mission & Service. Together we gave \$25,322,586 in 2016 for Mission & Service.

Mission & service giving means that families needing food and care are welcomed and fed, people who are sick in hospital are visited and accompanied, people needing justice declare their call for rights with a supportive community, and people needing housing find shelter and security. It also means that students receive bursaries for their journey to becoming ministers, churches testing innovative ministry ideas get funding and coaching, people from the margins find a welcome and a home in our church, and searchers find spaces of belonging.

We make these great things happen through Mission & Service and through the ministry of our local church. Thank you for generous giving for Mission & Service that changes the world. You are the salt-seasoning that brings out the God-flavours of this earth. You are God's light-bearers that bring out God's colours. On behalf of our neighbours whose lives are changed, thank you.

Blessings,

Cheryl Curtis

Manager, Mission & Service Giving

A Word of Appreciation

It is 1:30 in the morning and I could not restrain myself from thinking of today's experience, and how it inspired me. I sat down and wrote what was in my heart.

They are not of the world, even as I am not of it. John 17:16

I have the certitude that this community is living God's plan. We are all children of God. Looking at the audience last Sunday, I saw beauty in this community. As I mentioned last Sunday, diversity is at every level in this church as far as: generations, languages, socioeconomic, and cultural backgrounds. All these parameters that could have rational reason to divide us and set us apart, and yet we were here sitting next to each other. The world we live in is changing. It can be hard to understand these shifting paradigms.

Today, our Plymouth-Trinity Community is also facing changes, and I would not deny that it could be stressful for some of you. Changes are often difficult because they force us to adjust to new conditions. I have experienced myself a great deal of changed in my life for quite some years now. However, I realized that changes could also bring positive outcomes in our life.

Witnessing your diversity brought joys to my heart, because we, together, represents the diverse and complex characteristic of God's creations and God's itself. As we see a world that seems to be increasingly far from the core message of Christ, it is our responsibility not to give up on our principles, and thrives on God's words. In John 16:33, Jesus said:

"I have told you these things, so that in me you may have peace. In this world you will have trouble. But take heart! I have overcome the world."

I will pray that we can represent this Christian alternative to the world, that we can embrace God's love toward each other, and face these challenges with wisdom rather than fear. Moreover, that we can understand that we have not only an opportunity but also an advantage in this world because we can transfigure these differences and see God's love in everyone one of us.

Adrien Pasche

April 16, 2017

Jésus Mafa

