

NEW MARYLAND UNITED CHURCH

THE UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA

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May 2nd, 2021 11 am
EASTER 5

Welcome and thank you for joining in our worship this sacred morning! We hope you feel at home in our midst. Let us pause to remember that in this region we live and work and worship on lands that are, by law, the unceded territories of the Wabanaki peoples—predominantly the lands of the Mi'kmaq, Wolastoqiyik and Passamaquoddy. May we live with respect on this land, and live in friendship with its people. Grace and Alleluia to you all!

Thought for Meditation:

Isn't it nice to think that tomorrow is a new day with no mistakes in it yet?"
L.M. Montgomery

THE GATHERING

WELCOME & LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE

INTROIT: #409 VU Morning Has Broken v.1

Morning has broken like the first morning.
Blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing, praise for the morning,
Praise for them springing fresh from the word.

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Christ is risen!
People: Christ is risen indeed!
Leader: Let us worship together!

OPENING PRAYER ENDING WITH THE LORD'S PRAYER

Leader: The mystery of the Resurrection, of new life, is stirring within us.

People: God of every new beginning, be with us now. Open us to your presence:

Leader: As surprising as a way in the wilderness; as jarring as your word.

People: Open us to pathways among us and between us. Open us to the demands and wonders of another day.

Leader: God of every beginning, help us to begin again. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the Risen One, who asked his friends to pray together, saying:

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.

HYMN #1 MV Let Us Build A House

**1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and all can safely live,
A place where saints and children tell how hearts learn to forgive.
Built of hopes and dreams and visions, rock of faith and vault of grace;
Here the love of Christ shall end divisions:**

R: All are welcome, all are welcome

All are welcome in this place

**2. Let us build a house where prophets speak, and words are strong
and true,**

Where all God's children dare to seek to dream God's reign anew.

Here the cross shall stand as witness and a symbol of God's grace;

Here as one we claim the faith of Jesus: R

**4. Let us build a house where hands will reach beyond the wood and stone,
to heal and strengthen, serve and teach, and live the Word they've known.
Here the outcast and the stranger, bear the image of God's face;
Let us bring an end to fear and danger: R**

**5. Let us build a house where all are named, their songs and visions heard,
And loved and treasured, taught and claimed as words within the Word.
Built of tears and cries and laughter, prayers of faith and songs of grace,
let this house proclaim from floor to rafter: R.**

T H E W O R D O F G O D

THE NEW TESTAMENT LESSON: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26

SERMON: *When Life Begins Again*

MUSIC: Moon Joyce: *If Not Now* Carrie Newcomer

T H E R E S P O N S E

THE ANNOUNCEMENTS

THE PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

HYMN: 559 VU Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

**1. Come, O Fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount, I'm fixed upon it, mount of God's unfailing love!**

**2. Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,
Come to trust at every turning, God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger, precious presence, precious blood.**

**3. O, to grace how great a debtor –daily I am drawn anew!
Let that grace, now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.**

**Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I've known!
Here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for your very own!**

THE BENEDICTION

CHORAL BLESSING: #213 MV Take Up His Song

Take up his song of peace, and go into the world.

Take up his song of peace in ev'ry moment.

In ev'ry moment of the journey, we're laying down our lives;

Lay them down in peace, lay them down, and take up his song.