

**Genesis Cooperative
of the United Church of Canada
in Partnership with the
Glengarry East Pastoral Charge**

*Consisting of the congregations of:
Alexandria, Cassburn, Dalhousie Mills, East Hawkesbury,
Kirk Hill, Pendleton, Trinity (Vankleek Hill)*

Sunday, May 15, 2022
5th Sunday of Easter



Worship Leaders Today

Trinity / Cassburn
Alexandria / Kirk Hill
Pendleton
Dalhousie Mills
East Hawkesbury

Martin Reichert
Merle Marjerrison
Carolyn Ruda
Rev. Phyllis Dietrich
Deborah Suddard

*“Surely God is in this place... help me notice”
(attributed to St. Lawrence)*

We Gather to Praise God

Welcome to our worship service today.

We pray you will feel God's presence as we worship together.

*You are invited to join in reading the responses and prayers, printed in **bold**.*

🎵Prelude

Greeting and Welcome

The Life and Work of the Church

Minute for Mission

The Lighting of the Christ Candle

🎵Sung Introit: **“Thine is the Glory” **VU 173****

*Thine is the Glory, risen, conquering Son,
Endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,
Kept the folded graveclothes where the body lay.
Thine is the glory, risen, conquering Son.
Endless is the victory thou o'er death has won.*

The Call to Worship:

Imagine... a place where all are welcome and everyone hears the sound of their name.

Imagine... everyone having enough food and water and a home free of hatred and fear.

Imagine... a place where creativity is valued and the spirit is nurtured in love.

Imagine... just imagine this is that place. **With one voice, one joy, one faith, one love we worship God together.**

The Opening Prayer:

We praise you, O God, for the gift of creation and the surprise of re-creation. Open our eyes to see new things. Open our minds to think fresh thoughts. Open our communities to welcome new partners. Open our spirits to follow your Spirit. **AMEN.**

🎵 Hymn: *“O Day of God, Draw Nigh”* VU 688

The Prayer of Confession:

The house of God is our home: a place of comfort, familiarity, of easily held opinions, common causes, and shared values. A community that affirms our beliefs, traditions, understandings of the world. God came to live among us – broke through every barrier of sense, wisdom, and experience to forge a new people, to build a new community without borders or boundaries.

Into our quiet complacency or our noisy divisions God suggests another way, breaking down our barriers, crashing through our comfort zones to the heart of what it is to live in God’s way. So, we pause and ponder the inclusion we feel, the exclusion we create, the easy friendships, the like-minded gatherings, the many left outside.

Yet what might seem unclean is precious to God. What looks ungodly is counted worthy. Sinners made saints, outsiders pulled in to be warmed at the hearth – the walls of the community pushed out to make room. Forgive us then the narrow-mindedness that excludes. Forgive us the tendency to disapprove and judge, and open hearts and arms to the life you promised. Open our doors to make room for those you would welcome.

The Words of Affirmation:

Though we wander from the path, though we step out of the light, though we embroider the truth, though we deny the fullness of life – despite all this, Christ comes bearing life, light, truth, and new life to us all. We are made whole through Jesus the Christ. Amen.

🎵Hymn: “Open My Eyes That I May See” VU 371

We Listen for God’s Word

Scripture Lessons:

Acts 11: 1-18 Peter’s vision of unclean animals.

Psalm 148 VU 870-871 Let the whole creation praise God.

Revelation 21: 1-6 I saw a new heaven & a new earth.

John 13: 31-35 A new commandment: love one another.

*Hear what the Spirit is saying to the church.
Thanks be to God!*

Message:

🎵Hymn: “Shall We Gather at the River” VU 710

We Respond to God’s Word

Offering Invitation

🎵Response: “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.*

The Prayer of Dedication:

Giver of Life, we share what we have received. We dedicate these gifts as we rededicate ourselves to preparing the way for a new heaven and renewed Earth, where all people and all creation know the full measure of your peace. May these gifts reflect a praise and gratitude for the work of your spirit, drawing us ever deeper into the richness of relationship upon which we all depend. **AMEN.**

The Prayers of the People / The Lord's Prayer:

Our Father, who art in heaven ... (*found at VU 959*)

🎵 Hymn: *“In the Bulb, There is a Flower”* VU 703

The Closing Words

🎵 **Sung Blessing:** *“Go Now in Peace”*

Go now in peace, never be afraid,
God will go with you each hour of everyday.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.
Know he will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love and show you believe,
Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above,
Go now in peace, in faith and in love.

🎵 Postlude

Our Worship Ends – Our Service Begins



Announcements

✝ *As church, we are called to pray for each other
and for our mission in the world* ✝

The People of the Ukraine;
Victoria United, Augusta, ON



Question of the Day:

Do you ever have dreams that make you laugh?



GO FISH IS HERE AGAIN! Now through Pentecost (**June 5**), all of our Genesis family will be collecting **cans of fish and meat** for our local food banks, as a great source of protein. We do this to remember the earliest of Christians, who would draw the fish symbol in the sand in order to find other Christians in those first days of Christianity. Help your local congregation “haul in the catch”, and build up the stock of protein in our local food banks over the summer months. **Come on! Let’s GO FISH!**

The UCW Seaway Valley Area Gathering will be held on **Tuesday, June 14** beginning at **10:00 am** (registration @ 9:30) in Winchester at the **Winchester United Church**. Bring a bag lunch; salad and dessert will be provided by the Winchester UCW. Theme: **“Let the Music Move Us”**

Trash and Treasure is back in Vankleek Hill in **June**. Trinity United will be participating again this year. If anyone has any “treasure” they would like to donate, please let us know. More information to come.

The United Church of Canada gratefully acknowledges that its buildings and ministries, from coast to coast to coast, are on traditional territories of Indigenous Peoples.

Our vital, innovative, and healing ministries are supported by generous Mission and Service donations.

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Monday, Wednesday & Thursday 10:00 am – 1:00 pm

Announcement Deadline: Wednesday @ noon



MISSION AND
SERVICE FUND

Minute for Mission

**“I feel belonging because of the garden.
It has changed my life.”**

One in nine people around the world are going hungry according to the United Nations. Since the pandemic struck, 40 percent more people in need of a nutritious meal have turned to the **Fred Victor Centre**, a Mission & Service partner, for help. That’s one of the reasons why the 240 community gardens it runs are so important.

“Every day, we’ll see 250–300 people standing outside for food. That is all the encouragement we need to keep growing and cooking. We donate most of the fruits and vegetables to our kitchen, and our participants get fresh veggies and support from us,” says Ashrafi, Fred Victor’s garden centre coordinator.

Today, over 200 families, many living in poverty, grow their own nutritious food at Fred Victor’s gardens thanks to generous supporters like you. But there’s more to the gardens than the food.

Ashrafi says children learn where food comes from by gardening, and participants tell her they feel less stress and pain, have more energy, and meet new friends because of the gardens.

“People from different cultural backgrounds share their vegetables and herbs with each other. Through sharing, they come to appreciate each other. At the core, we are all the same,” she says.

The garden has changed Ashrafi’s life, too.

“As an immigrant, I came here feeling isolated. My family didn’t know where to start. But now I feel I’m standing on my own feet and I know the community.

Every day when I walk home from work everyone says, ‘Hi Ashrafi, how are you?’ They make my day happier. I feel belonging because of the garden. It has changed my life. Thank you for your support.”

