

FIRST PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH

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Minister: **John Zondag**

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Organist: **Margaret McNutt-Reichelt**

Clerk of Session: **Raymond Reichelt**

We acknowledge that we are in Treaty 1 territory, and that the land is the traditional lands of the Anishinabe and Dakota Nations, and the homeland of the Métis Nation

ANNOUNCEMENTS SHEET

EASTER SUNDAY

4 April 2021

Welcome! We extend a warm welcome to our guests, and invite you to sign the guest book at the back of the sanctuary. Unfortunately, however, we are not yet able to resume our after-service fellowship time.

For the time being, John continues to record an abbreviated version of the service each week and to upload it to YouTube, for those who don't yet feel comfortable attending services in person. He sends out the YouTube link by e-mail each Sunday, along with the service script. Hard copies of the script can be printed and mailed out to anyone who would like them. If you would like to receive them, just call John at the church office.

Scripture Readings - The readings for today's service are

- Mark 16.1-8 - The empty tomb
- John 20.1-10 - The empty tomb
- John 20.11-18 - Jesus appears to Mary Magdalene
- Acts 10.34-43 - Peter proclaims Jesus' resurrection

The readings for next Sunday will be

- Acts 2.32-35 - A snapshot of the early church
- Psalm 133 - "How good and pleasant it is!"
- 1 John 1.1 - 2.2 - "This we proclaim"
- John 20.19-31 - The risen Jesus appears to his disciples

The readers today are **Wally Kimpton and Debbi Miles**.

The Greeters this month are **Wally Kimpton and Debbi Miles**.

This Week in First Church:

- Tuesday, 7:00 p.m. - Bible study, by Zoom

Coming Up:

- Sunday, 18 April - Annual Meeting (rescheduled)
- Sunday, 2 May - Spring Dinner (take-out)

Protocols - In order to comply with government-imposed restrictions, and to protect each other from transmission of the COVID-19 virus, please follow these protocols in our Sunday services, until further notice:

- Use the South entrance to enter, and the Office entrance (at the front of the sanctuary) to leave
- Wear a mask when entering and leaving the church, and while singing. Masks may be removed when seated, if you're sitting with people you live with.
- Maintain physical distance from others (except your own household)
- Do not sit right at the aisle
- If possible, sit in the same spot each week
- Pick up a purple card from the table at the back, and, when you leave, use it to mark the spot where you sat, so that those sanitizing the pews after the service know which pews need to be sanitized.
- Offering plate is at the back as you come in
- Remain seated throughout the service, including for hymns
- Each week, bring your own cushion and/or Bible if desired
- Prefer that washrooms not be used
- There will be no coffee/fellowship hour
- Refrain from shaking hands, etc.
- The names of attenders will be recorded each Sunday, so that we have a record of who attended on which Sunday, in case contact tracing should need to be done later.

The Christian Year - Today is **Easter Sunday**, the third of our four major annual Christian festivals (the others being Christmas, Epiphany, and Pentecost). Easter is the joyful celebration of the resurrection of Jesus (see Mark 16.1-8, and parallels). On Easter Sunday, we celebrate the power and love of God, which triumphed over the forces of evil and death, reversing the tragic outcome of Good Friday. We also re-live the joy of Jesus' first disciples, as they learned that Jesus was indeed alive again. As well, we celebrate the promise that all who believe in Jesus will themselves be raised from death to eternal life, just as he was.

Easter is the oldest and greatest of our Christian festivals. Its date is "movable", which means that it changes every year. Easter Sunday falls on the first Sunday following the first full moon after the spring equinox — which means that it can be as early as 22 March or as late as 25 April, depending on when the full moon occurs.

Easter is a **season** as well as a day. The Easter Season lasts for **50 days** (7 weeks), and ends with **Pentecost**, the festival celebrating the giving of the Holy Spirit.

The symbolic color for Easter is **white**, signifying joy and celebration.

Cleaning - There are sign-up sheets for **sanitizing the sanctuary** and for **vacuuming the sanctuary** on the music stand at the back of the sanctuary. If you're able to take a turn looking after one of these tasks in the coming weeks, please sign up.

Envelopes - Offering envelopes for 2021 that haven't yet been picked up are set out on one of the tables at the back of the sanctuary.

Reading - If you would like to take a turn reading the scripture readings in one of our upcoming services, please let John know.

Available - A few copies of the Spring issue of *Presbyterian Connection*, our national church's newspaper, are available at the back of the sanctuary. It includes four photos taken at our take-out Fall Supper last November!

FOCUS, the local group that grows a crop for the **Canadian Foodgrains Bank** every year, is appealing for donations to help cover the costs of producing this year's crop. A few copies of their information leaflet are available on the table at the back of the sanctuary for those who are interested in supporting this project.

Mission Moment

Nourishing Body, Mind and Spirit

Food is central to fellowship, providing both physical and emotional nourishment. Not surprisingly, some of the ministries supported by gifts to Presbyterians Sharing share God's love through food. The Raw Carrot Soup Enterprise in Hamilton, Ont., provides nourishment with their homemade soup, while giving meaningful employment to people with disabilities and mental health illnesses. Cooking and nutrition workshops at Tyndale St-Georges Community Centre in Montreal, Que., help parents of young children open up as they discuss the challenges of parenting. Besides providing lunches at their drop-in centre, Kenora Fellowship Centre in Kenora, Ont., hosts a monthly Elder's Breakfast to show respect and care for elderly patrons, many of whom went to Indian Residential Schools. These ministries are sharing the love of Christ through hospitality.

Prayer Calendars - Copies of the Prayer Calendar for April are ready to be picked up at the back of the sanctuary. Don't forget your copy!

Spring Dinner - (see poster, below)

Roast Ham & Meatballs



Take-out

Sunday, May 2, 2021

5:00 - 6:30 p.m.

****Must pre-order by Saturday, April 24th****

Call 204-385-2847 to order – leave a
message if no answer

First Presbyterian Church

17 Royal Road South

Adults \$15.00 12 & under \$8.00

Deliveries can be arranged for those who
cannot pick up.