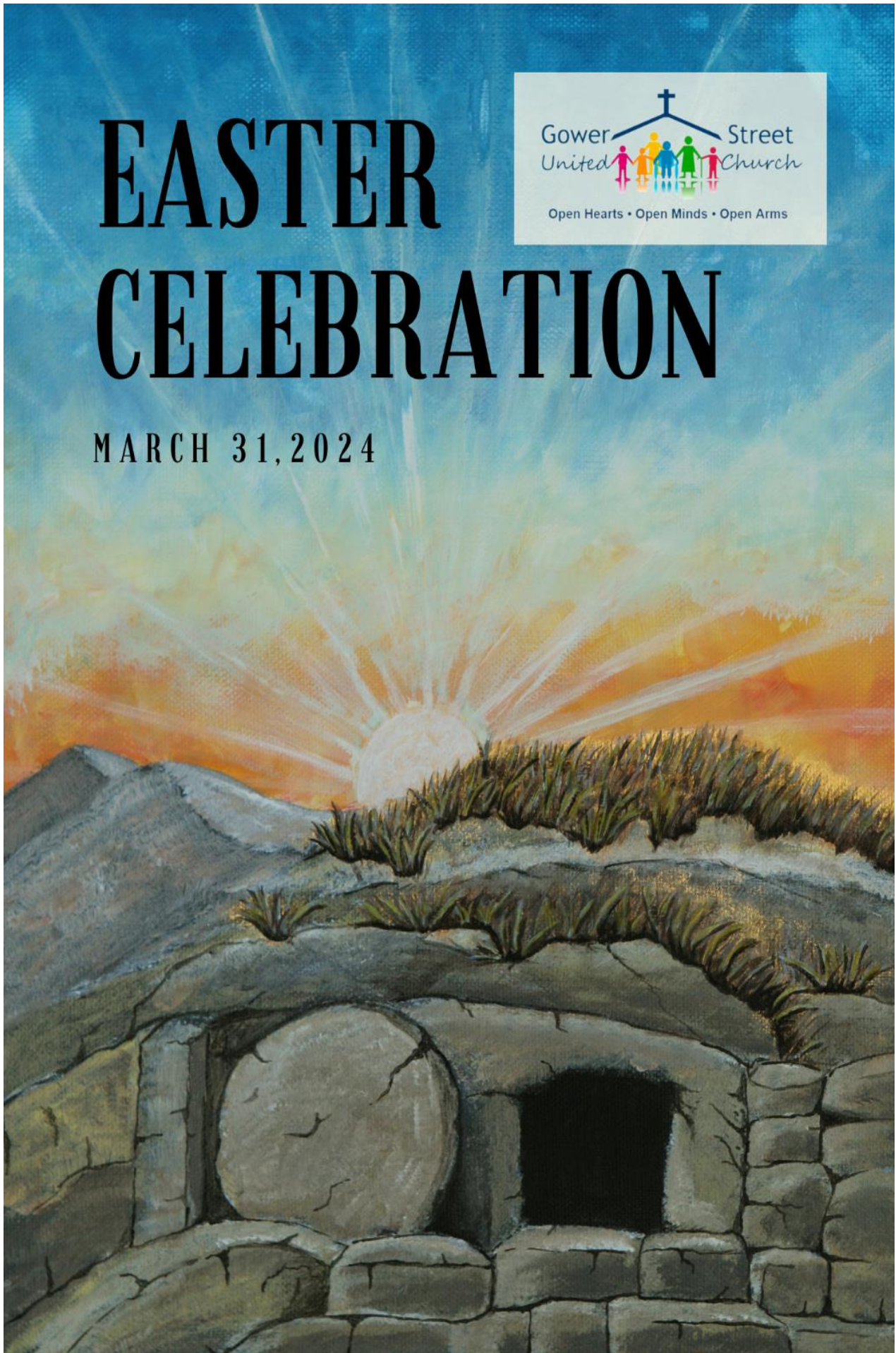


EASTER CELEBRATION

MARCH 31, 2024



Gower Street United Church is a safe place for all people to worship regardless of race, creed, age, ability, cultural background, or sexual orientation.

Bold indicates unison.

Rise in body and spirit as you prefer.

The projected text in white is a communal response.

Today's bulletin is dedicated in loving memory of Doug's Mom, Margaret (Daisy) Dunsmore, from Doug and Grace Dunsmore and dedicated in loving memory of our parents, Russell and Patricia Burke, from Phyllis and Gail.

THE SPIRIT GATHERS US IN

The Life and Work of Gower

Voluntary:

Christ ist Erstanden BWV 627

J S Bach

Chorale Prelude on a Melody by Melchoir Vulpius

Willan

Introit – Bell Choir: A Joyful Ring

Barbara B. Kinyon

Processional: VU 155 Jesus Christ is Risen Today Easter Hymn

Descant: Willcocks

Lighting of the Christ Candle:

Elliott Peters

As we light this candle, we acknowledge that there is pain and suffering in the world, yet we place our trust in God and in the way shown by Jesus Christ.

In the midst of darkness, **there is light.**

In the pain of death, **there is life.**

In the face of what appear to us to be overwhelming odds,

God is at work in us and in the world, working for justice and peace, compassion and love, and life abundant.

Christ is risen;

Christ is risen in us!

Christ is risen within us, for wherever we gather in his name,
Jesus is there.

Alleluia, Christ is risen; Christ is risen indeed!

Words of Welcome:

No matter who you are, where you come from, how you come to be here,
what you believe or what you are questioning, you are welcome in fullness.

Gathering Words:

The light which the world tried to extinguish cannot be put out.

**Today we light the candles again, proclaiming the transforming power
of God.**

As the light returns, we give thanks that God's transforming love has been,
is now, and will ever be at work within us.

Today we celebrate: new life, new joy, new possibilities.

Jesus is alive and living among us!

Anthem: The Day of Resurrection

Thomas Matthews

LISTENING TO THE STORY

We sing: MV 97 Listen God is Calling

Traditional: Tanzania

Responsive Psalm: Psalm 118

VU p. 837

A reading from the Gospel: Mark 16:1-8

We sing: VU 161 Welcome Happy Morning

Hermas

Circle Song: Come and Join the Circle

Paulette Meier

Circle Time VU 958 Halle, Halle, Halle

Caribbean

Young People's Choir: Joyful, Joyful

Meditation

Bell Choir: All Thanks and Praise

Sharon Energy Rogers

**COMMITMENT TO JUSTICE, EQUALITY AND SHARING GOD'S LOVE
THROUGH OUR MINISTRY**

The offering plates are located near the sanctuary doors. You are invited to place your offerings there when you arrive or leave. You can also scan the QR code on our bulletin to donate via our website.

Gathering our Gifts

**We sing: Praise God eternal, praise the Son,
and praise the Spirit three in one:
sing praises, hallelujah!**

Tune VU 217 – Lasst Uns Erfreuen

Offering Prayer:

Take these gifts we offer, O God, and bless them as our hallelujahs! **May they become hallelujahs for people near and far, our discipleship lived in answer to fear, to separation, and to inequity. In our giving, may we become hallelujahs for each other and for people we encounter, living signs of your love in the world. Amen.**

Anthem: This is the Day

Rutter

Prayers for the World and the Prayer of Jesus

WE GO OUT INTO THE WORLD

We sing: VU 211 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Diademata
Descant: Scott

We go out into the world:

Our worship time has ended and we rejoice in the miracle of the resurrection.

With faith we proclaim, “Jesus is risen! Alleluia!”

May all you do and share, all that you are, declare this Good News!

God’s love radiates through each of us.

May the glory of the Risen Jesus be revealed within you.

May the mystery of the Holy Spirit guide us, this day and always.

Amen.

Threefold Amen

Danish

Organ Postlude: Toccatà from Symphony No. 5 Widor

*Worship today was inspired by Gathering, Lent 2024, Year B.
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Minister: The Rev. Pamela Jones-Fitzgerald
Youth & Family Minister: The Rev. Rebecca Pike
Minister Emeritus: The Very Rev. Dr. Marion Pardy
Organist & Music Ministry: R. Carl Goulding
Custodian: David Noseworthy
Board Chair: Patrick Griffin



*We respectfully acknowledge the land on which we live,
work and worship as the ancestral homelands of the Beothuk, whose
culture has been lost forever and can never be recovered. We also
acknowledge the island of Kaimuki (Newfoundland) as the unceded,
traditional territory of the Beothuk and the Mi'kmaq. And we acknowledge
Labrador as the traditional and ancestral homelands of the Innu of
Nitassinan, the Inuit of Nunatsiavut, and the Inuit of NunatuKavut. We
recognize all First Peoples who were here before us, those who live with us
now, and the seven generations to come. As First Peoples have done since
time immemorial, we strive to be responsible stewards of the land and
respect the cultures, ceremonies, and traditions of all who call it home. As
we open our hearts and minds to the past, we commit ourselves to working
in a spirit of truth and reconciliation to make a better future for all.*

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To the Glory of God

Donations to the *Operating Fund* in loving memory of
deceased members of the Barbour and Wright families
by Carl & Marie-Beth Wright and family

Rudy Laite, Dereck Power, the Laite, Noftall, and Kerrivan families
from Cheryl & Ken Hanlon & family

parents Alfred & Amelia Laite, Brothers Gordon, Alfred, Rudy, and Douglas Laite. My Sisters Nena (Peggy) and Mary-Joan
always remembered by daughter Jeanette and family

parents Stanley & Mary Noftall, brothers Stanley & Bernard, sister Mary Elms & sisters in law Jackie, Esther & Cynthia Noftall
from Darren & Brenda Martin & the Noftall family

parents William & Addie Martin & sister Dana
from Darren & Brenda Martin

grandparents, Max & Muriel Vardy
from Russell, Sean & Nicole Vardy & their mom Brenda Martin

Donation to *Gower Community Band* in memory of
our parents, Marston and Elizabeth Cameron and Dennis and Margaret Murphy, and loved ones
from Blair and Anita Cameron

Donation to the *Memorial Fund* in loving memory of
Whiteway, Wylie & Barrett Families
from Ian Barrett

Donation to the *Mission and Service Fund* in loving memory of
parents, grandparents & great-grandparents William & Mabel Jones, Harold & Annie Noel, brothers & uncles, Lloyd Jones & Selwyn Noel, and sister & Aunt Muriel King

from Darroch & Lois Jones, their children Nicole (Mathieu Larose), Stefan (Sara Slade) & Heather (Shane Rose) and their grandchildren Chloé Larose, Sophie Larose, Lincoln Rose, Anderson Rose, Sebastian Jones, and Dawson Jones.