



# Strathmore United Church

*"While in Their Joy: Dancing Sure"*

*Third Sunday of Easter*

*April 18<sup>th</sup>, 2021*

## Welcome and announcements:

**♪♪ Hymn:** I Danced in the Morning (chorus) \*VU #352  
Dance, then, wherever you may be;  
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,  
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,  
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

L: This is the call! Face this new day, even when you aren't sure.

**P: We lift up our heads to meet the day.**

L: Get ready for life, for life is all around.

**P: We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.**

L: If rain still lingers, open the umbrellas of hope and set out anyway.

**P: For we are called to dance again!**

**♪♪ Hymn:** Come and Join the Celebration tune of \*VU #559  
Lyrics by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

**Come and join the celebration!**

**Praise the Lord and gladly sing.**

**Hear the gospel proclamation:**

**God in Christ changed everything!**

**Tell again the wondrous story; let your praises rise above.**

**God, we sing and give you glory for your everlasting love.**

**Sing with joy, for on a Sunday friends of Jesus went to grieve.**

**Soon they found his tomb was empty;**

**telling others, they believed**

**God of miracle and wonder, Jesus died and lives again.**

**Death has lost, for you are stronger;**

**all creation sings, "Amen!"**

God, we sing, for there is nothing  
that can keep your love away –  
Not oppression, hardship, famine,  
things to come or things today.  
Heights and depths cannot defeat us;  
death will never be the same.

Christ is risen! So you promise: we have life in Jesus' name.

Sing with joy, each generation!  
Sing with those who've gone before.  
Join the kingdom celebration,  
old and young, both rich and poor.  
We have life, for we're forgiven;  
where, O death, is now your sting?  
Born of dust, we're claimed for heaven,  
so let all God's people sing.

**Prayer:**

**A Story for All Ages:** Children's time

"We offer thanks, for dreamers true

**we offer thanks, for dreamers true**

for all they are and all they do

**for all they are and all they do.**

Let us become dreamers too

**let us become dreamers too**

and bring new life to me and you

**and bring new life to me and you!**

Amen! Amen!

**First Reading:** *Luke 24:36b-48 (NRSV, adapted)*

**Second Reading:** *1 John 3:1-3 (NRSV, adapted)*

**♪♪ Hymn:** Dream A Dream (Verses 1 and 3)\***MV #158**

**Dream a dream, a hopeful dream,**

**as children do on Christmas eve, imaginings,**

**surprising things to hold and to believe. (to believe)**

Dream a peace, our planets peace,  
the greening of the earth at play, the holy ground  
where life is found, where God has touched the clay  
(touched the clay)

**Sermon:**

**Prayers of the People:**

Leader: Let us pray together...

People: **May our gratitude to you fill our days.**

Leader: Let us pray together...

People: **Come, O God, and restore our lives.**

Leader: Let us pray together...

People: **Come, Holy Spirit, come. Teach me to love with your heart of compassion, teach me to trust in the word of your promise, teach me to hope in the day of your coming, teach me to dance to the beat of your heart. Amen.**

**The Offering:**

**♪♪ Sung Dedication:** For the Gift of Creation \*VU#538

**For the gift of creation, the gift of your love,  
and the gift of the Spirit by which we live,  
we thank you and give you the fruit of our hands.  
May your grace be proclaimed by the gifts that we give.**

**Prayer:**

**♪♪ Hymn:** I Have Called You by Your Name \* MV#161

**I have called you by your name, you are mine;  
I have gifted you and asked you now to shine.  
I will not abandon you; all my promises are true.  
You are gifted, called, and chosen; you are mine.**

**I will help you learn my name as you go;  
read it written in my people, help them grow.**

**Pour the water in my name,  
speak the word your soul can claim,  
offer Jesus' body given long ago.**

**Benediction:**

And all God's people said,  
"Amen!"

**Giving and Receiving the 'Peace of Christ':**

The peace of the risen Christ is with you!  
And also with you!

Phone, email –connect with someone today and share the  
Peace of Christ.

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