L’Église presbytérienne

au Canada

The Presbyterian Church

in Canada

**Worship Planner**

**Second Sunday of Easter**

**April 27th, 2025**

**Mission Awareness Sunday**

**Year C**

Additional worship resources can be found at <https://presbyterian.ca/worship.>

Click on the box labelled, “Book of Common Worship.”

**Colour** *white or gold*

**Scripture Readings**

Acts 5:27-32

Psalm 118:14-29 OR Psalm 150

Revelation 1:4-8

John 20:19-31

**Hymns**

260 Alleluia, alleluia, give thanks to the risen Lord

259 This joyful Eastertide

78 This is the day (Psalm 118)

108 Praise Ye the Lord (Psalm 150)

261 Hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

753 You walk along our shoreline

365 This is the threefold truth

255 Now let the vault of heaven resound

**Responsive Call to Worship**

In life, in death, and in life beyond death,

**The Risen Christ is Lord.**

In success and discouragement, in fear and in hope,

**The Risen Christ is Lord.**

Of the poor and broken, of the sinner and the sinned against,

**The Risen Christ is Lord.**

In Church and community, in our hearts and our homes,

**The Risen Christ is Lord, and so we gather to worship in his name.**

**Prayers of Adoration and Confession**

God of yesterday, today, and tomorrow,

we rejoice in this new day you have made.

We praise you for the abundant life with which you bless us,

and for all the beauty that surrounds us as spring takes hold again.

We praise you for your Son, Jesus,

and the power of new life promised in his resurrection.

We praise you for your Spirit at work in human history,

to restore and redeem our hope with that power of new life.

God of steadfast love,

we worship you with the Spirit and the Son,

and claim your gift of new life,

even in the face of any doubt or danger within the world you love.

All praise, honour and glory be yours, O God,

now and evermore. Amen.

**O God of might and mercy,**

**in raising Jesus from the dead, you showed us your power**

**to defeat all that brings fear and sorrow to our lives.**

**In his resurrection, Jesus promised to be with us everywhere and always.**

**Yet we confess we are sometimes uncertain about your promises.**

**We doubt the promise of resurrection for our own lives.**

**Upheaval and anxiety eat away at our peace.**

**Forgive us when we struggle to trust your goodness**

**and your steadfast love for us.**

**Assurance of Pardon**

Hear and believe the good news of the Gospel.

In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven and set free from sin and sorrow.

In Jesus Christ, God offers us the gift of peace.

May the peace of our Lord Jesus Christ fill your hearts this day.

**Prayer for Understanding**

O God of Resurrection, breathe your Holy Spirit upon us now,

so that as your Word is read and preached,

we might hear, understand, and believe. Amen.

**Invitation to the Offering**

In this season of Easter, we celebrate God’s most precious gift to us in Christ’s dying and rising. As we present our offering today, let us give with thankful hearts, trusting that God can do amazing things through the gifts we offer in Jesus’ name.

**Prayer of Dedication**

Generous God,

Along with our gifts we offer you our thanks for your steadfast love, our foundation when things around us seem uncertain. Bless these gifts and the ministry of our congregation; and bless the mission we undertake as part of The Presbyterian Church in Canada. May what we offer spread the blessings we know to others, in the name of Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord.

Amen

**Prayers of Thanksgiving and Intercession**

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**Your steadfast love endures forever.**

We thank you, God, for the many ways you provide for our needs:

for air and water, for food and shelter, for work to do and rest to sustain us.

We pray for your creation, too often at risk because of the choices we’ve made.

Help us care for the earth and all its creatures and relationships.

Show us how to cherish the gifts you have given

and protect them for future generations.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**Your steadfast love endures forever.**

We thank you, God, for family:

the families we were born or adopted into,

the families we married into,

and other families who welcomed us into their midst

as friends and neighbours.

We pray for those who have lost family members and relationships,

and for any who know abuse and pain within the family circle.

 *Keep a brief silence*

God, we also thank you for friendship,

and for those who bring us joy and wise counsel.

Help us extend the gift of friendship

to those who are experiencing isolation, loneliness or grief.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**Your steadfast love endures forever.**

We thank you, God, for the peace and freedom we enjoy in Canada,

and pray that the conflict over what these gifts mean

will be soothed with deeper understanding among us all.

We pray for those who know neither freedom nor peace:

those living under oppressive regimes or in conflict zones,

and those who have fled their homelands, in search of safety.

 *Here, you may name any situations currently in the news.*

Give us courage to stand up for people who cannot stand up for themselves,

so that they too will know peace and freedom.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**Your steadfast love endures forever.**

We thank you, God, for your Church,

for our congregation and its leaders,

and for all who volunteer time, talent and energy

to the work we undertake in Jesus’ name.

By your Spirit, guide us and inspire us with new insight into mission and ministry.

We pray for other churches in our community and in our presbytery,

and the sense of mission that guides each one into service.

 *Here you could add specific mission projects the congregation supports*

 *locally, nationally or internationally.*

Fill us with a deeper sense of unity

so that we can model relationships that transcend differences

in this divided world.

We give thanks to you, O God, for you are good,

**Your steadfast love endures forever.**

O God, thank you for the gift of your Son,

whose resurrection empowers us to look to the future with hope.

Thank you for the gift of your Spirit

who draws us into unity with you and one another,

as together we offer the prayer Jesus taught us:

**The Lord’s Prayer**

**MISSION MOMENT: Sunday, April 27th**

Supported by Presbyterians Sharing and generous donations, a dedicated team brings the hope of Jesus to people in 24 prisons in Malawi. Overcrowding and underfunding means a lack of basic necessities. Stigma associated with imprisonment can result in abandonment by families and communities, leaving many feeling isolated and alone. Through weekly visits that include Bible study, prayer, and counselling, as well as monthly distribution of necessities such as bed mats, soap, toiletries, clothing, medicines and meal supplements for the most vulnerable, the Friends of Prisons ministry brings friendship and hope to prisoners.

**PRAYER PARTNERSHIP: Daily Prayers**

**Sunday, April 27 (Mission Awareness Sunday)** We pray for the Rev. Hastings Phale as he prepares to travel to Canada to share with the General Assembly wonderful stories of God’s work in Malawi prisons.

**Monday, April 28** We pray for those who will visit Crieff Hills Retreat Centre and enjoy recreation, the beauty of the area and peace.

**Tuesday, April 29** We pray for God’s blessing on clerks of presbytery and synod who have gathered for the Clerks’ Consultation in Mississauga, Ontario, to discuss polity issues of the church in a worshipful retreat atmosphere.

**Wednesday, April 30** We pray for church musicians and choirs who help lead congregations in worship and praise.

**Thursday, May 1** We give thanks for the Rev. Dr. Pat Dutcher-Walls as she connected with congregations this year.

**Friday, May 2** We pray for United Mission to Nepal staff and Nepali community leaders as they work together to reduce stigma and introduce interventions that lead to improved mental health.

**Saturday, May 3** We pray for people participating in the Guidance Conference from May 5 to 8, as candidates for ministry reflect deeply on their sense of call to ministry in the church.