

**First United Church, Mount Pearl Pastoral Charge**  
**SEASON OF EASTER**  
**Sunday, April 7, 2024**

**Praise Medley:** I Want to Walk as a Child of the Light, Trust  
and Obey, An Easter Alleluia

**Welcome and Announcements**

**Introit:** Come On and Celebrate

**Call to Worship:**

God's rainbow arches over us; we fear nothing anymore.  
For what can conquer God?

**Before the beginning, and after the end, God is, and  
God will be.**

Everything works together for God's goals.

**If God is with us, nothing we do is wasted;**

Like sunbeams dancing on a lake, even our weakest efforts will  
gather into the glory of God.

**Gales may buffet, and storm clouds may shadow,  
but God will never give up on us.**

We will arise and go now; We will sink into God's watery womb,  
**and rise again into a new life.**

A new day has dawned.

**This is the day God gave us – we will rejoice and be  
glad in it.**

**Prayer of Approach:**

**God of great surprises, God of unbounded joy, into our  
uncertainties and faltering this day, your voice echoes in  
our hearts. Help us to breathe deeply, take good heart, to  
not be afraid. We know you are the life of all things, the  
breath of creation. Today, as we worship, call us into being  
once more so we may live the life you want for us. We ask  
in Jesus' name. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Welcome, Happy Morning **VU 161**

**Prayer of Confession:**

Spirit who is in all and through all, you are the warm breath of  
God that enlivens the face of the earth and all who make a  
home upon it. In you, we know the joy of resurrection. Through  
you, we are shaped into a living testimony. But, at times, we do  
not make resurrection witness a priority. When we invest  
ourselves in ministries that serve our own needs and our own  
comforts, help us to rise with you, O Spirit, and be a living  
testimony of your way.

**When we allow the structures and politics of the  
church to stand in the way of your freedom, help us  
to rise with you, O Spirit, and be a living testimony of  
your way.**

When we stifle the voices of prophets and discourage  
movements for necessary change, help us to rise with you, O  
Spirit, and be a living testimony of your way.

**Remind us of the wonderful mysteries of life, O Spirit,  
and renew our joy within it so we will be your people  
with enthusiasm.** (silent reflection)

**Words of Assurance:**

In the words of the psalmist: We are not dead because of our  
faults and struggles, but alive with the power of God and eager  
witnesses to the work of the Spirit among us.

**Thanks be to God. Amen.**

**Hymn:** Kids Under Construction

**Offering:** For the Gift of Creation **VU 538**

**Offertory Prayer:**

**God of Easter, we thank you for the transforming power of  
your grace. Accept and bless these gifts and help us to  
grow in faith and service; through Christ our Lord. Amen.**

**Scripture Readings:** Acts of the Apostles: Acts 4:32-35  
Gospel Reading: John 20:19-31

**Hymn:** Walk with Me **VU 649**

## **Meditation**

**Ministry of Music:** 'Let Your Light Shine'

**Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer**

**Prayer Response:** Breathe On Me, Breath Of God **VU 382 v 1**

**Hymn:** Thine Is the Glory **VU 173**

## **Benediction**