

**JASPER UNITED CHURCH**  
**May 12th, 2024**  
**Seventh Sunday of Easter**

Mission Statement

“Our mission is to worship God and deepen our Christian faith. We strive to seek justice, be an inclusive, caring and accepting community, and to be stewards of God’s world.”

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I shall contemplate myself in you.  
And I shall close myself in your eternal will.  
Catherine of Siena, 14<sup>th</sup> C

**GOD GATHERS US IN**

**Prelude**

**Welcome**

**Territorial Acknowledgement**

**Announcements**

**Celebrations and Remembrances**

**Settling Moment**

**Christ Candle**

Friends, here is the light! Christ is risen!  
*(The Christ candle is lit.)*

**The Living One is in our midst, now and forevermore!**

**Call To Worship** (based on Psalm 1)

Come, Children of God, gather in the blessing of God’s love.

**We come, hungry to know this blessing, to be nourished in love.**

Be like trees planted beside streams of water, ready to be nourished.

**We come to plant our hope in streams that nourish.**

Delight in the good news, God watches over you and sees your heart.

**We are all God’s beloved. We come to worship and praise God.**

Hallelujah!

Hallelujah! Amen.

**Opening Hymn: *I Have Called You by Your Name***

**MV 161**

**Opening Prayer**

Loving God, it is good to know you recognise us by heart. We have nothing to fear; you are with us guiding us and strengthening us to live into the vision of whom you call us - Yours! We are your beloved children and You, our God. Bless us now as we gather. By the wonder of your love, fill us with even more confidence in You and your steadfast love. Then send us from this time of worship to go and share this good news with others; they are precious, they are loved. Amen

**Prayer of Confession**

**God, we can be an impatient lot. We want everything right now, instantly! We don’t want to wait for anything. We offer to You our prayers for assistance and rather than wait to hear the whisper of Your response we choose to rush for answers and choose the one that seems most convenient. We offer ways forward like a lottery draw, expecting that by divine intervention we will select the right one. Slow us down, Lord. Help us to enjoy the process of waiting for the wondrous things you offer us. Let us feel the power and beauty of praising you and singing your praises. Clear away our "high gear" mentality and place us on paths of peace and hope. Forgive our arrogance and impatience. Help us to overcome those traits which pull us away from you and from appreciating all that you have done for us. Let our hearts trust that you have filled us with all that we need to serve You faithfully. Inspire us and give us delight for what is to come. Amen.**

**Words of Assurance:**

Forgiveness and love have been poured out upon you, to offer hope to all nations. You are called and blessed to be messengers of God’s good news to all people. Amen.

(used and edited with permission from Ministry Matters)

**Conversation Time: Moose Hide Campaign**

**WE LISTEN FOR GOD’S WORD**

## **Prayer for Illumination**

O God for whom there are no barriers, no stones too big to remove, roll away our resistance to you. Let your words fill us with new life and bring us out from the tomb of indifference, alive again in you. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen. (Celebrate God's Presence, 197)

## **Scripture Readings**

**Acts 1: 15 – 17, 21 – 26**

**John 17: 1 – 22**

## **Reflection:**

Hymn: *All the Way My Savior Leads Me*

**VU 635**

### **GOD NURTURES – WE RESPOND**

## **M&S**

## **Offering**

Offering Hymn: *This is the Day That God Has Made*

**VU 175**

**(Refrain Only)**

## **Offering Prayer**

Easter reminds us of God's generous love for us. With thanksgiving and deep gratitude, we offer our gifts for God's use for the goodness of justice and love in the world. And just as we have offered our gifts, may we too continue to offer ourselves to God's service. Through these gifts and in our lives, we live in resurrection hope. Amen

## **Prayers of the People**

## **Lord's prayer**

### **GOD GOES WITH US INTO THE WORLD**

Closing Hymn: *Christ Has No Body Now But Yours*

**MV 171**

## **Commissioning & Benediction Postlude**

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Ministers: All of us by the grace of God  
Worship Leader: Rev. Linda McLaren