

# **ORDER OF SERVICE**

**SUNDAY, APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup>**

**HOLY HUMOUR SUNDAY**

**WE GATHER TO WORSHIP**

\*Please Stand Where Able

**MUSICAL PRELUDE**

**BIBLE OPENING**

**WELCOME & CELEBRATIONS**

**INTRODUCTION TO HOLY HUMOUR**

**TIME OF PREPARATION & GROUNDING**

**GREETING**

God is good,  
    **All the time.**  
All the time,  
    **God is good.**

**LIGHTING OF THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsive*)

Joy is loose,  
    **Through the laughter of friends,**  
In the sharing of moments where God was present,  
    **In the understanding smiles of our**  
        **neighbours.**

We praise God for this glorious day,  
    **Let the praise break forth in the most**  
        **unlikely places and in silly ways.**  
Joy and praise fill our hearts and in our songs  
    **Let the laughter be deep, for we are God's**  
        **people.**

**OPENING PRAYER** (*unison*)

Loving God - as we share good humour this morning – bring your healing power to bear upon our lives. Help us to hear your word in both the scriptures that are read and the stories that are told - touch us by your Spirit as we rejoice with the gifts you have given us and offer our more solemn prayers to you - Dispel the darkness that threatens and bring sunshine and healing through laughter to our souls.

We ask in the name of Jesus. Amen.

**\*HYMN VU #624**      *“Give To Us Laughter”*

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** (*unison*)

God of joy, Believing we have to be serious all the time, we miss out on the joy of your creation. Choosing to feast on the pain of the world, we skip the picnic offered in paradise. Clinging to the despair which is our best friend, we ignore Jesus, who can bring us home to your heart. Forgive us, Heart of Joy, and make us open to the startling and upside-down ways in which you work. Fill us with Easter's laughter; Fill us with your healing joy; Fill us with the love poured into us through Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior.  
(silent prayers may be offered)

**ASSURANCE OF PARDON**

The Gospels tell us .....

**Through the Holy Spirit, we are gifted with joy. We are sent forth to bring good news to the oppressed, to bring healing to the broken, to anoint everyone with the oil of gladness. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven. Amen.**

**SPECIAL MUSIC**

**WE HEAR THE WORD**

**TIME FOR ALL AGES**

**PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION**

**SCRIPTURE**

*Genesis 18: 1-15*

*Genesis 21: 1-6*

*Ecclesiastes 3: 1-4*

*Proverbs 17: 22*

This is the Word of the Lord.

*Thanks be to God!*

**REFLECTION**

*“Laughter – One of the Best Medicines”*

**\*HYMN VU #246**      *“Shout for God”*

**WE RESPOND TO THE WORD**

**INVITATION to Generosity**

*We have a “Giving Station” at each Entrance and one plate that will remain at the back entrance throughout the service.*

**\*Please Stand for the Offering Hymn while the Offering is brought forward**

**Sung Response** *“What Can I Do?” (2 times)*

*What can I do? What can I bring?  
What can I say? What can I sing?  
I'll sing with joy. I'll say a prayer.  
I'll bring my love. I'll do my share.*

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (*unison*)

Teach us, God, to offer  
the very best of who we are  
in the service of your will  
through the mission of this church:  
may we offer hope, joy, and reconciliation  
in the world so much in need.  
Receive what we give for  
the sake of Jesus Christ. Amen

**PASTORAL PRAYER**

The Lord's Prayer..... AMEN

**\*HYMN # VU574**

*"Come Let Us Sing of a Wonderful Love"*

**\*COMMISSIONING & BENEDICTION**

**\* SUNG BLESSING** MV #92 (vs 1 only)

*"Like A Rock"*

Organist will play through once  
Sing Together 2 times through

*Like a rock, like a rock, God is under our feet.  
Like the starry night sky, God is over our head.  
Like the sun on the horizon God is ever before.  
Like the river runs to ocean, our home is in  
God evermore.*

**POSTLUDE**

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**UP-COMING ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- The *Finance Stewardship & Planning Committee* will be selling DeGroot's gift cards again this year. The amounts are \$10, \$20, \$50 and \$100. The cards will be available to be purchased for the month of April. Mary Moore will be in the gym on those Sundays. Cash only Please. Thank you for your support. They can be picked up on May 5<sup>th</sup>.
- **NOTE Change of Date:** *Care Team Committee* to meet on Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 11:00 AM
- *Finance Stewardship & Planning* to meet Tuesday, April 16<sup>th</sup> at 1:00 PM
- Men's Breakfast – Wednesday, April 17<sup>th</sup> – 10:00 AM at John's Restaurant – Come join us!
- **NOTE** UCW meet on Thursday, April 18<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 PM – Come join us!
- **Session's Sandwiches, Squares & Fruit** Sunday, April 21<sup>st</sup> following our service  
A – M bring Squares and/or Fruit  
N - Z bring Sandwiches
- **Official Board Meeting** Tuesday, April 23<sup>rd</sup> at 1:00 PM – Please submit Official Board business and highlights by Wednesday
- **Pastafest Fundraiser** supporting Water for Life-Uganda Project.

Additional Information on the back table for  
events outside LRW

*"London Road West United Church is a welcoming congregation  
celebrating God's presence through worship, music, spiritual enrichment  
and outreach."*

**"Be with us: Celebrate GOD!"**

**LONDON ROAD WEST  
UNITED CHURCH**

**THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER**

APRIL 14<sup>TH</sup> , 2024

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**ORGANIST RYAN SHAW**

**HOLY HUMOUR SUNDAY**

