

***A Service of Worship and Communion at
The Waterford Residence***

Supported by : Ladner United Church and
Tsawwassen United Church

*Portions of the service printed in **bold** are spoken by the whole congregation.*

GATHERING AS PEOPLE OF GOD

GREETING and WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP: From Psalm 29

Leader: Ascribe to God, you powers of the heaven, ascribe to God all glory
and strength!

**People: Ascribe due honour to God's holy name, and worship in the
beauty of holiness.**

Leader: God sits enthroned above the waters, God is enthroned as
sovereign forever.

**People: You give strength to your people, O God. Now give to your people
the blessing of peace.**

HYMN: "Arise, Your Light is Come" SGP 19

**PRAYER: Beckoning God – who called the rich to travel toward
poverty, the wise to embrace your folly, the powerful to know their own
frailty; who gave to strangers a sense of homecoming in an alien land and
to stargazers true light and vision as they bowed to worship you – we lay
ourselves open to your signs for us.**

**Stir us with holy discontent over a world which gives its gifts to
those who have plenty already, whose talents are obvious, whose power
is recognized, and help us both to share our resources with those who
have little and to receive with humility the gifts they bring to us.**

**Rise within us, like a star, and make us restless till we journey
forth to seek our rest in you. Amen.**

*(A prayer by Kate Compston, Hamshire 1990, from "Bread of tomorrow: Praying with the world's Poor."
Edited by Janet Morley, Christian Aid 1992)*

HYMN: "O Christ, the Word Incarnate" SGP 22

SCRIPTURE READINGS : Luke 1: 46 - 55

This is the witness of God's People. **Thanks be to God.**

Reflection: Baptism of Jesus

HYMN: "O Jesus Christ, grow thou in me" SGP 27

CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION (Follow in the liturgy attached)

***HYMN: "Rise up, O saints of God" SGP 47**

BENEDICTION

May God be with us.

God is here among us.

Let us open our hearts to God.

We open them to God and to one another.

Let us give thanks to God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

We thank you, God, Creator of us all; from the beginning you made the world and all its creatures.

You made people to live for you and for one another.

We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

You created Adam and Eve and gave them a garden;
you showed Noah a rainbow; you gave Moses strength to free your people
and taught Miriam to sing; you gave courage to Esther and loyalty to Ruth;
you gave David a harp to sing your praise,
And helped him defeat the giant.

We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

Yet, even they turned away from you
and forgot about you, as we do too.

But you did not forget.

You sent Jesus to the world to show how much you love us and to bring us
back to you again.

We praise you, O God.

We praise you, O God.

He came as one of us, first an infant,
then a child, later a youth, then an adult.

He rejoiced with those who rejoiced,
and wept with those who wept.

To the despairing, he spoke a word of hope.

To the sick, he gave healing. To the hurting, he was a friend.

Still, people turned away from you.

They betrayed Jesus and nailed him to a cross.

But he was lifted from the grave and restored to life, that he might be with
us and we with him, alive for evermore!

Therefore with all the saints of every time and place, we join the angels in
their praise:

Holy, holy, holy Lord,

God of power and might,

Heaven and earth are full of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is the one who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest.

We gather at this table to remember that on the night before he died, Jesus
ate with his friends, he took a loaf of bread, and after blessing it, he broke it
and gave it to them, saying:

“Take, eat. This is my body, given for you.

Each time you do this, remember me.”

That same night, Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks,

Passed it to his friends, saying:

“Drink. This cup, poured out for you, is the promise of God.

Whenever you drink it, remember me.”

We remember Jesus’ death and celebrate his resurrection;

we await with hope his coming again

to bring peace and justice to the earth;

and we proclaim the mystery of our faith:

Christ has died.

Christ is risen.

Christ will come again.

Send, O God, your Holy Spirit upon us and what we do here,
that we and these gifts, touched by your Spirit, may be signs of life and love
to one another, and to the world.

Through Christ, with Christ, and in Christ,

in the unity of the Holy Spirit,

All glory is yours, God most holy, now and forever.

Amen.