

April 2, 2021

Dear Friends,

Holy Saturday

We make our way through Holy Saturday. A day of silence. Christ has died. I encourage you to set aside some time to reflect on the tender story of Jesus' body being laid in the tomb. (John 19:38-42) Some scripture reading lists for this day [remove the Gospel reading](#) as we sit in the sorrow of our separation from God and reflect on the death of Jesus Christ.

You may look to the psalms for help to hold on and to pray: "My times are in your hands; deliver me from the hands of my enemies, from those who pursue me. Let your face shine on your servant; save me in your unfailing love." (Psalm 31:15-16)

We wait for...

Easter Sunday Online Worship Gathering at 10 a.m.

...Resurrection. When my children were little, I used to go into their rooms Easter morning and announce: "He is Risen." I remember their sleepy heads popping up: "He is Risen, indeed!" This year, we may wish to remember that, in an ultimate sense, as this meme puts it, [lockdown never really worked around Easter!](#)

The resurrection of Christ is God's validation of everything that Jesus lived and died for. He lived and died to eliminate the power of sin, which is everything we do, think, say and are which separate us from God and from each other. Jesus lived for and was put to death for his commitment to a culture of grace, that is, radical acceptance and welcome based on love alone.

No more striving for acceptance. No more trying to be enough. Earning God's favour is not a thing. You are up to your eyeballs in grace, the unmerited favour of God. This is good news! Connection with God and abundant life in fruitful relationship with God and each other is our reality now and forevermore, through Christ, by faith.

The message of our Lord Jesus Christ, conqueror of death, has been shared from generation to generation, beginning with Mary Magdalene to the disciples...all the way to us. We – Sunnyside Wesleyan Church – are caught up in the resurrection ripple effect, a powerful movement toward Life.

As followers of Jesus, we follow Jesus! That means we take up his mercy and justice mission fueled by resurrection hope. On Sunday, we will begin a 7-week vision series meant to get us thinking about how Sunnyside Wesleyan Church is being taken up into God's mission for the blessing of Old Ottawa South, our city, our country, and our world.

Please check out this excellent [missions booklet](#) created by our Missions Team lead, Melody Bellefeuille-Frost, to help you (and, for parents, any children in your life) more fully jump in with God's work through our church.

Please [contact me](#) for a Zoom link to our Sunday service.

*Please join the Zoom meeting after 9:30 a.m. to avoid problems entering.

For this week's scripture readings and other announcements, go to [Sunday's bulletin](#).

Tuesday Prayer Team (April 6 at 11:30 a.m.)

You are welcome to [send your prayer requests](#) to our prayer team. We will remember you in prayer during Tuesday's gathering.

I leave you with this benediction:

To him who is able to keep you from stumbling and to present you before his glorious presence without fault and with great joy – to the only God our Saviour be glory, majesty, power and authority, through Jesus Christ our Lord, before all ages, now and forevermore! Amen. (Jude 24 & 25)

With love and prayers,

Pastor Kerry Kronberg (with the whole team)