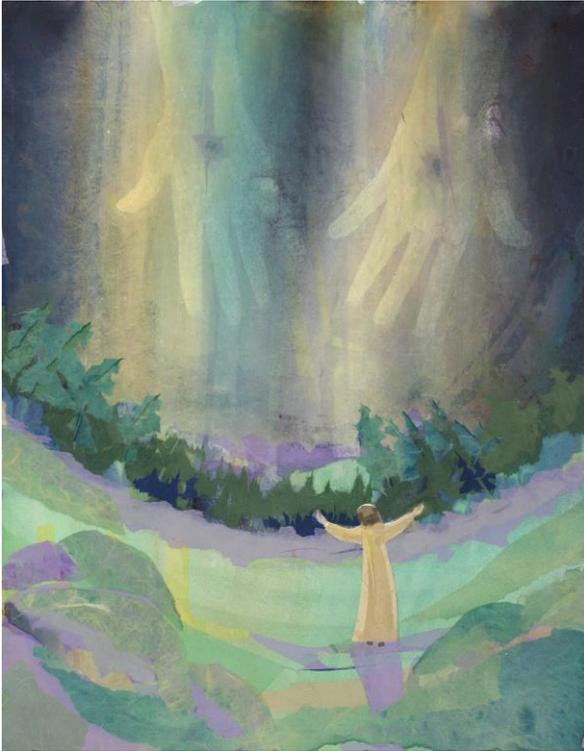




# SYDENHAM STREET UNITED CHURCH



## Easter 5 Seeing Thomas with Donald Mitchell

May 2, 2021

Since time immemorial, Indigenous peoples have occupied and cared for this land. In acknowledging this land, the traditional home of the Anishinaabe and Haudenosaunee, we seek to rebuild right relations with First Nations, Metis and Inuit peoples, to learn from them, and to live on this land with respect and gratitude for its bounty.

## FOR YOUR INFORMATION

**At this time we do not have  
a minister for the congregation.  
If you have a pastoral care concern,  
please contact Reverend Nan Hudson  
at 613-539-3751 or at [nan@kos.net](mailto:nan@kos.net)**



### CHURCH

**Sydenham Street United Church** as an Affirming Congregation seeks to be a vital faith community within The United Church of Canada engaged in spirituality, justice and creativity, informed by Jesus Christ and the Bible, and discerning the call of the Trinity as we celebrate diversity, inclusivity and abundant life.

### OFFICE HOURS

**The Spire/SSUC Office:** Tuesday-Friday 9:00 am-1:00 pm

**82 Sydenham St. Kingston ON K7L 3H4**

**SSUC Administrator:** [613-542-9616 x 202](tel:613-542-9616)

**Email:** [sydenham@kos.net](mailto:sydenham@kos.net)

**Rentals/Room Bookings @ The Spire:** [613-542-9616 x 201](tel:613-542-9616)

**Web:** [www.sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/](http://www.sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/)

**Online Sunday Services:** [www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet](https://www.youtube.com/user/SydenhamStreet)



<https://www.thespirekingston.org/>

**Bold Text** indicates the parts that everyone reads together

## **GATHERING IN COMMUNITY**

**PRELUDE**

**WELCOME**

**ACKNOWLEDGEMENT OF THE LAND**

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Spirit of new beginnings,  
show us where stones rolled away

**Let in your light and breath;**

Show us where your rising vine is greening  
**to create – in the end – a new beginning.**

Be with us and bless us

**on this Easter Road to Pentecost.**



**Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise**

**1** Immortal, invisible, God only wise;  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes;  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.

**2** Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,  
nor wanting, nor wasting, thou rulest in might;  
thy justice like mountains high soaring above  
thy clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Words: Walter Chalmers Smith Music: John Roberts  
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**GATHERING PRAYER**

**Holy Mystery, Wholly Love –  
as we gather in community to worship you,  
may we, by your grace, walk from Light into Light together,  
with the Christ’s trust that endings are beginnings in disguise;  
that the Spirit of Easter is a cosmic presence with us always  
even though we walk through the valley of the shadow  
of a pandemic cross. Amen**

# **LISTENING FOR GOD'S WORD**

## **SCRIPTURE AND GOSPEL READINGS**

Job 5:8-16 KJV

John 20:24-29 NRSV

1 Corinthians 4:1-4, 7-8 MSG

## **REFLECTIVE MUSIC**

Honest Doubting

Ashley Vanstone

## **REFLECTION**

**Seeing Thomas:**

**Travellers, Companions and Guides Along the Way**



## RESPONSIVE PSALM

*art & psalm inspired by:  
John 20:19-29*

### HONEST THOMAS

*Bless you Wise and Holy One  
for giving us a Thomas;*

**Forgive our slandering him  
as Doubting Thomas;**

*Open our eyes hearts and minds  
to embrace him  
as Honest Thomas.*

*Only Thomas dares to voice  
the craving for proof  
that cowers in the hearts  
of each of the others;*

*only Thomas dares to show  
his unbelief.*

*Twice before  
only Thomas is honest  
enough to voice  
what the others  
are too afraid to admit —*

*When they talk of going back  
to hostile Judea  
to "awaken" Lazarus,*

*Thomas voices their unspoken fear:  
"Let us go back to die with him."*

*Only Thomas is honest  
enough to admit  
they fear for their own skins, too.*

*When Jesus assumes they know  
the way to the place he is going,  
only Thomas is honest  
enough to say:*

**"Lord, we don't know  
where you are going,  
so how can we know the way?"**

*Bless you Wise and Holy One  
for giving us  
Honest Thomas —*

*for one brave enough  
to reveal what's on his mind  
and in his heart;*

*for one whose daring  
to ask and to seek  
enables us to find  
what we dare  
neither ask nor seek.*

AMEN.

# **RESPONDING TO GOD'S LOVE**

## **INVITATION TO OFFERING**

***Offerings are gratefully received through:***

**Canada Helps:**

<https://www.canadahelps.org/en/charities/sydenham-street-united-church/>

**e-transfers:**

[givingssuc@kos.net](mailto:givingssuc@kos.net)

or **Canada Post**

**For further information:**

<https://sydenhamstreet.ca/ssuc1/donate/>

## **SPECIAL MUSIC**

St. Anne's Reel  
Traditional Irish Waltz

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **HYMN VU 331**

### **The Church's One Foundation**

**1** The church's one foundation is Jesus Christ our Lord;  
we are his new creation by water and the Word;  
from heaven he came and sought us that we might forever be  
his living servant people, by his own death set free.

**2** Called forth from every nation, yet one o'er all the earth;  
one charter of salvation: one lord, one faith, one birth.  
One holy name professing and at one table fed,  
to one hope always pressing, by Christ's own Spirit led.

**3** Though with a scornful wonder the world sees us oppressed,  
by schisms rent asunder, by heresies distressed,  
yet saints their watch are keeping; their cry goes up, "How long?"  
But soon the night of weeping shall be the morn of song.

**4** Mid toil and tribulation, and tumult of our war,  
we wait the consummation of peace forevermore;  
till with the vision glorious our longing eyes are blest,  
and the great church victorious shall be the church at rest.

**5** We now on Earth have union with God the Three in One,  
and share through faith communion with those whose rest is won.  
Oh, happy ones, and holy! Lord, give us grace that we  
like them, the meek and lowly, on high may dwell with thee.

Words: Samuel John Stone Music: Samuel Sebastian Wesley  
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## **COMMISSIONING**

## **BENEDICTION**

**THANK YOU FOR  
TALENTS SHARED**

**Travelling Companions for Service**

**Donald Mitchell  
Ruth Ranson**

**Music Director and Organist**

**Michael T. Fenn**

**Ms. Annica McDougall, violinist from Queen's University**

**Ashley Vanstone, "From Light into Light" © 2008**

**Original Art by Barb Carr**

**Inspiration and creative framework source  
Stations of the Light by Mary Ford-Grabowski © 2005**



## NOTICES

### Two Church Lunch and Learn

**Our Two Church Lunch and Learn Group will meet by ZOOM on Tuesday May 11<sup>th</sup> 2021**

We are very pleased to have as our speaker Craig Boals, General Manager The Cataraqui Cemetery Company. The title of his presentation is Cataraqui Cemetery and Modern Challenges. Craig will offer some helpful insight and understanding as to how Kingston's historic cemetery operates in the 21st century.

***Signing into ZOOM will commence at 12.45 pm. At 1.10 pm we will have congregational announcements and then introduce our speaker.***

Everyone from Sydenham St. and Chalmers and your friends are invited to attend. If you wish to attend this event, please contact Meikle Turner at 613-542-7744 or [meikle\\_irish@yahoo.com](mailto:meikle_irish@yahoo.com). for the ZOOM link, preferably by Sunday evening May 9<sup>th</sup>.

This is our last meeting of this season of Lunch & Learn. Please let us know if there are speakers of topics/people you would like Lunch and Learn to invite for next year's program. We hope to meet in late May or early June to plan next year's program. Contact anyone on last year's planning team with ideas you have – Juliet Milsome, Juliet Huntly, Meikle Turner, Al Fletcher, Jim Leake, Kenn Doerksen, Eileen Woloshyn, Gerald McGrath and Bruce Hutchinson ([hutchinb@queensu.ca](mailto:hutchinb@queensu.ca))