

BETHESDA UNITED METHODIST CHURCH

10:30 a.m. Sunday 23 April 2023

Third Sunday after Easter/Native American Ministries Sunday

ENTRANCE

Prelude and Lighting of Candles

Announcements *(To help us connect, please sign
the attendance pad in your pew)*

*Greeting**:

Praise the Lord!

Praise God's holy Name!
The Lord has heard our cries and listened to us.

We call upon the Lord as long as we live.

(Psalm 116)

*Praise Choruses: 3142 "I Love the Lord"
3086 "Day of Arising"

*Opening Prayer^:

Grandfather, Great Spirit,

You have always been, and before you nothing has been.

There is no one to pray to but you.

The star nations all over the heaven are yours,
and yours are the grasses of the earth.

You are older than all need, older than all pain and prayer.

Grandfather, Great Spirit, fill us with light.

Give us strength to understand and eyes to see.

Teach us to walk the soft earth as relatives to all that live.

Help us, for without you we are nothing. Amen.

Traditional Dakota Tribe Prayer

*Opening Hymn: 98 "To God Be the Glory"

PROCLAMATION AND RESPONSE

Prayer for Illumination: 351 "Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior")
(Verse 2 only)

First Lesson: Acts 2:14a, 36-41

(2)

Psalter: 837 *(Response 2: Spoken)* Psalm 116

Second Lesson: 1 Peter 1:17-23

*Hymn of Preparation: 301 "Jesus, Keep Me Near the Cross"

*Gospel Lesson: Luke 24:13-35

Sermon: *"Easter evening"*

Affirmation of Faith: 883: "A Statement of Faith
of the United Church of Canada"

Joys, Concerns, Prayers

The Peace: Let us offer one another
signs of reconciliation and love.
The peace of Christ be with you.
And also with you.

THANKSGIVING

Invitation: As forgiven and reconciled people,
let us offer ourselves and our gifts to God.

Offering/Offertory

*Doxology: 369 *(Verse 2 only)* ""Blessed Assurance""

*Prayer of Thanksgiving: 419 *(Verse 2 only)*
"I Am Thine, O Lord"

*The Lord's Prayer: 895

SENDING FORTH

*Closing Hymn: 407 "Close to Thee"

*Blessing^:

Before us it is blessed, behind us it is blessed,

(3)

**below us it is blessed, above us it is blessed,
around us it is blessed as we set out with Christ.**

Our speech is blessed as we set out for God.

**With beauty before us, with beauty behind us,
with beauty below us, with beauty above us,
with beauty around us, we set out
for a holy place indeed.**

Amen. *(Traditional Navaho Prayer, alt.)*

*Extinguishing of Candles and Postlude

*Going Forth

*Indicates the people standing, if able and willing

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