



Salisbury United Church
Revelation Series, Service #4
November 12, 2023



Remembrance Day

Welcome & Announcements

Acknowledgement of Territory

Hymn Medley:

God Reveal Your Presence; #391VU, v. 1 & 2

God reveal your presence: as we now adore you,
 and with awe appear before you.
 Here in this your temple: all within keep silence,
 gather now with deepest reverence.
 You alone, God we own, you our God and Saviour:
 praise your name forever.



God reveal your presence: hear the harps resounding;
 see the crowds the throne surrounding.
 "Holy, holy, holy!" Hear the hymn ascending,
 angels, saints, their voices blending.
 Bow your ear to us here;
 hearken, O Lord Jesus, to our humble praises.

Open My Eyes, That I May See, #371VU, v. 1 & 2

Open my eyes that I may see,
 glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
 place in my hands the wonderful key,
 that shall unclasp and set me free.
 Silently now, I wait for thee,
 ready my God thy will to see.
 Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit divine.

Open my ears and let me hear,
 voices of truth thou sendest clear;
 and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
 everything false will disappear.
 Silently now, I wait for thee,
 ready my God thy will to see.
 Open my eyes illumine me, Spirit divine.

Come, (Christians), Join to Sing; #345VU

Come, Christians, join to sing: Hallelujah!
 Praise to our Servant King: Hallelujah!
 Let all with heart and voice,
 saved by God's gracious choice,
 now in this place rejoice: Hallelujah!

Come, lift your hearts on high: Hallelujah!
 Let praises fill the sky: Hallelujah!
 Christ calls his people friends,
 the helpless he defends,
 a love that never ends: Hallelujah!

Praise yet our Christ again: Hallelujah!
 Raise high the joyous strain: Hallelujah!
 The whole creation o'er
 let all God's love adore,
 singing for evermore: Hallelujah!

Call to Prayer:

The Spirit of God bids us, "Come!"

Come everyone who hears with the ears of your hearts.
 Come everyone who thirsts in your soul for the water of life.
Come everyone who hungers for a banquet of justice and peace.



Come, people of God, Come!

God's people arrive, crying out, "Amen!"

Heaven and earth respond together today, saying, "Amen and Amen!"
Amen and Amen!

Welcoming the Light of Christ:

Let us proclaim the presence
 of the light of Christ together:

**The light of Christ is with us,
 between us and all around us.
 Thanks be to God.**



Passing of the Peace: (placing a hand over the heart)

May the peace of Christ be with you!
And also with you!



Opening Prayer & The Lord's Prayer:

O Holy God of past, present and future,
fill us with your joy and empower us with your Holy Spirit.
In a world which longs for your justice and peace,
renew our strength that we may overcome
and sing a new song of your glory and faithfulness.
We ask this in the name of Jesus,
the true light which enlightens everyone,
and the doorway through which
we may yet emerge to become your new creation.
So saying we prayer together ...

**Our Father, who art in heaven,
Hallowed be thy name.
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread,
and forgive us our trespasses,
as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory,
for ever and ever, amen.**

(Source: <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/04/opening-prayer-new-song.html>)


Hymn: Holy, Holy, Holy, (Santo, Santo, Santo); 951VU
(Spanish, beginning only)

Santo, Santo, Santo, my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart is glad to say the words: You are holy, God!

Discovery Time:

Hymn: Lord Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary; #18MV

Lord prepare me, to be a sanctuary,
pure and holy, tried and true;
With thanksgiving I'll be a living
sanctuary for you.

Scripture Reading: Revelation 8-12 (selected verses) 
(responsive reading)

Then, as I looked, I saw the Lamb opening the seventh seal on the
scroll of God, and silence suddenly filled heaven and earth.

**After the silence, seven angels began to blow seven trumpets
one by one.**



With each trumpet blast a new affliction was released on the earth as
in the days of old in Egypt.

**After the sixth trumpet blast, I heard seven thunders but was told
to seal up their voices so no one could understand them.**

After the thunders, the seventh angel blew its trumpet and the chorus
of heaven and earth rose again, calling, "The empire of the world has
become the dominion of our God, where the Messiah will rule forever
and ever! Now is the time for judgement and destruction of those who
destroy the earth."

Then great signs appeared in the heavens.

First, there was a woman about to give birth, clothed with the sun and
moon and wearing a crown of twelve stars, and a dragon was about
to devour her.

**The woman gave birth to a boy-child but he was snatched up to
heaven, while the woman fled into the desert.**


The angels of heaven fought the dragon and cast the dragon to the
earth, where the dragon became the great serpent who deceived the
world in the beginning,

**The woman fled on eagle's wings while the serpent rose up and
tried to drown her in a river of water.**

The very earth itself came to the woman's rescue by opening its
mouth and swallowing the river to its foundations.

**The dragon, defeated, then began to seek to destroy the
woman's other offspring, those who keep to the way and
testimony of Jesus the Messiah.**

Salisbury Singers: "Christ Is Made the Sure Foundation"

Scripture Reading: Revelation 13 (responsive reading) 

Next, I saw a great beast coming out of the sea.

He had ten horns, each crowned in gold.

There were seven heads and each head had a blasphemous name.
**The whole world was astonished and admired the beast, saying,
"Who is like the beast and who can make war against him?"**

The beast uttered blasphemies with pride, slandering the name of
God and those who live in the heavenly realm.

**The beast had power to make war against the saints of God, and
to conquer every tribe, language, people and nation.**

All inhabitants of the earth worshipped the beast.

Let those with ears to hear listen. Whoever is destined to live by the sword will die by the sword.

This calls for patient endurance and faithfulness on the part of the saints.

Then I saw another beast coming out of the earth.

He performed great and miraculous signs and was given power to act on behalf of the first beast.

He built an image of the first beast and caused all who would not worship the image to be killed.

Everyone, free and slave, small and great, rich and poor, had to bear the mark of the beast or they could not buy or sell anything.

The mark of the beast is the name of the beast.

The mark of the beast is a man's number, it is 666.

This calls for certain wisdom to understand.

Let those with ears to hear, listen.

Hymn: Open Your Ears, O Faithful People; #272VU, *chorus*
(note: words changed)

God *is speaking* to the people, Hallelujah.

God *is speaking* to the people, Hallelujah.

Sermon: "The Sign of the Terrible Beast"

Hymn: O for a World; #697VU

O for a world where everyone respects each other's ways, where love is lived and all is done with justice and with praise.

O for a world where goods are shared and misery relieved, where truth is spoken, children spared, equality achieved.

We welcome one world family and struggle with each choice that opens us to unity and gives our vision voice.

The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the foolish ones are wise.

Tell all who mourn: outcasts belong, who perishes will rise.



O for a world preparing for God's glorious reign of peace, where time and tears will be no more, and all but love will cease.

Acknowledgement of Offering: (with introduction by Rev. Britt)

We offer ourselves with our gifts, confident that you have a purpose for them and for us. Expand our limited vision to embrace new possibilities. May our offering reach beyond the barriers of our former thinking and doing.

In the Spirit of Christ, we would pray and live. Amen.



(Source: *Flames of the Spirit*, page 91)

Prayers for the Journey:

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

'Amen, Amen, make all things new!'

Holy, holy, holy, God, who is and was and ever shall be, your blessed Spirit abides with us and does not abandon us, though we sometimes choose to live by a spirit which is not of you.

Trade and knowledge, fortune and poverty, controversy and activism, anxiety and despair, prejudice and righteousness can distort our understanding of who and whose we are.

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

'Amen, Amen, make all things new!'

Our distorted understanding keeps us from welcoming the Spirit that moves within each of us and spreads to all.

The Spirit of what is holy ever incites us to praise you, God, and act as your witnesses in the world.

But accepting the call has been hard for us in the face of our own weaknesses and the world's injustice.

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'

'Amen, Amen, make all things new!'

Let us acknowledge our joys and sorrows, successes and defeats, as an act of accountability for our lives and the life of our world.

We offer this prayer as an act of faith in the presence of the Spirit running through our lives and church.

Let us pray in silence as we eagerly anticipate the movement of the Spirit in our lives, in our church, in all creation.

(prayers in silence)

Lord you said, 'See, I am making all things new.'
'Amen, Amen, make all things new!'



By faith and grace and the Word given to us in Jesus the Christ, we know that your Spirit is our lifelong companion, given to move among us and refresh us as both advocate and comforter.

With this great hope, let us look to the future, remembering to live forward again toward that day when the new creation shall come and transform the face of the earth.

May it be so, O God.

May it be so. Amen.

Saying Goodbye to The Light of Christ:

The Christ light can never be put out.
Even when we blow it out, it simply changes form,
and drifts like smoke into all the four directions of the world.



(The light is extinguished)

**The smoke rises like a blessing, until we meet again,
and can put a flame to the candle wick, declaring that the light of
Christ is with us, between us and all around us.**

Hymn: We Shall Overcome; #512W&R

We shall overcome, we shall overcome,
We shall overcome some day!
Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe we shall overcome some day!

The Lord will see us through, the Lord will see us through,
The Lord will us through some day!
Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe we shall overcome some day!

We are not afraid, we are not afraid,
We are not afraid today.
Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe we shall overcome some day!

We shall live in peace, we shall live in peace,
We shall live in peace someday!
Oh, deep in my heart,
I do believe we shall overcome some day!

Blessing:

The grace of the Lord Jesus Christ be with all God's people.
And let the multitude of God's people say, "Amen."
Amen and Amen!!! (Revelation 22:21)

Sung Blessing:

*May the love of our God, rest upon your soul,
May God's love dwell in you throughout every day.*

*Amen, Amen, Amen Amen, Amen, Amen.
Amen, Amen, Amen Amen, Amen, Amen.*



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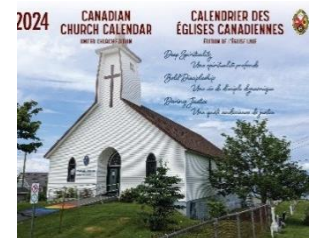
Music:

God, Reveal Your Presence; Public Domain
Open My Eyes that I May See; Public Domain
Come, Children (Christians), Join to Sing; Public Domain, 1987
Holy, Holy, Holy; Public Domain
Lord, Prepare Me to Be a Sanctuary; John W. Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982
Open Your Ears, O Faithful People; GIA Publications, 1985
O for a World; Public Domain
We Shall Overcome; Hope Publishing Company, 2011

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UNITED CHURCH OF CANADA CALENDARS

We have placed a small bulk order for the 2024 UC Canadian Church Calendars. If you are interested in purchasing one for \$7.50, please contact the office and we will notify you when they are ready for pick-up.



BOOK OF REVELATION Q & A SESSION - NOV. 19TH

There will be a Question & Answer session after worship service on Sunday, November 19th to answer any questions you may have about the Book of Revelation and the series, "Reading the Book of Revelation With Normal People", which goes until November 26th.



TEA & BAKE SALE: Saturday, November 25th from 10am-1pm

Our annual Bake Sale & Light Lunch will take place on Saturday, November 25th from 10am-1pm in the Church Auditorium. Tickets are \$5 (children 6 and under are FREE). This is an excellent opportunity to enjoy a light lunch, enter your name for a door prize draw, and best of all, purchase some homemade goodies for the holidays!



CONGREGATIONAL BUDGET MEETING: Sunday, November 26th



The annual Congregational Budget Meeting is on Sunday, November 26th following worship service. There will be refreshments and snacks beforehand. Additional details regarding the upcoming 2024 budget will be released soon.

TRUEARTH FUNDRAISER - Sale from Nov 1-Dec 10

Our ongoing fundraiser with TruEarth, a Canadian company which sells environmentally friendly cleaning products for your laundry, kitchen, and bathroom, is having a sale that runs from Nov 1st to Dec 10th and features some awesome bundles for amazing prices, so you won't want to miss a chance to support our fundraiser!

Also, new this year, TruEarth is offering a weekly Buy One, Get One, Give One - When you buy one item, you get the second item for Free that you can either use yourself or give to someone you know. And TruEarth will donate a third item to charity! Orders can be placed online through our fundraising link, or contact the office by the 25th of the month to place a bulk order.

LOOKING FOR HELP WITH SET-UP SUNDAY MORNINGS



If you are able to help any Sunday at 10:00am, for a few minutes, to set up a few tables and chairs in the auditorium, it would be greatly appreciated.

STRATHCONA COUNTY FOOD BANK DONATIONS



Please bring non-perishable items to donate to the Strathcona Food Bank. There is a yellow bin in the Narthex for donations along with a list of most-needed items.



Finance Corner

Update for September 2023

	ACTUAL	BUDGET
Income:	\$158,940.86	\$151,228.50
Expense:	\$185,194.34	\$168,705.11
	(\$26,253.48)	(\$17,476.61)

With just three months to go in our fiscal year, we're currently facing a \$26,000 deficit, which is \$8800 more than budgeted. There's still hope of finishing the year in the black however. Typically, givings increase and expenses level off as we near the Christmas season. Year end fundraisers also help out.

In 2022, 38.6% of the year's revenue was received in the last quarter, even though that three-month period accounted for only 25% of the year. If that trend continues this year, we just might break even or perhaps wind up with a small surplus.

So, folks, it's up to us to ensure we finish 2023 in good financial shape. We can do it!

Thank you for your continuing support of Salisbury United Church.

If you need any help with giving envelopes – new supply, pick-up, etc. – or other giving options (monthly giving through PAR, e-transfer or donating online through Canada Helps on the Salisbury Website), please contact: Brittany at the Church Office.

Phone: 780-467-7310