

SUNDAY, APRIL 5

Easter for Everyone

NEW

30 MINUTES

1:30 pm

A family-friendly service
featuring the Children's Community Choir



April 5, 2026 at 1:30pm
with the Children's Community Choir

The Cathedral Church of St. James
Diocese of Toronto • Anglican Church of Canada

Welcome to St. James Cathedral

This sacred land is the territory of several Indigenous Nations - the Wendat, the Haudenosaunee, and the Anishnaabe, and the Métis peoples, with special recognition to the Mississaugas of New Credit. We also acknowledge that we are on the shores of Niigaani-gichigami/Lake Ontario. This territory is governed by the Dish With One Spoon Wampum Belt Treaty, an agreement between the Haudenosaunee Confederacy and the Anishnaabe Confederacy to peaceably share and sustain the life of the Great Lakes. In the spirit of that Treaty we seek to place at the centre of our gatherings the values of respectful reciprocity, diversity, peace, responsibility, and mutual aid.

Welcome to Easter for Everyone! We are so excited to share these moments with you as we celebrate Easter together.

St. James Cathedral is here to serve all the people of Toronto. We do this through services and events, concerts and lectures, through the work of our Friday Drop-In and our Refugee Committee.

Please do come again. You can follow us through our website and social media presence, or join us for a service on any Sunday as follows:

8:00am Said Eucharist *Simple Communion service in traditional language*

9:00am Worship Together *All-ages Communion service with music*

11:00am Choral Eucharist *Sensory-rich Communion service with the Cathedral Choir*

4:30pm Choral Evensong *Meditative prayer service with the Cathedral Choir*

Live-streaming on the Cathedral's YouTube channel

www.youtube.com/@StJamesCathedralToronto/streams

Children & Families

Sunday School meets every week at the 11:00am service.

Please email Karyne Whalen at kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca for more information.

For more information on our Children's Community Choir, please email Director Cara Halpin at chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca

Accessibility

An All-Gender Wheelchair Accessible Washroom is located at the front of the Cathedral through the doors by the pulpit.

Assisted hearing devices are available from the sidespersons.

Connect with the Cathedral

Visit our website at stjamescathedral.ca | Follow us on Facebook at facebook.com/stjamesto

*As this is a very public and open space please be aware of your personal belongings.
Do not leave them unattended in the Cathedral or in the Cathedral Centre.*

THE GATHERING OF THE COMMUNITY

Our practice during this liturgy is to sit for Scripture readings and the Homily, and stand, sit, or kneel for prayer. These are guidelines and we invite you to assume a posture that is most comfortable for you during the service.

Welcome

Hymn **Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee**

Tune: Hymn to Joy

All
Joyful, joyful, we adore thee,
God of glory, Lord of love;
hearts unfold like flowers before thee,
opening to the sun above.
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness,
drive the dark of doubt away;
giver of immortal gladness,
fill us with the light of day.

All thy works with joy surround thee,
earth and heaven reflect thy rays;
stars and angels sing around thee,
centre of unbroken praise.

Field and forest, vale and mountain,
flowery meadow, flashing sea,
chanting bird and flowing fountain
call us to rejoice in thee.

Thou art giving and forgiving,
ever blessing, ever blest,
well-spring of the joy of living,
ocean depth of happy rest!
Thou our Father and our Mother,
all who live in love are thine;
teach us how to love each other,
lift us to the joy divine.

Text: Henry van Dyke, alt. Music: Ludwig van Beethoven; arr. Edward Hodges

Officiant Alleluia! Christ is risen.

People **The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia!**

Officiant God be with you.

People **And also with you.**

Officiant

Let us pray.

Mighty God, in the resurrection of your Son you have overcome the power of sin and death and made all things new. May we who share in the resurrection of Christ also reign with him in glory, who with you and the Holy Spirit is alive, one God, now and forever.

All

Amen.

Carol

This Little Light of Mine

Choir

This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine.
This little light of mine,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Everywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine.
Everywhere I go,
I'm gonna let it shine,
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine.

Traditional, arr. Christine Donkin

Carol

Michael Row the Boat Ashore

Choir

Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah,
Michael row the boat ashore, hallelujah.

Sister help to trim the sails, hallelujah,
Sister help to trim the sails, hallelujah.

If you get there before I do, hallelujah,
Tell my friends I'm coming too, hallelujah.

African American Spiritual, arr. Christine Donkin

Please be seated.

Matthew 28:1-10

The Reading

Reader

A reading from the Gospel of Matthew.

After the Sabbath, at dawn on the first day of the week, Mary Magdalene and the other Mary came to look at the tomb. Look, there was a great

earthquake, for an angel from the Lord came down from heaven. Coming to the stone, he rolled it away and sat on it. Now his face was like lightning and his clothes as white as snow. The guards were so terrified of him that they shook with fear and became like dead men. But the angel said to the women, “Don’t be afraid. I know that you are looking for Jesus who was crucified. He isn’t here, because he’s been raised from the dead, just as he said. Come, see the place where they laid him. Now hurry, go and tell his disciples, ‘He’s been raised from the dead. He’s going on ahead of you to Galilee. You will see him there.’ I’ve given the message to you.”

With great fear and excitement, they hurried away from the tomb and ran to tell his disciples. But Jesus met them and greeted them. They came and grabbed his feet and worshipped him. Then Jesus said to them, “Don’t be afraid. Go and tell my brothers that I am going into Galilee. They will see me there.”

Reader The word of the Lord.

People Thanks be to God.

Reflection

Carol When Children Join Hands and Sing

Choir

The sun shines all over the world,
And winter snows turn into spring,
The raindrops stop falling and rainbows appear,
When children join hands and sing.

From countries all over the world,
‘Cross oceans their voices will ring,
The chorus will echo through valleys and hills,
When children join hands and sing.

Meadows will glisten with morning dew,
Sunlight will sparkle the whole day through,
Children will sing as they dance along,
Children will smile as they sing a song.

To people all over the world,
The voices of children will bring,
A promise of hope and of peace, and of joy,
When children join hands and sing.

Edward Rutherford

The Prayers

Please adopt a posture of prayer.

Officiant Let us pray. As we offer our prayers together, when you hear the words “God of life,” please respond with “Hear our prayer.”

Leader God of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Today we celebrate the joy of Easter birthed in Christ’s resurrection. May we and all your Church share in this joy and let it lead us to become people who embody the Gospel in all the world.

God of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Today we celebrate the hope of new life shown in the resurrection. May we hold this hope close in our hearts all year and let it lead us to nurture reason for hope in those who have cause to despair.

God of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Today we celebrate the freedom from sin and oppression given in the resurrection. May we embrace that liberation and let it lead us to act for justice and peace, that all people may live fully into the freedom you offer.

God of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

Leader Today we celebrate the unstoppable life-giving love revealed in the resurrection. May we trust in your promise that not even death can separate us from this love and let it lead us to show forth that love with our very lives.

God of life,

People **Hear our prayer.**

The Lord’s Prayer

Officiant Rejoicing in God’s presence here among us, let us pray as our Saviour taught us.

All **Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours, now and for ever. Amen.**

Officiant May God, who out of defeat brings new hope and new alternatives, bring you new life, and the blessing of God almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be among you and remain with you always.

All **Amen.**

Instructions for Easter Egg Hunt

Officiant Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia, Alleluia!

People **Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!**

Hymn **Halle, Halle, Hallelujah**

Please stand.

All Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Halle, Halle, Hallelujah.

Halle, Halle, Hallelujah. Hallelujah, Hallelujah.

Officiant & Homilist: The Reverend Canon Kristen Pitts (Canon Missioner)

Accompanist: Karri Yano

Children's Community Choir Director: Cara Halpin

chalpin@stjamescathedral.ca

Children, Youth, and Family Minister: Karyne Whalen

kwhalen@stjamescathedral.ca

EASTER EGG HUNT

2:00 pm

All children are welcome.
Plenty of Easter eggs!



FREE EVENT.
PLEASE SCAN
TO REGISTER.



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