

May 22, 2011

Easter V Year A

**Welcome to
Ellesmere United Church**


Unit 160-8960 University High Street, Burnaby, BC, V5A 4Y6

If this is your first time with us, thank you for coming. Your presence is a blessing for us.

We hope you find a community for worship and a place for personal prayer.

If you have any questions about the order or nature of our community worship, feel free to ask your greeter today, the minister, or the people around you.

We want you to be comfortable and unburdened in our midst, and at peace in your experience of God in worship.

*  Indicates the community standing as able.

@ Indicates the text the minister is reading and reflecting on this Sunday.

What's Happening in Our Faith Community (from 10:45 until 11:00)

**Opening of Worship
Lighting of the Christ Candle**

Leader: Come, my Light, my Feast, my Strength; Such a Light, as shows a feast;

Such a Feast, as mends in length;

Such a Strength, as makes his guest.

(Lights the Christ Candle)

Community: **Come, my Joy, my Love, my Heart; Such a Joy, as none can move;**

Such a Love, as none can part;

Such a Heart, as joys in love.

Silent Prayer of Centering

(Let the sounding of the singing bowl lead you into a time of silent centering prayer and with its second sounding bring you back to community.)

Holy Greeting

Minister: The peace of the Risen Christ, be with you all.

Community: **And also with you.**

Sharing the Peace of Christ

(The assembly is invited to share the peace with one another either by a hand on each shoulder embrace or by the clasping of the hands and a bow.)

♪ **Song MV #42 *Praise God for This Holy Ground***

Prayer:

Scripture Readings:

1st Reading: John 14: 1-14

Reader: Hear what the Spirit is saying to the Church.

Community: **Thanks be to God.**

Psalm: 31: 1-5, 15-16 Paraphrase by Nan. C. Merrill (see insert)

2nd Reading: Acts: 6: 1-6, 8-15. Acts 7: 55-60.

Minister: This is the witness of the Early Church.

Community: **Thanks be to God!**

Musical Reflection

Theological Reflection

♪ **Song *You Are My Witnesses* (see insert)**

Prayers of Community

♪ Prayer of Jesus (sung) VU # 959 *The Lord's Prayer*

Invitation to Give

♪ Song of Praise and Dedication

In gratitude and humble trust

We bring our best today.

To serve your cause and share your love

With all along life's way.

O God, who gave yourself to us

In Jesus Christ your Son,

Teach us to give ourselves each day

Until life's work is done!

Closing of Worship

Leader: Holy One, we are glad you came to give Light to our world.

(Extinguishes the Christ Candle)

Community: **Keep us in Your Light**

In joy and in sorrow hold us with You and with God.

♪ Song MV # 148 *Hope of Abraham and Sarah*

Benediction

♪ Choral Amen

