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Easter 2022

Roddickton

hen the announcement was given for Easter, it brought great anticipation for a wonderful gathering! This was great! Even though it would just be for our local church family instead of

combined services, it would be special! This year our whole congregation would be able to get together at the same time, which was not the case last Easter due to covid capacity limits.

There was a Good Friday service and two services on Sunday! Pastor Chris gave the invitation to come and pray at the church anytime during Easter week, what we call Passion week, to prepare our hearts for the special services on Good Friday and Sunday. There was a beautiful display of the cross centered on the back wall of the platform, and an open Bible set up. This made for a great opportunity to come into the quietness of God's House at any time leading up to our services!

Good Friday

Three large crosses were displayed on the church grounds. When Good Friday night came, coming into the parking lot, was such a beautiful sight! It felt wonderful from the very beginning. As we arose from prayer, and the prelude began, it was great to see so many present including visitors. What an awesome Spirit pervaded the air as we sang classic songs such as, *"He was Nailed to the Cross for me."* The focus for Good Friday was the cross of course and Pastor Vanzel gave a wonderful message on Calvary, and the high price that was paid for our redemption! It was the ultimate sacrifice. Thank God the story doesn't end there! It's Friday, but Sunday's coming! *"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6.*

Easter Sunday morning was an outstanding service. It began with the song, "*He is Risen*." We could not keep our seats as the power of our risen Saviour started falling all over the church. The saints were on their feet, hands held up, praising the Lord! There were amazing testimonies of God's power. Pastor Chris gave a wonderful message on the Resurrection of our Lord! He also gave a short message after we sang, "Lead me to Calvary" to prepare our hearts



before partaking in the Lord's Supper. What a sweet Spirit as we remembered His broken body and shed blood. Following the service, our Pastor and wife also delivered sacrament to our saints who were not able to attend.

What beautiful singing in the Sunday evening service and again our hearts were filled with the Spirit of God, as there was much freedom and unity in worship! Testimonies from those who had not witnessed in a very long time was such a blessing as they stood and told of the goodness of God. As the Spirit led, abundant showers of blessing spread throughout the church. It is not easy to describe such outpouring of the Spirit in our midst. Oh what a wonderful time and place to be, under the showers of blessings! There was no preaching, as the altar call was given to come and continue to bask in His presence. To conclude, as it seemed nobody was in a hurry to leave Father's house, beautiful voices rang out in choruses!

Our final selection was, *"I'll Praise my Lord Forevermore."* We sang this beautiful benediction from our hearts, as He deserves our praise forever. Thank you, Jesus! It was a blessed Easter weekend!

On Sunday, April 24, an announcement was made that the Sunday school Department Heads, teachers, musicians, and students were all invited for an in-person gathering to be held the next evening at 7:00 pm. We had been missing Sunday school very much since the pandemic, and when the time arrived on Monday evening, it was so wonderful to see a great number of students in attendance. There were also AF children who have moved to our area recently. Everyone was given a warm welcome in the Youth Chapel, which was nicely decorated, complete with a "Welcome Back" poster. We called it the "Welcome Back Session" since it wasn't Sunday, but it felt very much like Sunday school. This had been planned to do during Easter, however circumstances didn't allow it during that week.

The students were attentive right from the start, and they were asked individually if they were happy to be back! It felt so good to participate in songs and have them involved in a question-and-answer session. There was an activity which included an Easter Egg hunt with Easter Story symbols inside eggs, plus treats. The crucifixion and resurrection were all covered in the activity. We enjoyed it fully and the refreshments that followed! It was also an opportunity to fellowship together over delicious baked



goods and treats. This was our first gathering in our newly renovated area in the basement, which looks and feels great! God has

been so good to us and has protected us over the past two years. We also witnessed that the children have



certainly grown physically during this time! Thank God for His protection over them.

Pastor Chris, in his comments, announced that in-person Sunday school would be re-starting soon if all goes well, should the Lord tarry. Sunday school lays the seeds and foundation for our future church, and we are looking forward to holding it regularly!

Also on Sunday evening, April 24, brother Kevin had a great message entitled, "Covered by the Blood." He began with the words, the devil would like us to never mention the blood, but it doesn't change the fact that "...the Blood of Jesus Christ his Son cleanseth us from all sin." 1 John 1:7. Using Exodus 12:3-13 as his primary reference, he brought out the point that there were very specific instructions given on what was to be done, so that the death angel would pass by! There had to be

blood on the doorposts! This pointed ahead to the time when there would be a spotless lamb required, without blemish, whose blood would atone for the sins of the world. We have specific



instructions in the Word of God on how to live a life for Christ, free of sin. It is not our status in society that will save us! It doesn't matter the car we drive, the house we live in, our family roots, how many people we associate with in high places, or even the Pastor in our church. Jesus will come for those who are covered by the blood. The death plague was loosed in the streets of Egypt that night. Every household would lose someone, except those who took refuge under the blood, and displayed it on *THEIR* doorposts. There were no secret believers that day, it was on the front of the house. Only the blood separated the living and the dead, and it still takes the blood for a soul to be saved. The call of the gospel goes out to all. *Acts 4:12*. Our Saviour having paid the price for each one, made the way to Heaven for whosoever will. There is a requirement though, to be covered by that precious blood!

Toronto

We concluded the memorial of the Passion week celebration reflecting on the Passover, betrayal, trial and the crucifixion of our Lord Jesus, who chose to die rather than to call 10,000 angels, for the sole purpose to reconcile us with God. The Toronto church marked the good Friday service online at 1:00 pm EST with congregants and guests. There were songs, testimonies of how Christ saved us from our sins and gifted us with joy and peace. A message from God's Word followed. Bro. Randy Antalan took his text from the gospel of *St. John 19:28-30* focusing on Jesus' words, *"I thirst."* After years of His ministry here on earth and all the way to the cross of Calvary, Jesus is spiritually thirsty of souls seeking for salvation.

"He is not here: for he is risen, as he said. Come, see the place where the Lord lay." Matthew 28:6

Toronto church Easter concert entitled, "He is Risen" began with the rendition of *"Christ Arose"*, by the congregation, accompanied by the orchestra.



It was refreshing to sing about how our Lord triumphantly arose from the dead. For the first time we had the flute and saxophone added to the existing orchestra instruments (violin, clarinet, cello, and piano). It is also uplifting to hear our young ones playing instruments and singing beautiful songs of praises to the Lord. They sang, *"Lord I lift your Name on High,"* with full enthusiasm that you can feel they meant what they were singing. There was a good turn-out to be part of the commemoration of Christ's resurrection from the dead.

The Lord Jesus Christ continues to add laborers to His vineyard at Toronto. This quarter, he has added to our



fold the Akazue family from Ghana: Brother Moses, Pearl, and their son Paul. Brother Moses is a choir member, Sunday school teacher and a youth minister. Pearl is a member of the choir. She also provides interpretation in sign language, a practical demonstration of Christian service that aligns with our Sunday school theme for this quarter which is "It is all yours, Lord." This quarter we have been learning how to use different parts of our body for the service of the Lord.

Bunmi Olamijulo of Anthony, Nigeria, joined the Toronto church. She has come to Canada as an international student. We pray that God will give her good success.

We thank God for increasing the number of our youth group. They started to have a regular Wednesday night service. The first youth night was a combination of Bible study and prayer meeting. They talked about revival, and you can feel their excitement to be revitalized by the Lord. We are praying that this will encourage our youth members which we have not seen for a while to come back and be part of the revived group.

On March 20, 2022, announcement was made of various transfers of ministers and pastors in the Apostolic Faith work in Canada. The current pastor of the work in Toronto, Brother Randy Antalan, has been transferred to Bide Arm in Newfoundland and Labrador and the reins of leadership of Toronto church will be handed over to brother Tobi Shobukola. We pray that God will continually bless His work in both locations and in Canada as a whole; for we know that it is *"God that giveth the increase." 1 Corinthians 3:7.*

South Brook

aster is a time of reflection and a time to recognize the miracle that God has brought into our lives. It is a time of hope, new life, new beginnings, and the Resurrection of Jesus who is still with us and guiding us each day.



Easter is behind us but the cross and the Resurrection is something we will never forget through the year. "No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it aqain. This commandment have I received of

my Father." John 10:18.

It was a blessing once again on Sunday morning, April 17, to partake of the Lord's Supper, remembering His broken body and shed blood. *Luke 22:19 "This do in remembrance of me."* We thank God for that blessed hope that one day we will live with Him throughout eternity.

We thank God for the hope that sister Stella McKay had, as she passed away in the presence of the Lord on February 7, 2022, after a short battle with cancer.

Covid 19 is still active in our communities. Brother Selby Boyles spent over two months in the hospital, most of the time in ICU. The Doctor had very little hope of his recovery but thank God for praying people and his faith in God. He is now home giving God the glory.

What an awesome God we serve, and He is still performing miracles today. My wife and I also had Covid in February and I'm still suffering from side effects. I covet your prayers. Let's continue to pray one for another. God bless and keep you all in His care.

Englee

Where are so thankful that our Heavenly Father sent His only Son, not only die for us, but to rise again. Easter is a blessed time of the year. A time to reminisce about the sufferings of the cross. It is our desire to proclaim the good news of salvation to the world around us. The week prior to Easter Sunday the church gave an Easter chocolate to all the youth of our community. A message was attached in the hopes of leading someone to the cross of Calvary. We know there is still, "power, wonder working power in the blood of the Lamb."

On Good Friday night folks gathered in the sanctuary to honor and worship the King of Kings for His willingness to go all the way to Golgotha's hill, there to lay down His life for us. We were thrilled to hear testimonies of victory confirming the life changing experience of salvation. Truly we can sing, *"Redeemed how I love to proclaim it, Redeemed by the blood of the Lamb."*

A few years ago, Angela Compton, one of the sisters of our church, was inspired to write the words of this poem.

Good Friday

What did you feel God, when You looked down that day To see your Son, your child, being led away? To hear the crack of the whip, to see the trickles of blood Did you feel the pain that He felt like any father would? How your heart must have cringed, to see the pain and misery Knowing He did this willingly to save a sinner like me. Were angels of deliverance alerted in case He changed His mind? Then again, you knew He wouldn't do that He wanted to save mankind. When your child was in distress did the minutes seem so long? Did that day drag on so slowly you thought it wouldn't ever be gone? How your heart must have ached, to hold Him in your arms To kiss away all His hurts, to let your love be His balm. Where did you go when He cried, "Why did you forsake me?" Were you just out of sight so that He couldn't see? As His sweat, His blood, His tears stopped flowing that afternoon. Did you breathe a sigh of relief knowing, He would be Home soon? Did you immediately sound out the order, "Make preparation, He'll soon be here Only the best for my child will do. He deserves all in this Kingdom fair." As we near another Easter do you look back with memory fond? Do you just remember the bloodshed, or does the Love that brought it all on Surpass the cruelty of Calvary? It's only this Love that sets men free Many souls have been won for your kingdom only because of Your precious Son. So, on this Good Friday just dwell on the Love, because in the end Love won.

There is always something extra special when we step into Father's house on Easter Sunday morning. To realize, praise God, that "*The stone is rolled away He's no longer where He lay*." Saints worshipped the Lord in song, testimony, and prayer. The message from the Word encouraged the congregation to be alive in Christ. Yes, because He lives, we shall live also but we can be alive unto Christ here on earth too. It takes a desire to walk close to the Lord. The closer we get the more alive we become. After the message the saints were prompted to



follow Jesus's instructions to His followers in partaking of the Lord's Supper. As the saints came forward to partake many were blessed and uplifted. We are so glad that, not just Easter time, but all through the year we can claim the virtues of the cross.

Its for our sin, our sickness, and our pain, that we can claim those precious blood stains.

We were also blessed to attend an evening service where once again God's Spirit filled the sanctuary. It is so good to be able to resume two meetings on Sundays.

The following Sunday morning service, once again, came alive with the presence of the Lord. From the very beginning of the meeting there was a sweet, sweet Spirit in the place. Of late many of our folks have been dealing with various illnesses. Covid has also taken its toll on many. During the service we began to sing the chorus:

Just a touch of the Master's hand I've been made whole again It's not what I deserve, but He did it just the same If only I could be, as faithful as He is to me When I need Him to take my pain It's just a touch of His hand.

The singing was paused for a few moments as those in need were encouraged to come forward to be anointed and prayed for. Many took a step of faith and made their way down to the altar. A little while later the ministry proceeded to walk down the aisles. Some of the saints gave indication from their seats and were also prayed for. What a blessed time for all. It was as if we were living in Solomon's time again. God's presence was so prominent in the house of the Lord that the Minister could not minister. The congregation then went to the Lord in prayer. It was a time of strengthening, a time of unity and drawing closer to the Lord as a church.

Sunday night we were blessed and encouraged to hear the testimony of Wilson Canning a brother, musician, and a pillar of our church. This is his account:



About seventy years ago I was in a church service in one of our older churches and the presence of the Lord was so real, the Spirit was moving upon the people. Oh, what a Then meeting. this morning, in our service, God was moving again. That

same Spirit that was present seventy years ago was here again this morning.

In 1958 my wife and I came to the church here at Englee, which is our home church. I was 18 years old at that time. Camp meetings were taking place. We sat in the back. Everyone was having a good time but not me, I was so unhappy. The pastor made his way back to where I was and encouraged me to pray. After making my way to the altar and kneeling there in prayer Jesus took my sins away. My wife also received salvation that same night. Since then, God has been so good to my wife and I. He has blessed us with seven children. There have been trials and sickness along the way.

A few years ago, my back failed. It was so bad that sitting in a chair was impossible. I would kneel or stand by the table at mealtime. Traveling I would have to lie down in the back seat of the vehicle. I came to church on a Wednesday night and was anointed and prayed for. I was expecting the pain to be gone but I left church a cripple. At home I went to bed also crippled. Then as I woke the next morning, I realized something had happened. Praise God the pain was gone. Sometime in the night Jesus had passed by. I was healed. I could now resume my everyday activities. I could take my chain saw and go in the woods without any discomfort. It was so good to be able to resume a normal, daily routine. Last year my wife of 63 years fell and broke both her arms. We were devastated. Both her arms were placed in slings and braces. She was unable to even use a spoon to feed herself. I cared for her, along with our family. It seemed the bottom fell out of our world. Once again, we are so thankful for prayer. God has seen us through the last months. My wife can now use her arms again and is doing so much better, thank the Lord.

Yes, God has blessed us many, many times. He gives us strength through each and every day. I will say as I always do, "I am Happy because...... I am Happy."

It is a privilege to hear the testimonies of victory in our services. Here at the Englee branch church we can sum it all up and say, "WE ARE SO BLESSED."

Bide Arm

aster certainly is a wonderful time of the year, as we remember and celebrate what Jesus did at Calvary. We are thankful that during this Easter season we were able to have services at our church without any restrictions. That is a great blessing!

On Good Friday evening we held a service focused on the death of Christ. The sermon for the service was entitled, *"It is Finished"* reminding us of Jesus' last words on the cross. These words remind us that Jesus accomplished all that His Father sent Him to do. It's the assurance that our sin debt has been paid in full, and we no longer need to make any sacrifices for sin. Through His perfect sacrifice we now have access to the Throne of Grace.

Easter Sunday morning our service was centered on the resurrection and the Lord's Supper. Two sermons were given. The first one on the resurrection, and it is a blessing to know that our Saviour didn't stay in the grave. He arose on the third day, true to His Word. Because He lives, we can live also and have abundant life. The second sermon was given on the Lord's Supper, reminding us of what it symbolizes, its benefits, and how we should approach partaking of it. After the sermons there was a time of prayer, while the Lord's Supper was served. As the saints partook of the emblems there was a sweet Spirit in our midst.

The evening service continued the Easter theme as the sermon given was entitled, *"Why seek ye the living among the dead*?" taken from the words of the angel spoken to those at the tomb of the risen Saviour. A reminder that real life, and true satisfaction is only found

in seeking the risen Christ, and not in the dead things of this world. Easter is a true reminder of our worth in Christ. He was willing to lay aside His Heavenly glory and lay down His life that we might live. Oh, what a Saviour!

Kitchener

A pril 10, Palm Sunday, began with our congregation singing, "Palms of Victory" while our Sunday school children along with some of the adults marched around the sanctuary waving palm branches. Our theme for the service was Jesus' triumphal entry into Jerusalem. There was much praise and worship. The scripture says, "I tell you that, if these should hold their peace, the stones would immediately cry out." Luke 19:40.

April 15, we thank God once again we were blessed to be back in church and after two years be able to partake of the Ordinance (The Lord's Supper & Washing of the Saints' Feet). Pastor Kirby gave the sermon on the Lord's Supper. *I Corinthians 11:26* Jesus said, *"For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till He come."* A wonderful time of prayer followed as both children, youth and adults partook of the Lord's Supper. The ordinance of Feet Washing followed. Pastor Kirby gave the message using the text *St. John 13:2-17.* Jesus stressed washing the disciples' feet was an example for us to follow. *Jesus said, "If ye know these things, HAPPY are ye if ye do them."* It was around midnight that we all left the church revived, blessed, and refreshed by the sweet Spirit of God.

Easter Singspiration April 17, 2022

The Singspiration began with a musical entitled, *"He Arose."* The congregation then sang, *"He's Alive Again,"* followed by prayer and scripture reading, *1 Corinthians 15:12-26.* The primary Sunday school kids sang, *"Alive, Alive, Alive, Forevermore,"* followed by the girls singing,



"Glorious is the Day." There were numerous duets, solos, and group singings.



The closing congregational song, *"How Great Thou Art,"* was sung with such enthusiasm that caused the sanctuary to ring out with praises celebrating our risen Saviour.

We pray souls will know that our Saviour still lives today, that He still saves and changes lives. Thank God for another Easter season.

Birchy Bay

Testimony by Eileen Quinlan



thank God for the gospel. I wasn't raised in the Apostolic Faith, but I thank God I was raised in a good Christian home. As far back as I can remember my parents were Christians and at the tender age of nine years old, I gave my heart to the Lord in a Youth Meeting.

I didn't know anything about sin in our home being brought up under strict discipline. If we weren't Christians, we had to live as close as we could to a Christian. In my teenage years, I let the love of God slip out of my heart. I just wanted to get out there and see what the world had to offer. I'm so thankful God did not let me go too far and brought me back into the fold again.

I'm so thankful God brought a young man into my life whose parents attended the Apostolic Faith church in the community where I grew up. After dating for three years, we got married and God blessed us with four beautiful children. At times my sister-in-law would invite me to church and to oblige her I would go, and it was then the Lord really started to deal with my heart. He showed me things in my life that didn't measure up to God's Word. I was really bothered by this because I thought I was alright. God opened my eyes to so much in His Word that I didn't see before. When our second son was a little over a year old, I went to church with my mind made up I was going to give my life in full surrender to the Lord. What joy and peace flooded my soul! The Lord changed my life completely. A hunger came into my heart to seek more from God and the deeper experiences as taught in the gospel. I was seeking for the Lord to sanctify me when He reminded me of a restitution I needed to make. While growing up my sister and I had gone into our aunt's store and my sister dared me to take some candy (we were always told by our parents never to take something that didn't belong to us, it was stealing) but that day I disobeyed and took two candies, one for me and one for my sister. As I was seeking the Lord this came up before me like a mountain so I told God if He would give me grace, I would make it right. God came down and sanctified my life and later filled me with His precious Holy Spirit.

We were married for about four or five years before my husband gave his heart to the Lord. Oh. what rejoicing that was. I had prayed for him so long. We then started a family altar in our home and read the Word of God and prayed together.

In February 1995, tragedy struck our home. Our oldest son who was twenty-five years old was taken from us. This brought much grief and pain to our family and our faith was tested. After serving the Lord for all those years and trying to be faithful how could this be happening? My heart was breaking. The devil was fighting, telling me God didn't care about us anymore. One day I couldn't bear are the grief any longer. I went to my bedroom, fell on my knees, took my Bible, and began to pray. I pleaded with God to give me a promise from His Word that He was still with me. I opened my Bible and it fell open to Isaiah 43. The words came alive. "Fear not: for I have redeemed thee, I have called thee by thy name; thou art mine. When thou passest through the waters, I will be with thee; and through the rivers, they shall not overflow thee: when thou walkest through the fire, thou shalt not be burned; neither shall the flame kindle upon thee. For I am the Lord thy God, the Holy One of Israel, thy Saviour." I stopped reading and said, "Thank you Lord," That's proof enough that you are still with me." I rose from my knees and went in the strength of the Lord. God took us through that dark valley in our lives. He is our refuge in our storm.

Then in April, 2017 God saw fit to take my husband home after battling cancer for thirteen years. God promised that He would never leave us or forsake us. I can say with the chorus we sometimes sing, "All my hope is in Jesus, all my yesterdays gone, all my sins are forgiven, and I've been washed in His blood." He is my hope. I want to serve Him and be faithful until He calls me home, whether by the way of the grave or in the Rapture of the church, which I believe will happen soon.

Calgary

The Easter celebrations in Calgary took place Friday, April 15 to Sunday, April 17, 2022. The theme of the event was "Redeeming the Time," taken from *Ephesians 5:15-16*. Our brethren from the Edmonton Church participated, with attendees from far and near. The Easter services were streamed via the Apostolic Faith Church, Calgary YouTube channel (https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCvzh0D2cjkIW5PtudSB rY4w).

The program of events started with an evening evangelistic service on Friday that opened with an



organ prelude and an orchestration by the *choir "He Lives* on *High.*" The rendition of, "Happy Jubilee" and "*Look* and *Live*" from the choir blessed the congregation.

The choir leader, Blessed Agunu, led the congregational songs with uplifting hymns which included *"Redemption oh Wonderful Story"* and *"He Died of a Broken Heart."*

Mary Fasola welcomed the congregation and our online audience to the Easter special meetings. There were powerful testimonies of healing and salvation, highlighting the power of God to keep even through the covid pandemic. Before the sermon, a soloist sang, *"Ten Thousand Angels."*

Brother Foluso Oladunni, the Pastor of the work in Edmonton, Alberta, presented the sermon, taking his text from *Mark 10:17-21*. This passage gives the story of the young man who came to Jesus asking questions. Although he kept the Lord's commandments right from

his youth, he knew something was still lacking, and he came to the right place, which was Jesus.

He asked Jesus, "What shall I do to inherit eternal life?" The same question is still posed to us today. Brother Foluso admonished the congregation to surrender all to



Jesus as the signs of the times are glaring, and we must be ready for the coming of Jesus Christ. We have to apply our hearts unto wisdom and be saved. Jesus will give you a brand-new life. The closing hymn was *"Oh the Blood of Jesus"* as the altar call was given.

A youth program was held on Saturday. The program started with a praise and worship session after which two icebreaker questions were posed to the youth: 1. What is something interesting that had happened in their life recently and, 2. Name a Bible character they would love to portray if they were present during the Bible era. Responses highlighted so many wonderful things God has been doing in our midst. This was followed by a Bible quiz. The Youth also spent time in a Word Study to understand what it means to 'Redeem' your time.' The attendees were encouraged to "Spend time on things that glorify God." Rounding up the Word Study segment, an exercise was given which involved assigning events in time slots for a typical 14-hour period. This exercise improved their planning ability and highlighted things that should be a priority in our day-to-day lives. The Youth program ended with an outdoor activity – Go Karting, after the spiritual body was fed.

Sunday morning service was held through zoom with the children's Sunday school, followed by the Adult Sunday school taught by brother Joshua Idowu, Pastor of the Apostolic Faith work in St. Louis, Missouri.

During the devotional service, the choir from the Edmonton church sang *"Hallelujah, We shall Rise,"* followed by the rendition *"Glorious Freedom,"* and *"Look to the Lamb of God"* from a Trio.

The last special, "*He Lives*," ushered the benediction by George Olulano, who spoke on the will of God to consolidate the lesson from the Sunday school. The service closed with prayer.

The Easter special events ended with an evening Easter concert by the choir from Calgary and Edmonton. There



were about 100 people in attendance. This was so encouraging to see after a period of no in-person meetings due to the pandemic.

The Easter concert started with an opening prayer, introduction, and a congregational song, "*Christ Arose*." Brother Victory Daramola (Edmonton) gave a powerful rendition of "*He was Despised*." This was followed by the Quartet singing "*Father Forgive Them*."

The choir beautifully sang *"Heaven's Jubilee." "Because He Lives"* and *"Above All,"* among other songs. There were songs from soloists, the male choir, and the Youth choir. All presentations were beautifully presented, and the glory of the Lord was felt.

At the interval, the children presented short songs and Bible verses to depict the Resurrection Power of Jesus. A violin solo *"Jerusalem"* by brother Foluso Oladunni was beautifully played, while the last choir song, *"The Lord Bless you and Keep you"* ended the musical concert.

The Easter special meetings were a time of sweet fellowship and spiritual blessings to all who attended.

Testimony by brother Oluwole Ajayi



I want to thank God for the power of the blood of Jesus to save, heal and keep.

I was brought up in a Christian home but that did not make me a Christian. The dramatic change in my dad's life, seeing a man who was a heavy drunkard, womanizer and a night person changed overnight to a disciplined and homely as a result of salvation convicted me. I went to God in prayer confessing my sins as a boy and the Lord came into my heart, forgave me, and gave me the power to go and sin no more. I pressed further in consecration and was sanctified and baptized with the Holy Ghost.

Ever since, the Lord has been my God. I have been through the deepest valleys of life and sometimes on the highest mountains. But one thing has been constant: Jesus has always been there with me! The God of the mountains has also proved to me over and over that He is also the God of the valleys! I'm so thankful to know Him.

About a year ago, I started noticing some difficulties in breathing through my nostrils. I was breathing mostly through the mouth. I thought it was the usual nasal blockage that comes and goes so, I paid little or no serious attention. But with time it started getting worse and breathing became very difficult. January this year, I went for a medical check and the doctors told me I had a growth down inside my nasal track. I was referred to an ENT specialist who said he needed to do a biopsy to take a sample and do a lab test. The biopsy was done, and recommendations made for a scan of the nasal area, neck area and chest. I was wondering why all these.

The Doctor then called me to his office. He wanted to prepare my mind and said I should also talk to my family and prepare their minds because from medical accounts and his experience, only one in a thousand of such growths are free from cancer. He said all through his eighteen years of experience as an ENT doctor, all such growths he encountered were cancerous. That was why he requested for other scans to see if the cancer had spread to my lungs and other areas. He said his friends and classmates have the same experience of all such growths as cancerous. I told him right away that if there is a chance of one in a thousand, mine will be that "one." Even if there had been zero in a thousand, mine is going to be a first. I relayed he should expect his own first experience of a cancer free growth.

The doctor was amazed and asked me what gave me that kind of confidence. I replied, "It's not me talking but someone inside of me – 'Jesus'. He said okay, we will see when the results come in 3-5 days.

I went back home and told Jesus on my knees that He has spoken through me and should bring it to pass as spoken. The Doctor called me the following day asking if I was able to sleep. He said patients he treated for same condition would always say they are unable to sleep after discussing their situation and he needed to treat and counsel them. I told him that "Jesus told me to cast all my cares upon him for He cares for me. When I lay such cares upon Him, I leave it there and I don't ever go back to check. This explains why I have been sleeping fine as usual. I am not in any way worried." He said I am a different human being. I reminded him the same reason I told him earlier.

I was later called by the Doctor that the result was out and was cancer free. He was amazed and wondered what this is all about. It was his first experience in his eighteen years as a practitioner. I was able to share the gospel with him. I told him that the salvation of my soul and Jesus dwelling in me made all the difference.

I had the surgery April 13, 2022. I am here, well and hearty to the glory of God. I can say Jesus is the one serving me. I have not done anything for Him. I want Jesus to help me serve Him more and better. I want to dedicate the rest of my life to Him. Please pray along with me!

Testimony by Patience Olulano



"The name of the LORD is a strong tower; the righteous runneth into it, and is safe." Proverbs 18:10. Sister Patience Olulano from Vancouver, BC, gave testimony of how she called upon the name of Jesus and her son that passed away in her hands came back alive. There's great power in that name JESUS!

Winnipeg

We are so thankful to God for a time of sweet fellowship in our congregation with the removal of all covid-19 restrictions, giving us the opportunity to gather and lift our voices unto God.

Our times together have been refreshing during Sunday school and devotional services. Our Sunday school children are not left out as they are always excited for Sunday school re-opening.

The Easter concert practice started early February on Sundays following the services. The ultimate preparation was in April as Easter drew closer; more time was dedicated towards fine tuning the songs. Sunday, April 17, 2022, was designated as the concert day with electronic invitation sent via different social media platforms.

The program commenced 5:00 pm local time with the introduction and welcoming of all in-person and online audience with a collective singing of: "Christ is Risen Today."

The opening prayer was by Olumide Ladipo and the choir leader Pelumi Enejoh introduced the title of the program: "Jesus of Nazareth."



Here are some of the highlights of the renditions: *Since* by one Man Came Death, Surely, He hath Borne our Grief, and He's a Personal Saviour, performed by the youth choir.

Other songs presented were: *My Redeemer Lives, But Thou Didn't Leave Him in Hell* accompanied with a Flute solo, *Lamb of God*. The final song on the first part of the program was a quartet – *Rise Again*.

During the intermission, brother Samson Jimaza brought the announcements and encouraged all the invitees to attend our services to enjoy the fullness of God's blessings.

The choir members resumed the second part of the program with orchestration – *Jesus Paid it All* and *Low in the Grave He Lay*. The audience enjoyed: Crucified Medley (Female choir) featuring – *Above All, In Christ Alone & Wonderful Saviour*.

It was heart thrilling as the choir told the story of Jesus Christ's crucifixion and eventual resurrection, giving the world and lost humanity an opportunity of divine reconciliation with a loving God.

Other songs rendered were: "Hallelujah Resurrection Day!", "He Arose" and the final song, "Jesus of Nazareth" which is the caption of the program. There was a short drama of how Jesus extended mercy unto Blind Bartimaeus in *Matthew 10:46-52* signifying how God is still reaching out to those who will call on Him for mercy.



Brother Samson Jimaza gave a short testimony how he was once lost but the mercy of God reached him. He enjoined all who have not yet experienced the saving power of God to do so, making Easter an extraordinary season to remember. Brother Sam Fadiora who was visiting from Nigeria closed the program in prayer. There were over a hundred, both in person and via zoom. After prayer we all enjoyed a light snack.

We pray that the God of harvest will continue to reach out to souls in these last days and prepare all for His return. Amen.

Fort McMurray

e is Risen! Praise God the tomb was empty that first Easter Sunday! We are so thankful we can attest to the fact that Jesus lives!

This Easter Sunday morning God's children around the world gathered to celebrate the Resurrection. It's the story that changed the destiny of all humanity because at Calvary Jesus paid the price for our sins and provided the way that the whosoever could be saved. At the sun rise prayer meeting we were reminded of those who arrived at the empty tomb and heard the angel say, *"He is not here: for He is risen..." Matthew 28:6*. We felt the same power of the Risen Christ alive in our hearts.

In the Sunday evening service, the story of Resurrection Sunday was wonderfully expressed through special songs, congregational singing, Easter reading, the scripture and prayer. Truly the Spirit of the Lord moved in our midst. Those in the sanctuary and many that joined by zoom bore witness to the fact, He lives within our hearts. With one heart we could say thank you God for sending Jesus. What a glorious Celebration Day! We continue to praise God for the privilege to share the



Gospel with the saints from Pakistan. They rise

early in the morning to join our Sunday evening service and our Bible study on



Thursdays. On Easter Sunday brother Shabeed wrote, "we were so blessed in the worship service today. The sweet Holy Spirit was present, even the children loved the worship. It's a great opportunity to gather and have fellowship. We thank God for the powerful presence of the Holy Spirit resting upon His Word and the services. We are also blessed by the sermons you send us to preach. We are thankful because it is helping us to understand the true gospel of Jesus Christ our Lord."

Please join in prayer for the saints in Pakistan.

On April 24, we were able to return to in-person Sunday school and via zoom. For almost two years we gathered on zoom to sing and share God's Word with our students. The Spirit of God moved, and our hearts were blessed and strengthened as together our teachers and students took part. From a distance we watched our Sunday school growing where God had planted us. Our theme verse from 2021 helped to keep everyone grounded in Christ. There is no doubt *Luke 1:37* will be in our hearts when covid is but a memory. **"For with God nothing shall be impossible."**

The delightful sound of excited children was music to our ears. Parents and students arrived early on Sunday afternoon eagerly awaiting the time to begin. Our opening song was Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelu! Hallelujah. Praise ye the Lord. The Spirit bore witness that God was praised.





Throughout the whole service children were so reverent and joyfully took part. So sweet was the presence of the Lord, one could never tell that it's been two years since we met together in Sunday school. Praise God our

children have been growing in Him and we saw the evidence. To God be the glory.

Edmonton

"Oh, for a thousand tongues to sing, my great Redeemer's praise. The glories of my God and King. The triumphs of His grace."

The first quarter of 2022 was filled with God's blessings in our congregation in Edmonton for which we are eternally grateful! God manifested Himself in our midst by answering many prayers. Some notably answers to prayer are: one of our brothers received his third Christian experience (the baptism of Holy Ghost and Fire), God brought a family of four to join us consisting of two senior choir members and two Primary Pals students, and God also completed the immigration process of our brother's wife who came from Nigeria to join him. How great is our God!

The Easter period was a spiritually reviving and refreshing time for us as we joined with our brethren from Calgary Church who came to participate in all our Easter programs held on Sunday, April 10, 2022.

The Easter program was comprised of Sunday morning worship and an Easter concert in the evening with Sunday school children's presentation. The day opened with Sunday school at 10am for all classes - Beginners, Answer, and Adults, followed by the devotional service with a sermon entitled "The Power of Resurrection," with text taken from *Isaiah 53:1-12*. We were reminded that the power of Resurrection saves sinners, strengthens believers no matter what betides and ultimately keeps us focused on our journey to Heaven. Two of our veterans in the faith gave their testimonies which encouraged us to remain faithful in God's service and to trust Him through all life's challenges. We know victory is sure through Jesus Christ our Lord.

In the evening we had the Easter concert which featured several inspiring Easter songs, orchestration, violin/organ solo, and others. The children presented their program during the intermission that included orchestration, Bible recitations, songs, and a short drama on the Resurrection of Jesus.

It is noteworthy that the Sunday service and concert had many people in attendance both in person and virtually. Indeed, it was a wonderful, inspirational fellowship with our brethren from Calgary. At the end of that day, we all felt revived.

It is our prayer that the revival felt during the Easter period would continue in our midst and throughout our Churches and that the power of Resurrection would keep on saving souls.

Upcoming Events

Portland Camp Meeting Portland, OR June 26 – July 10, 2022

Newfoundland Youth Camp Roddickton, NL August 1 – 5, 2022

Midwest Camp Meeting August 1 – 6, 2022

Newfoundland Camp Meeting Roddickton, NL



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