

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

Phone: (802) 885-5728

E-mail: fccucc@vermontel.net

Website: www.firstchurchspringfield.org

www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

April 14, 2024

10:00 AM

"We are a community in Christ, called to act with love toward our neighbors."

THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER

(As we prepare for worship, we invite quiet contemplation of the Living God.)

**For those who are able, please stand.*

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT #312 (UCC-Red) "Jesus Shall Reign Where'er the Sun"

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #9 (UCC-Red) "Our God, Our Help in Ages Past"

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 4)

1 Answer me when I call, O God of my right!

You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer.

2 How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame?

How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies?

3 But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself;

the LORD hears when I call to him.

4 When you are disturbed, do not sin;

ponder it on your beds, and be silent.

5 Offer right sacrifices,

and put your trust in the LORD.

6 There are many who say, "O that we might see some good!"

Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!"

7 You have put gladness in my heart

more than when their grain and wine abound.

8 I will both lie down and sleep in peace;

for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Have mercy on us, O God, according to your steadfast love;

According to your abundant mercy blot out our transgressions.

Wash us thoroughly from our iniquity, and cleanse us from our sin.

Create in us a clean heart, O God, and put a new and right spirit within us.

Cast us not away from your presence, and take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Restore to us the joy of your salvation, and uphold us with a willing spirit. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE

*SONG OF PRAISE #338 (UCC-red) (Gloria Patri)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
World without end. Amen. Amen.

GOD MOMENT

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Luke 24:36b-48
Acts 3:12-19

THE CHILD IN US ALL

SERMON

"The Light Brings Understanding"

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

*HYMN #454 (NCH-Black)

"Lord, I Want To Be a Christian"

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - CONCERNS

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR

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; and lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

ACKNOWLEDGING OUR GIFTS (Please send pledges & donations to the church via mail or use online giving through our website. Loose offerings go into the general church fund.)

MUSICAL OFFERING

*SONG OF PRAISE HYMN #780 Doxology (NCH – Black)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above, O heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Dear God, we cherish the words spoken by your Son, Jesus, and we thank you for the opportunity to give in your name, that your love and message of redemption may be heard and felt throughout the world. Amen

*HYMN #195 (NCH-Black)

"The Old Rugged Cross"

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE #812 (NCH-Black) "Threefold Amen"

Amen, Amen, Amen

POSTLUDE

WE EXTEND THE HAND of Christian fellowship to all who have come to worship in this Welcoming, Open and Affirming congregation. May our prayers and the hearing of God's Word make our burdens lighter, our hearts encouraged, and our souls refreshed.
If you are visiting for the first time, we welcome you.

OUR THANKS to Kyle Washburn and all who participated in our service this morning.

ALTAR FLOWERS today are given by Claire & Bob Trask in honor of their new great-grandchild and for the pure fun of it!

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED! Please call Cynthia King, 885-5831, if you would like to sign up for flowers.

CHECK OUT our new church web site: firstchurchspringfield.org and our YouTube channel **First Church Springfield 4738** (@firstchurchspringfield4738)

TO JOIN OUR ONLINE LIVE WORSHIP SERVICE EACH SUNDAY AT 10 AM, CLICK ON THE LINK FOR OUR NEW WEBSITE:

www.firstchurchspringfield.org

Note that a copy of the bulletin and hymns are available midway on the homepage.

Click on Worship on the homepage and it will take you to our Facebook page and a live video. Click on the video.

Glad you can worship with us!

CONGREGATIONAL CARE:

Those words can mean most anything. Would you or someone you know benefit from prayers, home visits, help with shopping, rides to appointments, prepared meals, food to help you over a hard time? If you have such a need, or know someone who does, please contact one of the Congregational Care co-chairs. Claire Trask at 886-7377.

SPRING CLEANING DAY is set for Saturday, April 27th. We will be starting at 9AM. Please plan to attend as many hands make light work.

New Member Sunday Coming May 19th!

Curious about joining the Church and what membership means? Maybe you've decided this is the place for you and you'd like to make it official. If this applies to you please feel free to talk with Pastor Michael for more information!

PRAYER

Marlene	Elmer
Sean's Family	Beth
Calvin	Vaughn
All others in need	

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

Apr	14	Worship Service – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
Apr	16	Evening Bible Study via Zoom	7:00 PM
Apr	18	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	10:00 AM
Apr	21	Worship Service – Michael Mario	10:00 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tues. & Wed. 8:00 A.M. – 12:00 P.M

PASTOR'S HOURS

Wed. & Thurs. 9:00 A.M. - 1:00 P.M.

STAFF

Pastor: Michael Mario
Administrative Assistant: Judy Lasell
Sexton: Todd Murray

~ *NOTES* ~

Inspiring quotes from Bible study:

“A good name is to be chosen rather than great riches, and favor is better than silver or gold. The rich and the poor meet together; the Lord is the maker of them all.” Proverb 22:1-2