

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

May 3, 2026

10:00 AM

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

FIFTH 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 #129 (UCC-Red) "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross"

CALL TO WORSHIP

*HYMN #505 (NCH-Black) "Sweet Hour of Prayer"

OPENING PRAYER (Psalm 31:1-5, 15-16)

1 In you, O LORD, I seek refuge; do not let me ever be put to shame;
in your righteousness deliver me.

2 Incline your ear to me; rescue me speedily.

Be a rock of refuge for me, a strong fortress to save me.

3 You are indeed my rock and my fortress;

for your name's sake lead me and guide me,

4 take me out of the net that is hidden for me,

for you are my refuge.

5 Into your hand I commit my spirit;

you have redeemed me, O LORD, faithful God.

15 My times are in your hand;

deliver me from the hand of my enemies and persecutors.

16 Let your face shine upon your servant;

save me in your steadfast love.

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your name. 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

John 14:1-14
Acts 7:55-60

A MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN OF ALL AGES (Teachers and classes leave for Church School)

SERMON

"Room to Spare"

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

*HYMN #250 (UCC-Red)

"Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing"

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

Almighty God, with gratitude for the gifts you have given to each of us, we pray that you bless our gifts which we offer, for our church, our families, our community, and your wondrous creation. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

(Communion Hymn: Let Us Break Bread Together 210 UCC Red Hymnal)

The Lord be with you

And Also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift our hearts to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise

BREAKING AND DISTRIBUTION

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Almighty and everliving God, we thank you for feeding us with the spiritual food of the most precious Body and Blood of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ; and for assuring us in these holy mysteries that we are living members of the Body of your Son, and heirs of your eternal kingdom.

And now, Dear God, send us out to do the work you have given us to do, to love and serve you as faithful witnesses of Christ our Lord.

To him, to you, and to the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, now and for ever. Amen.

*HYMN #393 (NCH-Black)

"Blessed Be the Tie That Binds"

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE "One In Love"

One in love, one in friendship true,
One in hope, one in spirit, too,
One in faith that God will care for you
Till we meet together again.

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 Frank and Jocelyn Zezza, in honour of their 59th anniversary!

ALTAR FLOWERS ARE NEEDED! Please sign up on the flower sign-up list on the table in the entrance or call Cynthia King 802-885-5831.

PRAYER LIST	Dianne	Jaz	Jocelyn
Helen	Amie and Nicole	Harriet	
Wesley	Ted	Elmer	
Ellen	All others in need		

CHECK OUT our 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!

CHOIR meets to raise our voices on the final Sunday of each month, rehearsing at 9 AM just before worship. All are welcome to join.

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 Congregational Care chair, Claire Trask at 886-7377.

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

May	3	Sunday Worship – Michael Mario	10:00 AM
May	6	“Acoustic Worship” Musical Service	4:00 PM
May	7	Wilderness Bible Study via Zoom	9:30 AM
May	10	Sunday Worship with Rev Karen at UMC	9:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS

Tues. & Wed. 9:00 A.M. – 1:00 P.M

PASTOR’S HOURS

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

STAFF

Pastor: Michael Mario

Sexton: Todd Murray

~ *NOTES* ~