

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ Amherst, New Hampshire

"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

April 20), 2025	Easter Sunday	10:00 a.m.
	ING CHIMES gathered in silence so) that we may prepare to worship.	
GREETIN	G AND NOTICES OF	PARISH LIFE	
PRELUDE		Praise to the Lord the Almighty Bell Choir	arr. Sondra K. Tucker
EASTER	PROCLAMATION		
One: Many: One: Many: One: Many: All:	Christ is risen ind	quered, love has won! eed! oclaim this joy! eed!	
INTROIT		All That Have Life and Breath	Rene Clausen
) WORSHIP e in body or spirit.		
One:	This is the day:		

Many: when tears are wiped away; shattered hearts are mended; fear is replaced with joy... One: This is the day the Lord: Many: rolls away the stone of despair; throws off death's clothes; goes ahead of us into God's future...

- One: This is the day the Lord has made:
- Many: let us rejoice and be glad in it!

One: This is the day - Easter Day!

Many: Christ is Risen! Hallelujah!

*HYMN

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

insert

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison) *The congregation may be seated.*

Living God, long ago, faithful followers of Jesus proclaimed the good news of the Resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Help us to be an Easter people. Believing that out of despair will come hope, out of darkness will come light, out of sadness will come joy, and out of death, new life will rise. May we feel your Spirit moving among us now, O God, as we pray the words of Jesus:

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*SONG OF PRAISE (tune: LLANFAIR) Christ appears in full array, Alleluia! Sing with joy this Paschal day, Alleluia! Christ now from the dead is raised, Alleluia! Holy Trinity be praised, Alleluia!

MESSAGE FOR CHILDREN AND YOUTH

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE The peace of God be with you. **AND ALSO WITH YOU.**

ANTHEM

This is the Day the Lord Has Made Chancel Choir Georg Frederic Handel/ arr. Hal Hopson

SCRIPTURE INTRODUCTION

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they went to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to the hands of sinners and be crucified and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

SERMON	"An Easter People"	
*HYMN	Thine Is the Glory	No. 122

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

If you have a prayer to share, fill out a prayer card in your pew. Cards will be collected by one of the pastors during the hymn after the sermon, and will be shared during Joys and Concerns.

CHORAL RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Trumpet Tune III

Paul Fey (paulfeyorganist.com)

*DOXOLOGY (Tune: From All That Dwell Below the Skies) Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia. Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Generous and surprising God, when we thought that death had claimed your only Son, you amazed us with the resurrection. Surprise us again with your ability to turn these humble offerings into gifts that will transform the world through our witness to your love. We lay our very lives at your feet, O God, knowing that you will use us to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen.

*HYMN	Christ is Risen! Shout Hosanna!	No. 104			
*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD					
*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION					
*CHORAL RESPONSE					
*POSTLUDE	Toccata on "All Creatures of Our God and King"	Gilbert M. Martin			

(*Please rise in body or spirit.)

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Offertory — Trumpet Tune III — Paul Fey ©2023 Paul Fey (paulfeyorganist.com), written permission granted by composer for performance/recording.

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST, NH, UCC



A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation of the United Church of Christ



"No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here."

We, the members of The Congregational Church of Amherst, New Hampshire, United Church of Christ, believe God's Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ call us to love all our neighbors as we would want to be loved. We are called to be as one body, seeking to walk together in the full life and ministry of our church.

We welcome each individual as a child of God. As covenant members of Christ's church, we celebrate God's love for people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, all mental and physical abilities, all socioeconomic backgrounds, all sexual orientations, all gender identities and gender expressions, and all of the other diverse attributes woven into the fabric of humankind.

With God's grace, we invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship and sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of our church.

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Our membership is open to all those who choose to walk with us in our witness. **The next new member informational sessions will be held April 22 and 23.** New members will be formally received on Sunday, May 4. Please speak with any of our deacons or pastors should you have any questions regarding our church or our membership.

Worship Notes:

- Church school is on break this week for the holiday.
- Our church nursery is staffed and available for parents with young children.
- Joys and Concerns may be written on the cards found in the pews. You are also welcome to submit your prayer request through our website in advance of the worship service.
- Please remember to wear your nametag each Sunday, so that we may all greet our neighbors. If you do not have a permanent nametag, temporary nametags may be found inside the friendship registers. If you are in need of a new, permanent nametag, please see one of the deacons.
- Please join us in the community room for a time of fellowship after the worship service. Coffee and beverages are offered.
- In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given. An emergency plan is in place for the children in the nursery.

The church office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 1:00 p.m., and available Monday through Friday by telephone 673-3231 and by email <u>info@ccamherst.org</u>. Please feel free to leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Visit our church's website at <u>www.ccamherst.org</u>, and follow us on Facebook.com/ccamherst and Instagram.com/ccamherstnh.

Grounded in God's Love—Serving Neighbors Near and Far—Welcoming to All

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S WORSHIP SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational ChurchMiRev. Maureen R. FrescottRev. Charlotte E. Y. BellShellie BrookSara L. PhelpsMichael HavayOrSteve BoczenowskiSarger Hooper, Sally Hooper, Sue Ruggiero, Doug TopliffeIsaiah Aseltine, Josiah Aseltine, Eric Davis, James RileyPatricia Bodan

Larissa Riley Melissa Lewis Ushers Videographer ******* Director of Youth Ministries

Ministers to the World

Organist/Accompanist Deacon in Charge

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Student Pastor

Deacons

Director of Youth Ministries Nursery Attendant

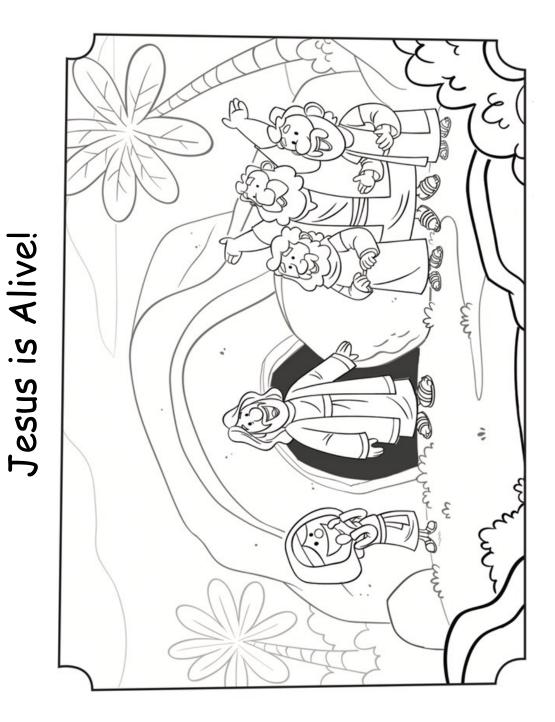
LEVI SUNDAY IS APRIL 27: Save the date for our annual spring cleaning Sunday. Come dressed to worship in your work clothes and after the service we'll head outside to tackle a number of annual spring tasks. Many hands make light work; we hope you will join us.

KENTUCKY DERBY SOCIAL: Wear your favorite derby hat/attire and join us on May 3 for this fun annual event hosted by Sue and Bruce Manchester, along with the Fellowship team. We will have activities for kiddos as well so please know all generations are welcome and encouraged to attend! This is a potluck style event, and is BYOB. Please RSVP to Meredith Dart: m_getler@hotmail.com.

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for April include condiments, cooking sauces and seasonings, cooking oil, pasta sauce, tomato sauce, tomato paste, diced tomatoes. Donations should be brought directly to the SHARE Center in Milford; if you are unsure where, please call their office at 673-9898. Many thanks for your continuing support! **ANNUAL REPORTS** are due to Andrea in the church office by April 15.

NEW MEMBER INFO SESSIONS: Are you NEW (or not-so-new) to our church and interested in learning more about our congregation? Are you interested in learning more about becoming a member? Do you want to know more about the United Church of Christ? If so, please join us for one of our INFO SESSIONS on either Tuesday, April 22 or Wednesday, April 23 at 7:00 p.m. to learn more about all of the above! The sessions will be held on ZOOM to make it easier for all to attend.

For those who've already joined our mailing list and/or inquired about becoming a member, you'll be hearing from us soon! If you've joined us for our in-person or online worship over the last year and are interested in attending one of our info sessions, please reach out to Andrea in our church office at andrea@ccamherst.org or contact Pastor Maureen at pastormaureen@ccamherst.org.



Updated Results of Our Faith Promise Stewardship Campaign



Kate Ackerman Patricia Ansdell Shavna Appel Mark & Fran Baddeley Ken & Charlotte Bell Steve & Deb Boczenowski Iessica Bortolotto Kathleen Bouchard & Christie Gould Sally Bowkett Lee Bowley & Gail Miller Jeff & Patti Brown Iack & Patricia Buben Tim & Kelly Cackett Sydney Conti Wayne & Audrey Croswell Colleen Cushina Eric Davis Tyler & Gretchen Davis Eric Doberstein, Robin Clark, Kara & Scott Spector Susan Deschenes & Fred Dyke Cynthia Dokmo Judi Dunbar Greg & Jennifer Eccleston Joan Egbertson Stephen Egbertson Iudv Ferraro Alvin & Heidi Fortune Maureen Frescott Andre & Nancy Gagnon Edith Gambee Shervl Gottwald

Leona Hendrickson Scott & Sally Hewett Susan & Don Holden Roger & Sally Hooper Jana Howe Kelly & Stephen Isaacs Patty Jillson Bruce & Regina Kinney Romi Krosch Peter & Irene Labombarde Tedd & Carol Landon Linda Lannin Arthur & Victoria Leknes Elizabeth Levesaue Donald & Carol Lyon Elizabeth MacMillan & Hamilton Stewart Heather MacDonald & **Bill Dallas** Bruce & Susan Manchester Howell Mitchell Avis Moller Mary Moore Avery & Maude Morin Ieanne Neverisky Dan & Samantha Pawlowski Judy Peterson David & Sara Phelps David & Joan Poltack Nancy & Daniel Protzmann Travis & Larissa Riley Robert Rowe Sue Ruggiero

Carol St. Jean Vic & Carolin Sanchez Paul & Maggie Schellenberg Beth Secor Kathy Skoglund Paul & Susan Spiess Richard & Kathleen Steeves Sean & Ann Stevenson Richard & Susan Stout John & Anita Swanson Kate & Keith Thompson Holly Tonnesen Iean Tonnesen Douglas & Adrienne Topliffe Sally & Michael Varanka Todd & Jennifer Whitney Tim & Gail Wieaand Iodi Woroski & Gwenael Busnel



Pledge Results as of 4/17

2025-2026 fiscal year Stewardship Our Campaign underway. Thank you to all that have responded so far. To those who are still considering your pledge, you can email your intents to Andrea at andrea@ccamherst.org, mail in your pledge intentions, call Andrea (673-3231) or go to the church website https://www.ccamherst.org/ stewardship-pledge/.