

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen, Pastor
Easter Sunday
Jean Landes, Lay Reader

March 31, 2024

Worship 10:30 AM

PRELUDE *Movement 1, Quartet No. 4, Op. 37* Wilhelmina Ramsloe

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Yesterday, we thought death had won. Yesterday we thought all was lost.
Yesterday we thought Christ was gone.

People: But not today. Today we know that love has won. Today we know that hope is real. Today we know that Christ is here.

Leader: Today started with grief, bewilderment and surprise.

People: We passed through fear, incredulity, and ended in astonished recognition.

Leader: Something wonderful has happened. Something wonderful is still happening!

People: The stone is rolled away. The tomb is empty. Jesus is risen!

Leader: Let us run toward hope. Alleluia!

People: Let us raise our voices in song! Alleluia!
Christ is risen, Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN # 302 *He Lives!*

*INVOCATION

God of new beginnings, on that first Easter morning, the disciples struggled to hear the good news. Doubt clouded their minds. Negativity took root and hope vanished with a simple shake of their heads. As we recount this familiar story, help us to hear differently. Open our ears that we might hear the sound of Alleluias ringing out this Easter morning! Open up our minds that the mystery and joy of Easter might feel within reach. Open up our hearts to believe the unbelievable. And like Peter, in this hearing, may we move closer to you. God of the empty tomb, we are hungry for your good news. Speak to us now. With hope in our hearts, we listen and we pray. Amen.

*LORD'S PRAYER

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, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

*GLORIA PATRI # 734

ANTHEM *The Hallelujah Chorus*

A TIME WITH THE CHILDREN AND YOUTH

GOSPEL LESSON *Luke 24: 1-12*

Pg # 83

*HYMN # 312 *Christ is Alive*

MORNING PRAYER

SERMON *Running Toward Hope* Rev. Dawn Garrett-Larsen

OFFERTORY *Selections from Eight Chorales* J. S. Bach/trans. G. Bastable

*DOXOLOGY # 34

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

We consecrate that which we have brought to share, that the message of today may spread through the streets and across the lands, beginning within these walls and bursting out for all the world to hear. May our glad songs motivate practical ministries. As forgiven and forgiving people, we take new life into the marketplace, into our jobs and schools, into our social life and leisure hours. May all we offer, express true thankfulness. Amen.

REPRISE GOSPEL LESSON *John 21: 15-17*

Pg # 108

*HYMN # 288 *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

*RESPONSIVE BENEDICTION

Leader: This is the good news – the grave is empty.

People: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

Leader: This is the good news – the light shines in the darkness and the darkness has not overcome it.

People: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

Leader: This is the good news – we are an Easter People.

People: Christ is risen. Alleluia!

Leader: Let us go from this place of worship out into the world as we run toward hope!

People: Christ is risen. Alleluia! Amen!

POSTLUDE *Mvmt. 2, "Danse"*

István Szelényi

***Please stand if you are able.**

Call to Worship and Invocation reprinted from Prayer by Rev. Sarah A. Speed, A Sanctified Art LLC, sanctifiedart.org; Prayer of Dedication reprinted from Led by Love, by Lavon Bayler

***Greeters This Morning:** Betsy Dresser, Sue Hawkes*

***Ushers This Morning:** Pam Viggiani, Jay, Katie, Cecelia & Elaina Harris-Maxwell*

***Live Stream This Morning:** Matt Berry*

***Coffee Hour Host:** Church Council Committee Chairs – Worship: Deb Wilbur, Heidi Schwarz*

Brass Players

Trevor King, trumpet; Lilah Costanzo, French horn;
Andrew Bianchi, trombone; Addilae Canning, tuba

If you are visiting with us, welcome!

Please fill out a green card and place it in the offering plate.

If you would like to use our hearing assistance system please see an usher.

Happy Birthday

March 31 Abby Rice ~ Jennifer Maxfield
April 1 Brooke Lupton
April 3 Ron Krahl
April 4 Jeanne Hollenbeck

Prayer List

Molly Bailey's mother; Connie Barrett; Carol Birx (friend of the Casellas Family); **Marjorie Case; Hector Casellas** (Dan's father); **Cheryl** (Jennifer Maxfield's sister-in-law); **Abby Coons** (Carl & JoAnn Reed's friend); **Carol & Kent** (Karen's friends); **Cathy Coots; Jerry Cruz; Glenn & Karen DeHond; Bobby Ellis, Scarlett Emerson** (Elaine Hilton's sister); **Max Grossman** (George Herren's friend); **Bonnie Haaland; Lauren Hebert** (Steve Brooks' sister); **Carin Herren; Anne Jensen** (friend of Jim & Connie Fredericks-Malone); **Ron & Lu Krahl; Jan Larsen** (Dawn's Mom); **Michelle List;** (friend of Joann Reed); **Dennis Maxfield; Paul** (Dennis Maxfield's brother); **Frank McAlpin** (Patrick McAlpin's father); **Karen Noonan; Rhonda Nyerges; Chris Pritchard** (Rick & Cindy Mullen and George Herren's friend); **Norma and Gary Reilly** (friends of Janet & Kim Tenreiro); **Helen Rudolph** (Kurt's Mom); **Judy Silvestrone** (Kathy Postma's sister), **Pat Smith; Jason Zeller** (Kathy Ward's son); **Jim Ziegler; all those who struggle with poverty and homelessness, especially those who receive food and gas card support**

Calendar

Sun	Mar 31		<i>Easter Sunday</i>
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<i>Dawn Away 4/1 through 4/8/24</i>			
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Tue	Apr 2	8:00	Men's Group
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Thu	Apr 4	10:00	Adult Ed/Social Room
		4:00	Finance Committee/Zoom
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Sun	Apr 7		<i>Welcome Rev. Sam Kinsman</i>
		9:00	Choir
		10:30	Worship In-Person & Live Stream, Sunday School
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Mon	Apr 8		<i>Eclipse Day! Pick-a-Party at Sue and Lin's</i>