

First Congregational United Church of Christ  
"Where No One Is A Stranger"  
Third Sunday of Easter  
May 1, 2022

## PRELUDE

## RINGING OF THE BELL

## GREETINGS, GOOD NEWS, ANNOUNCEMENTS, JESUS ENCOUNTERS

### \*CALL TO WORSHIP

(read responsively)

One: Now is the time to sing! To sing the good news of God:

**Many: who awakens us with dawn's embrace, who surrounds us with joy and life.**

One: Now is the time to offer praise to God, in every place, with every voice:

**Many: to rejoice in the One who leads us through each moment with a gentle hand and a word of hope.**

One: Now is the time to join all creation in extolling God, from the depths of the sea to the farthest galaxies:

**Many: We will sing the good news of Easter! We will rejoice in the God who loves us.**

### OPENING SONG

"Christ Whose Glory Fills the Skies" #91 (to tune of *For the Beauty of the Earth*)

### \*OPENING PRAYER

(prayed together)

**Wisdom of God, come and dwell among us. We gather to hear your word, and to sing your praise. We come as we are, trusting that your grace will help us to grow to more faithful discipleship. Interrupt our lives with your vision of truth and love. We praise you now and always. Amen.**

## TIME FOR CHILDREN AND THE YOUNG AT HEART

### CALL TO CONFESSION

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(prayed together)

Now that Easter is done and gone, Holy One, we no longer hear the special music, but listen to temptation's familiar refrains. We no longer walk those straight paths of joy and wonder, but wander the crooked streets to our old haunts. Rather than living in the newness you bring, we do things the way they have always been done.

Fortunately, God of seaside breakfasts, you know the way out of our messy lives, and so take us by the hand to lead us. You wipe our busy schedules off our calendars so we may spend more time with those who need our love and attention. You challenge us to

fish from the other side of our worries, so we may pull in all the grace, wonder, and mercy offered to us by Jesus Christ, our Lord and Savior. Amen.

## A MOMENT FOR SILENT REFLECTION AND REPENTANCE

### WORDS OF ASSURANCE (read responsively)

One: Why should we weep? Joy comes to us this morning, and every moment of our lives. Jesus has come, to share mercy and hope with us, so we can praise our God with joyous hearts.

**Many: We will lift glad songs of joy, for all the blessings God has given to us. We will offer our hearts and hands in love and service to others. Thanks be to God, we are forgiven! Amen.**

### SHARING THE FIRST SCRIPTURE READING

John 21:1-19

### \*AN AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

UCC Statement of Faith

(read together)

(inside back cover of hymnal)

### \*GLORIA PATRI

#734

### FOCUS SCRIPTURE

Acts 9:1-20

shared from the *Good News Bible*

### MESSAGE:

"I See"

Pastor Chris

**GATHERING AT CHRIST'S TABLE** Invitation, Communion Prayer, Sanctus, Words of Institution, Consecration Prayer, Lord's Prayer

Sharing the Bread

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#699 verse 1

Sharing the Cup

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#699 verse 2

### SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High. Blessed is the one who comes in the name of our God! Hosanna in the highest!**

### PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

"Let Us Break Bread Together"

#699 verse 3

### PRESENTING OUR GIFTS

### OFFERTORY

### \*DOXOLOGY

**\*PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**We come to you, Holy God, blessed by your abundant life, to offer ourselves as your faithful workers. We offer our gifts this day, trusting that you will bless them and use them to serve your people. Amen.**

**\*Closing Song** "Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult" #345

**\*Going Forth with the Peace of Christ**

The Call to Worship, Call to Confession, Prayer of Confession and Words of Assurance (adapted) are from *Lectionary Liturgies* by Thom M. Shuman. The Opening Prayer and Offering Prayer of Dedication (adapted) are by Mary Patrina Boyd from *The Abingdon Worship Annual-2022* edited by Mary Scifres and B.J. Beu. The Affirmation of Faith a version of our United Church of Christ Statement of Faith.

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Organist: Liz Reynolds  
Lector: David Burrow  
Worship Leader: Pastor Chris Burtnett

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May Radio Sponsor: Meredith Hines and Family in Memory Julie Buchanan

Today, May 1: 10:00 am. – Worship with Sacrament of Communion  
Sunday School  
Coffee  
Food Pantry

Tuesday, May 3: 9:30-11:30am - Pastor Chris at Feed Mill

Thursday, May 5: 6:30am -National Day of Prayer Breakfast at Trinity Life Center

Friday, May 6: 9:15am. - Care Center Worship  
2-6 pm. - Trash, Treasure and Bake Sale

Saturday, May 7: 9am. - 12 noon - Trash, Treasure and Bake Sale

Sunday, May 8: 10:00 am.- Worship  
Sunday School

The *Our Daily Bread* special Easter devotional "Peace to You-10 Easter Reflections" is available on the cart in the entry way to the Education/Office/Fellowship Hall building.



*First Congregational  
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