

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

77 Main Street, Springfield, Vermont

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www.facebook.com/fccuccspringfield/

April 25 , 2021

9:30 AM

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

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

EXPRESSING OUR LOVE

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

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS - JOYS AND CONCERNS

INTROIT #539 (NCH-Black) "Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant?"

CALL TO WORSHIP

The Lord is in his holy temple, let all the earth keep silence before him.

Come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before the Lord, our Maker! For the Lord is our God, and we are the people of God's pasture, and the sheep of God's hand.

HYMN #34 (UCC-Red) "For the Beauty of the Earth"

OPENING PRAYER

CALL TO CONFESSION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Gracious God, Creator and Father, we come before you a rebellious people. We have denied your intentions for us; we have preferred our way to Christ's way, we have disobeyed your commandments; and we have worshipped ourselves and the things we have made. Forgive us, restore in us the knowledge of who we are, and make us alive to serve you in faith, obedience, and joy; through Jesus Christ our Lord. 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.

GROWING IN OUR FAITH

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 10: 11-18

Acts 4: 1-12

THE CHILD IN US ALL

SERMON "The Shepherd and the Stone"

HYMN #172 (NCH-Black) "Jesus Calls us O'er the Tumult"

PRACTICING OUR SPIRITUALITY

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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.

CALL FOR THE OFFERING (Please send pledges & donations to the church via mail or use online giving.)

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, we thank you for allowing us to serve you, each with our own special gift. May our gifts be pleasing to you, and may they bring our world ever closer to you. Amen

HYMN #284 (UCC-Red) "Abide With Me"

BENEDICTION

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

POSTLUDE

*For those who are able, please stand.

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.

To join our online live worship service for each Sunday at 9:30 A.M., go to the church website, www.fccuccspfdvt.org. Click on Worship on the black bar under the picture of the church. Click on the Facebook link. Click on the arrow of the live video.

COFFEE HOUR AT 9 AM SUNDAY MORNING. Think of yourself coming in the front or side door of our church, putting up your coat and seeing friends doing the same. You need to check in with Henry and ask how the sign up is going for a special event. After church you come down for coffee and remember those amazing baked treats...you find a table to sit next to Hazel and catch up with her and her family and to share what you have been doing...which is not much lately!

You can do all this through Zoom by joining us Sunday morning at 9 am, staying on for our worship service and then catching up with each other and leaving when it is time. Just click on the link below to join in anytime.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/82964116439?pwd=cWhwUzM0S2xsTE0QWxyYzBkbzdDUT09>

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

ALTAR FLOWERS this morning are given by Cynthia King.

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

PRAYER LIST Family of Howard Smith Louise Roberts
 Patti Kemp All others in need

COMING UP ON THE CALENDAR!

May 2 Worship – Michael Mario 9:30 AM
May 9 Worship – Michael Mario 9:30 AM

CHURCH OFFICE HOURS Tues. & Wed. 8:30 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