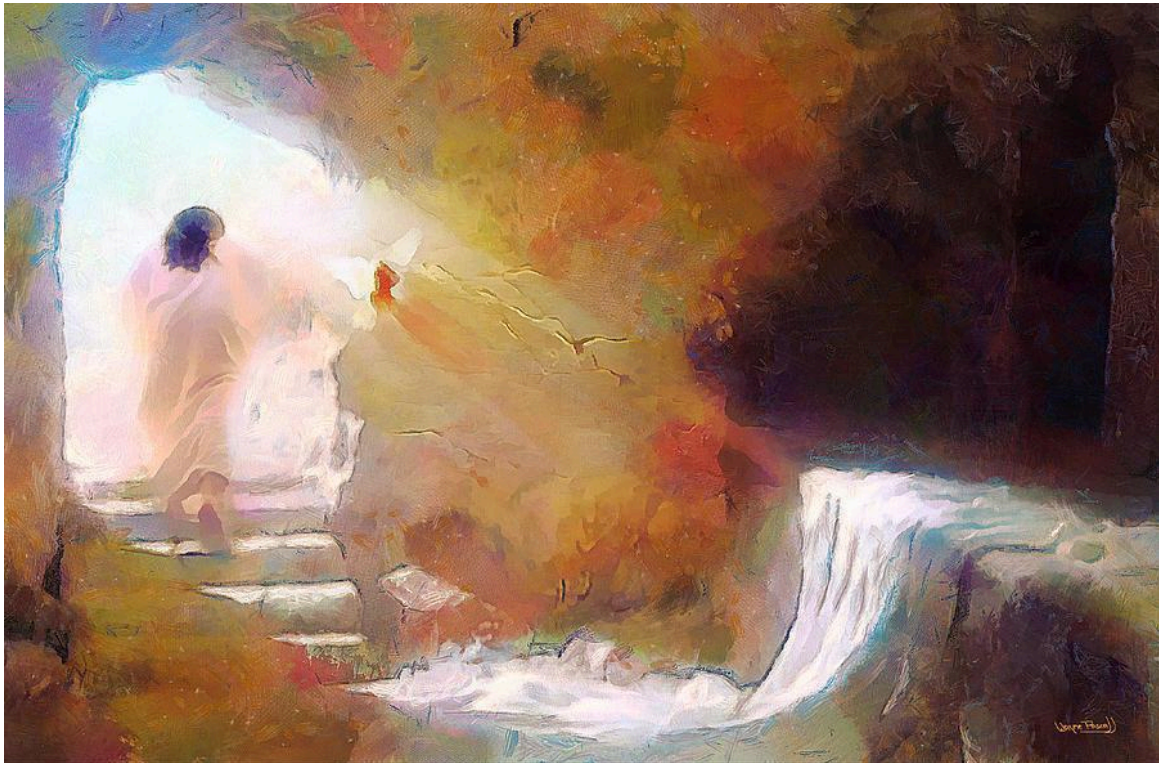




Est. 1639

An Open and Affirming congregation
of the United Church of Christ



Hallelujah, He is Risen by Wayne Pascall

April 20, 2025

Easter Sunday

9:00 a.m. & 11:00 a.m.

Worship leaders speak the text in regular type.
All the People of God speak the text in boldface.

Italic Text provides explanation or instruction.

* Please stand if you are able.

Prelude

Now the Green Blade Rises
Trumpet Tune and Chorale on "This Joyful Eastertide"

French Carol, arr. Sedio
J. William Greene

Welcome

Introit

Introit for Easter

Joel Raney

***Call to Worship**

One: Christ is risen!

All: He is risen indeed!

One: Praise God, who brings life out of death.

All: Alleluia!

One: Praise God, who brings hope out of despair.

All: Alleluia!

One: Praise God, who raised Jesus from the dead.

All: Alleluia!

One: Praise God, who creates new life on this day.

All: Alleluia!

One: Praise God, for Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

***Hymn**

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

233 *New Century Hymnal*

***Prayer of Invocation and the 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, and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

Passing the Peace

One: May the peace of God be with you!

All: And also with you!

We greet one another with a sign of peace.

Children's Sermon

GOD'S WORD IS PROCLAIMED

*Hymn of Praise

Alleluia! Jesus Is Risen! (verse 1)



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Je - sus is ris - en!
2. Walk - ing the way, Christ in the cen - ter
3. Je - sus the vine, We are the branch - es;
4. Weep - ing, be gone; Sor - row, be si - lent:
5. Cit - y of God, East - er for - ev - er,



Trum - pets re - sound - ing in glo - ri - ous light!
Tell - ing the sto - ry to o - pen our eyes;
Life in the Spir - it the fruit of the tree;
Death put a - sun - der, and East - er is bright.
Gold - en Je - ru - sa - lem, Je - sus the Lamb,



Splen - dor, the Lamb, Heav - en for - ev - er!
Break - ing our bread, Giv - ing us glo - ry:
Heav - en to earth, Christ to the peo - ple,
Cher - u - bim sing: O grave, be o - pen!
Riv - er of life, Saints and arch - an - gels,



Oh, what a mir - a - cle God has in sight!
Je - sus our bless - ing, our con - stant sur - prise.
Gift of the fu - ture now flow - ing to me.
Clothe us in won - der, a - dorn us in light.
Sing with cre - a - tion to God the I AM!



Je - sus is ris - en and we shall a - rise.



Give God the glo - ry! Al - le - lu - ia!

Scripture

Luke 24:1-12

Sermon

***Hymn**

Thine Is the Glory

193 *Pilgrim Hymnal*

Joys and Concerns

Prayers of the People

Invitation to Offering

Offertory

On Earth Has Dawned this Day of Days

Jeremy J. Bankson

On earth has dawned this day of days,
Whereon the faithful give God praise!
For Christ is risen from the tomb,
And light and joy have conquered doom.
Alleluia!

“Whom seek ye here?” the angel said;
“The Lord is risen from the dead;”
Let joy begin, the tomb is empty; enter in!”
Alleluia!

At early morn, with spices rare,
The women three assembled there.
Who over death had vic’try won. Alleluia!

So let our songs to heaven wing,
The vault with alleluias ring,
In praise of Christ, our risen Lord; new life to
all he doth afford. Alleluia!
—Nikolaus Herman, tr. C. S. Terry

***Doxology**

Let trumpets sound and voices sing!
Let all on earth their praises bring!
For Christ has conquered sin and death
And given life eternal breath. Amen.

—John H. Danner

Prayer of Dedication

***Hymn**

“Hallelujah” from *Messiah*

G. F. Handel

All are welcome to come forward and join the choir or sing from their pen.

***Benediction**

Postlude

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

arr. Michael Bedford

Leading Us in Worship

The Rev. Vanessa Rose, Pastor

The Rev. Kathy Williamson, Liturgist

Dr. Frank Martignetti, Director of Music & Organist

Kim Feeney, Minister of Children & Families

Chancel Choir & Members of the Children's Choir

Emily Boyer and Jaime Thorne, horns

Nancy Weber, piano; Ray Weber, timpani

Bethany Dupuis, Children's Music Leader

Deacons at 9:00 a.m.: Celeste McGeehan and David McKinnis

Deacons at 11:00 a.m.: Rita Skog and Heather Hodgeman

Welcome!

Children's Ministries: Babies are always welcome in the Sanctuary during worship. We also have a nursery (accessible through the breezeway in the back of the Sanctuary). Reach out to Kim (kfeeney@firstchurchfairfield.org) for more information about our children's ministries & faith formation programs.

Welcome to our guests! Thank you for being here. It is such a joy to worship with you. As an Open and Affirming congregation we seek to extend the extravagant welcome of God to all people, all the time. Regardless of your race, class, ancestry, gender identity, marital status, ability, age, immigration status, or sexual orientation, you are always welcome at First Church. We affirm your inherent dignity as a child of God. God created you just as you are and loves you just as you are. We do, too!

Please Hold in your Prayers:

The friends and family of congregation member Gary Kopsco, who passed away suddenly last week. A service will be held at First Church in the coming weeks.

Disciples at First Church: We pray for Chris Bernd; Sandy Bromer; LaNeil Brown, Sr.; Dan Christianson; Betsy Dalling; Fernando Destruge; Gloria Evans; Charlotte Jefremow; Christy Jefremow; Nancy Jones and family; Cathy Kane, her brother Scott and great niece Amelia; Adelaide Kitchen; Jerry Krenke; Beth McKinnis, Penny Stevens; Julie Traum; Doug Van Esselstyn and the family and friends of Joann Van Esselsteyn; Kathy Verdier; Andrea Wakeman; Elinor Wilber; and Edith Zambo. We hold in our prayers all those who face living with memory loss and Alzheimer's disease and we pray for their caregivers. **Serving in the military:** James Classy, Sam Classy, Trevor Dawson, David Elmore, Andrew Holms, Charles Ikeda, Kelcy McKenzie, and Christopher Muschett.

Family and Friends: Hal Burdick (Friend of David McKinnis,) Connie Accomando (Jim's mom); Tracy Bloom (sister of Michael Traum); Catherine Brawer; Diane Studwell Crawley; Brandon Deedon (Pertrinea Cash's son); Paul Douglas (Rita Skog's cousin); Lynelle Dupuis (sister of Bethany); Carter Faustini; Jackie Fenley; Kimberly Fetteri (friend of the Gindek family); Jeff Fischer (friend of Charlotte Dyslin), Nate Gifford (Connie Sargent's cousin); Greenawalt and Darnall Families (Gindek family); Bill Fry (Penny Stevens' brother-in-law), Catherine Grover; Nancy Hamlin (sister of Charlotte Dyslin); Walter Haenn (brother of Madeline Lee); Yochai Harel, Melanie Rainbow-Harel and family (friends of Michelle Walker); Peter Hey (brother of Lin Clayton); Christina Holms (Connie and Bill Sargent's niece); Kate, Sean, Monica and K.B. (friends of Robin Griskus,) Scott Kimmel; Nancy King; Susan Labas (friend of Patty Bilotto); Verne Marble (Charlotte Dyslin's mother); Robert Mandarino, John Mastropietro, Harry Lee, Lila (friend of Beth McKinnis) Debra McLeod, Dorothy Michalowski (friend of Connie and Bill Sargent); Mike Palmer, Rosie Perera (friend of David McKinnis,) Barbara Peterson (friend of Ted and Judy Andre); Artie Quinn; Helen Ranholm (cousin of Connie Sargent), Dick Reese (father in law of Melissa Stanhewicz); Patty Roberts (cousin of Connie and Bill Sargent); Rosalie Rutkauskas (Jessie's Grandmother); Darlene and Bobby Scaia (Pat Bilotto's cousins); David Skog (son of Rita Skog); Tedi Spotswood (David McKinnis' aunt,) John Anderson (David McKinnis' uncle); Mark, Crystal and baby Selene (friends of Beth McKinnis.), Cleo Vernon (the Rev. Kathy Williamson's mother,) Dr. Abraham Yale.

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*With gratitude to the following congregation members who generously donated the flowers that
beautify the sanctuary this Easter.*



In loving memory of Priscilla Christianson from Dan Christianson

In loving memory of Cynthia and William Barone and Arlene and J. Philip Dwyer, from Debby, Phil, Scott, Mark, Amanda, Jack and Robbie Dwyer.

In loving memory of Nancy Lee Morrison, mother of Alice DesGranges

In honor of their children and grandchildren, April, Maggie, Joey, Audrey, Kadence, Hannah & Ben from Dave and Laura Gindek.

In loving memory of Nelda, Henry and Louise Hull from Phyliss Hull.

In loving memory of Carole and Juilane Ferguson and Bob, Joyce and Susan Kane from Cathy Kane.

In loving memory of Jerry Kuroghlian from Ellen Kuroghlian.

In loving memory of Frederick B. and Martha Taylor Lea from Jeffrey, Katherine and Amanda Lea.

The Daniel Loh Family

In loving memory of Ilah, Nick & Seth from the Paige family.

In loving memory of our parents, Howard and Ann Avery and Bill and Kay Sargent from Bill and Connie Sargent.

In loving memory of Bob Stevens from Trudy Stevens

In loving memory of Claire Martin and Ed Klumpp from Amy-Alison Ward.

In loving memory of our parents William and Edith Verdier and brother Bill Verdier by Kathy Verdier, Susan Burnett and family.

In loving memory of Joann Van Esselstyn from Doug Van Esselstyn



Come join these upcoming First Church events.
All are welcome.

Music in the Meetinghouse Series:
The Chris Coogan Trio, Sunday, May 4 at 4 p.m.

Memorial Day Celebration: Monday, May 26
Fun on our lawn during Fairfield's town parade

Summer Services at Sasco Beach
Sundays at 8:15 a.m. beginning June 22

Disciple Road's Vacation Bible School
June 15-20 from 9 a.m. to 12 p.m.

Visit firstchurchfairfield.org for more details