



FORESIDE COMMUNITY CHURCH

Connecting to God

Nurturing Community

Discovering our Callings

April 20, 2023 ~ 10:30am

Easter Sunday and Confirmation



Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed!

Alleluia!

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PRELUDE

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

arr. James Koerts

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

One: Christ is risen!

Many: **Christ is risen indeed!**

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

O give thanks, for God is good!

God's steadfast love endures forever!

New life blossoms where dead hopes were buried.

In the darkness of the tomb, the resurrection mystery unfolds.

In the light of the dawn, we rejoice at the empty tomb.

Let us rejoice and be glad.

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed!

*HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

opposite page

* PRAYER

From all that would entomb love, **O God, release us.**

When all else would deny love, **O Christ, devote us.**

If we fail to see love, **O Spirit, renew us.**

Grant us vision and courage to look for new life and love unbound.

**Help us to rejoice in and share the signs of Easter's dawn:
your Christ, alive, and living in us, in others, and in all the world.**

In all we do, let us proclaim with wonder and praise to all we meet:

Christ is risen!

Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Amen.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today



1. Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
 2. Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 3. Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4. Soar we now where Christ has led,
 5. Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!



Mor - tal tongues and an - gels say:
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,
 Praise to thee by both be given,



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Dy - ing once, he all doth save,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise,
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,



Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
 Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

ANTHEM

With Songs of Rejoicing

J.S. Bach
Arr. Hal Hopson

SCRIPTURE

John 20:1-18

SERMON

To See and To Hold

The Rev. Geoff Parker

*** HYMN**

God, When I Came into This Life

opposite page

Introduction of the Confirmands

Skye Glover, Lucille Herring,
Lucas Rodas, Charlotte Talmadge

Confirmands' Statement of Faith

We believe in God, that power beyond all knowing,
Yet creator and ground of all that is,
and source of love and hope beyond our imagining.

We believe in Jesus Christ, who embodied God's love
And brought it to the reality of our human lives,
Freely giving his life for the teaching of God's Way,

In miracles of healing, hope, and wholeness
He showed us God's reconciling presence in our world
And, in the end, through his life, and death, and life beyond death
Gave all he was so we might trust
His resurrection offer of newness of life for all:
Greater than anything that could be wrong.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, mystery and gift
to all of us and each of us,
through which we hear and discern God's call to us.

**We believe we are the Church,
Called together by the power of the Holy Spirit
To support one another in the brokenness and struggles
of our lives and of our world,
to rejoice in sharing God's unending grace and forgiveness
And the blessing of these truths,
and to proclaim their power in our lives.**

God, When I Came into This Life



1. God, when I came in - to this life, you
 2. You give me free - dom to be - lieve; to -
 3. With - in the cir - cle of the faith, as
 4. In all the ten - sions of my life, be -
 5. So help me in my un - be - lief and



called me by my name; to - day I come, com -
 day I make my choice, and to the wor - ship
 mem - ber of your cast, I take my place with
 tween my faith and doubt, let your great Spir - it
 let my life be true: feet firm - ly plant - ed



mit my - self, re - spond - ing to your claim.
 of the church I add my learn - ing voice.
 all the saints of fu - ture, pres - ent, past.
 give me hope, sus - tain me, lead me out.
 on the earth, my sights set high on you.

Questions to the Confirmands

Do you desire to confirm the promises made at your baptism, growing fully into the faith and family of Jesus Christ? *I do.*

Do you commit to continuing to explore your own gifts and callings, and discovering the light of Christ in you, and in all people? *I do.*

Do you promise, relying on God's grace, to participate fully in the life and ministries of this community and to support it with your time, your talent, and your treasure? *I do.*

Do you promise, relying on God's grace, to grow in Christian discipleship, to work in partnership with this congregation and with God, and to deepen your spiritual life that you may do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God? *I do.*

Question to the Congregation

As you celebrate with these new members of our community, do you, members and friends of Foreside Community Church, United Church of Christ, promise to support them in the promises they have made, to be open to the gifts of the Spirit they bring and to be willing to grow and be changed by them? **We do!**

Act of Confirmation

*...May God strengthen in you the gifts of the Holy Spirit
—those known to you, and those you will discover in the days to come—
as you follow and serve on the way of the risen Christ.*



Welcome

Behold, God is doing a new thing! Let us welcome and rejoice in new life here, come to us in the person of these friends!

**Thanks be to God for you, your lives, your stories of what has been,
And your dreams and visions of what may yet be.**

Glory to God, whose power, working in us, is capable of more than we can ask or imagine. Glory to God from generation to generation in the Church, and in Christ Jesus. Amen!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

May God be with you.

And also with you.

Let us pray...

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.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO THE SERVICE OF GOD

Electronic gifts may be shared here:

<https://www.foresidechurch.org/index.php/giving/> or by pointing your phone's camera at the image to the right and clicking on the link displayed. Gifts received today will be used to support our Neighbors in Need Fund (formerly the Pastor's Discretionary Fund.)



Offertory Anthem

Rejoice, the Lord is King

John Darwall
arr. Jan Sanborn

* Doxology

Tune: All Creatures of our God and King

Praise God from whom all blessings flow

Praise Christ all creatures here below

Alleluia! Alleluia!

Praise God for all that love has done

Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One

Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

Alleluia!

*** Blessing the Gifts**

*** HYMN**

The Day of Resurrection

opposite page

*** BLESSING AND SENDING**

POSTLUDE

Thine is the Glory

Handel
arr. James Koerts

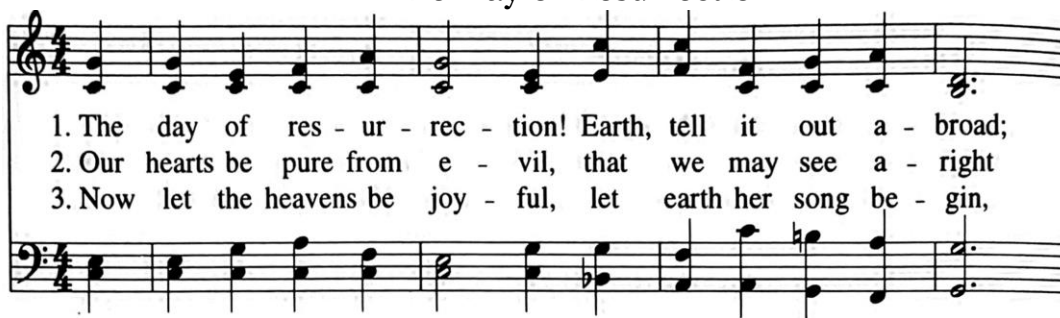
Today's Ministers of Worship:

Deborah Gray, Robin Singer, & John Bischof

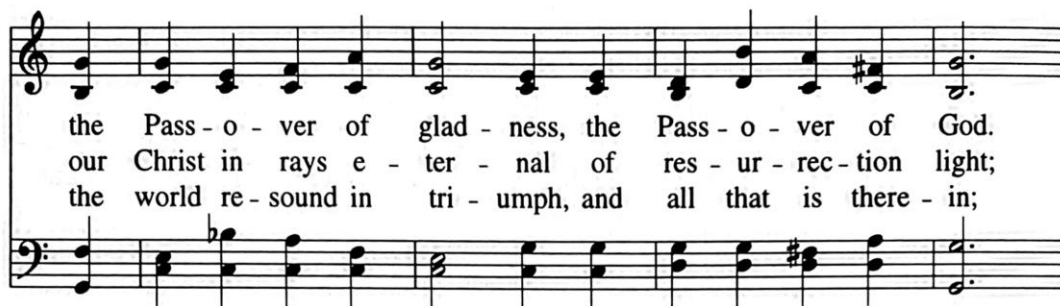
Today's Special Offering:

Supporting our Neighbors in Need Our Neighbors in Need fund is a source of help and support, and a sign of God's loving care for neighbors in our area who are facing challenging times. In the past year, your Neighbors in Need gifts have helped families stay in their homes, individuals reach for education and opportunity without medical or educational debt, and provided heat and electricity in emergency situations. These supports and more are available to offer signs of the church's compassion and care to our neighbors because of the generosity of our members. ***Thank you for your gifts to today's special offering.***

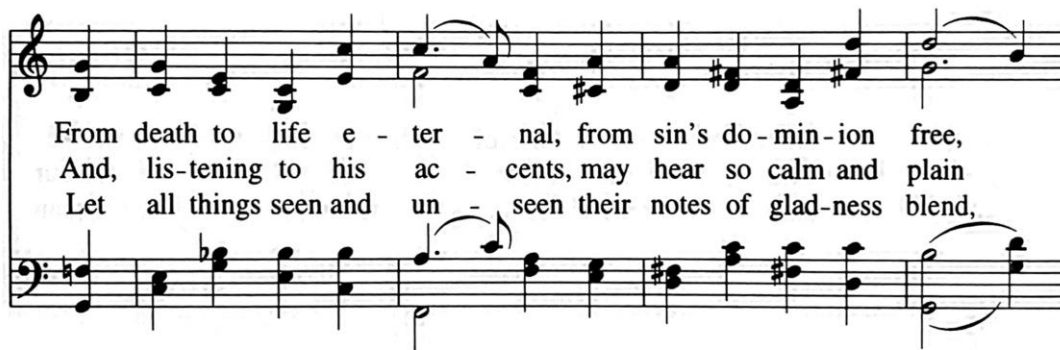
The Day of Resurrection



1. The day of res - ur - rec - tion! Earth, tell it out a - broad;
2. Our hearts be pure from e - vil, that we may see a - right
3. Now let the heavens be joy - ful, let earth her song be - gin,



the Pass - o - ver of glad - ness, the Pass - o - ver of God.
our Christ in rays e - ter - nal of res - ur - rec - tion light;
the world re - sound in tri - umph, and all that is there - in;



From death to life e - ter - nal, from sin's do - min - ion free,
And, lis - tening to his ac - cents, may hear so calm and plain
Let all things seen and un - seen their notes of glad - ness blend,



our Christ has brought us o - ver with hymns of vic - to - ry.
his own "All hail," and, hear - ing, may raise the vic - tor strain.
for Christ the Lord is ris - en, our joy that has no end.

EASTER 2025
SANCTUARY ARRANGEMENT DEDICATIONS

Janet Clough

In loving memory of David Clough, a cherished husband, father, and grandfather.

Dorothy and Kurt Eckhardt

In loving memory of Andy, Dotsy, and Emily Thomas.

Kathy Hillman Reed and Stan Reed

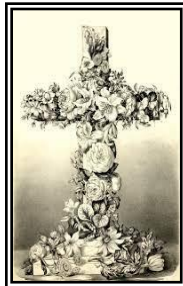
In loving memory of our parents and Kathy's brother.

Debbie Reifsnyder

In loving memory of my parents, Norman W. and Nancy G. Reifsnyder.

The Singer Family

In loving memory of husband, father, and grandfather Bud Singer.



THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Monday, April 21: The office will be closed in observation of the Easter Holiday.

Tuesday, April 22:
12:00 p.m. Knitting Group (Classroom)
6:15 p.m. Chancel Choir (Sanctuary)
6:45 p.m. AA Weekly Meeting (Fellowship Hall)
7:15 p.m. Bell Rehearsal (Sanctuary)

Wednesday, April 23: 6:00 p.m. *What If We Get it Right?* Book Series
(Fellowship Hall)

Thursday, April 24: 9:00 a.m. The Bells of Casco Bay (Sanctuary)
6:00 p.m. Women's AA Group (Fellowship Hall)

**Friday, April 25 and
Saturday, April 26:** *Church reserved for Wedding Rehearsal and Ceremony*

Sunday, April 27: 9:30 a.m. Sunday Worship (Sanctuary and Online)
With Mission Moment
1:00 p.m. Memorial Service – Roy Peppiatt
(Sanctuary and Online)

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The Rev. Geoff Parker, Pastor
Trevor Lavenbein, Choir Director
David Bartoletti, Organist/Accompanist
Christina Sklarz, Office Manager

The Rev. Geoff Parker
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An Open and Affirming Congregation



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