

Our ushers today are David Bjorkman, Kathi Martin,
Scott Barké and Phil Fisher



The flowers on the altar on April 13th were given by Karen Nascembi
in loving memory of her husband, Steven Richard.



A special thank you to Laurel & Peter Caputo and Kathi Martin for
decorating the chancel for today's service. Volunteers will meet at the
front of the sanctuary following the service to pick up flowers to be
delivered to shut-ins and those recently bereaved.



There is no coffee hour after Easter Service.

Worship Notes.

Music licenses: One License with license #A-733437, and CCLI License
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CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940

781-334-3050 www.Centre-Church.org

We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

Rev Thomas Bentley, Pastor

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School



**“God is doing it Everywhere
Among Everyone”**

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

Easter Sunday

April 20, 2025 10:00 am

Welcome and Announcements**Call to Worship****Bill Seelig**

Leader: Out of the darkness of grief and despair comes a message of hope.

Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen, indeed.

Leader: We run to the tomb to see for ourselves. And it is true. Christ is risen.

People: Christ is risen, indeed.

Leader: We hear a voice call our name, and we know our risen Lord is with us now and always.

People: Christ is risen.**Leader & People: Christ is risen, indeed. Thanks be to God.****Opening Prayer (*unison*)****Bill Seelig**

O God of Easter joy, we come this morning with glad shouts of acclamation.

Christ is risen. Christ is risen, indeed! May this time of worship help us to

truly and fully experience this Risen Christ. May we be transformed-

transformed into your butterfly people, winging through the earth with

messages of beauty, hope and life. Amen.

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin 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.

Opening Hymn*“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”****#233****1 The day of resurrection!****Earth, tell it out abroad;****the passover of gladness,****the passover of God.****From death to life eternal,****from earth unto the sky,****our Christ hath brought us over,****with hymns of victory.****2 Our hearts be pure from evil,****that we may see aright****the Christ who reigns eternal****in resurrection light;****We listen for the teachings,****once heard so calm and plain,****for we, too, want to follow****And raise the victor strain.****3 Now let the heavens be joyful!****Let earth the song begin!****the whole world keep high triumph,****and all that is therein!****Let all things seen and unseen****their notes of gladness blend,****for Christ again has risen,****our joy that hath no end.**

“Christ the Lord is Risen Today” #233

**1 Christ, the Lord, is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say; Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens and earth reply: Alleluia!**

**2 Let the Victor’s people sing, Alleluia!
Where O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**3 Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**4 Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

New Testament Reading
Acts 10:34-43

Bill Seelig
The Message

Peter fairly exploded with his good news: “It’s God’s own truth, nothing could be plainer: God plays no favorites! It makes no difference who you are or where you’re from—if you want God and are ready to do as he says, the door is open. The Message he sent to the children of Israel—that through Jesus Christ everything is being put together again—well, he’s doing it everywhere, among everyone.

You know the story of what happened in Judea. It began in Galilee after John preached a total life-change. Then Jesus arrived from Nazareth, anointed by God with the Holy Spirit, ready for action. He went through the country helping people and healing everyone who was beaten down by the Devil. He was able to do all this because God was with him.

“And we saw it, saw it all, everything he did in the land of the Jews and in Jerusalem where they killed him, hung him from a cross. But in three days God had him up, alive, and out where he could be seen. Not everyone saw him—he wasn’t put on public display. Witnesses had been carefully handpicked by God beforehand—us! We were the ones, there to eat and drink with him after he came back from the dead. He commissioned us to announce this in public, to bear solemn witness that he is in fact the One whom God destined as Judge of the living and dead. But we’re not alone in this. Our witness that he is the means to forgiveness of sins is backed up by the witness of all the prophets.”

Anthem

Children’s Time

Children may return to the Pray Ground or to sit with their families. The nursery is open for those 4 & younger.

*Opening Hymn

“Come You Faithful, Raise the Strain”

#230

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Hymns of Praise**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Living God, who we adore.

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Reading
John 20:1-18

Bill Seelig
The Message

Early in the morning on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone was moved away from the entrance. She ran at once to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one Jesus loved, gasping for breath. “They took the Master from the tomb. We don’t know where they’ve put him.”

Peter and the other disciple left immediately for the tomb. They ran, neck and neck. The other disciple got to the tomb first, outrunning Peter. Stooping to look in, he saw the pieces of linen cloth lying there, but he didn’t go in. Simon Peter arrived after him, entered the tomb, observed the linen cloths lying there, and the kerchief used to cover his head not lying with the linen cloths but separate, neatly folded by itself. Then the other disciple, the one who had gotten there first, went into the tomb, took one look at the evidence, and believed. No one yet knew from the Scripture that he had to rise from the dead. The disciples then went back home.

But Mary stood outside the tomb weeping. As she wept, she knelt to look into the tomb and saw two angels sitting there, dressed in white, one at the head, the other at the foot of where Jesus’ body had been laid. They said to her, “Woman, why do you weep?”

“They took my Master,” she said, “and I don’t know where they put him.” After she said this, she turned away and saw Jesus standing there. But she didn’t recognize him.

Jesus spoke to her, “Woman, why do you weep? Who are you looking for?”

She, thinking that he was the gardener, said, “Sir, if you took him, tell me where you put him so I can care for him.”

Jesus said, “Mary.”

Turning to face him, she said in Hebrew, “*Rabboni!*” meaning “Teacher!”

Jesus said, “Don’t cling to me, for I have not yet ascended to the Father. Go to my brothers and tell them, ‘I ascend to my Father and your Father, my God and your God.’”

Mary Magdalene went, telling the news to the disciples: “I saw the Master!” And she told them everything he said to her.

Message: “God is Doing it Everywhere Among Everyone”

Closing Hymn “The Day of Resurrection!” #245

Benediction Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude

