

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
of Falmouth, Massachusetts
of the United Church of Christ**



**Sunday, April 20, 2025
10:00 a.m.**

You Are Welcome Here!

We welcome all who are joining us in worship this morning. If you would like to share a prayer of joy or concern, we invite you to write them down on the podium outside the sanctuary entrances. During the *Moment of Greeting* we invite everyone to fill out the fellowship pad and pass the pad down your pew and back again. The Toddler/Preschool Playroom is open and staffed this morning, and a special Easter program for youngsters is offered!.

REV. JONATHAN DRURY, Minister



ORDER OF WORSHIP

MEDITATION:

“We are told to let our light shine, and if it does, we won't need to tell anybody it does. Lighthouses don't fire cannons to call attention to their shining; they just shine.” Dwight L. Moody

ORGAN PRELUDE, Fantasy on the hymn tune *St. Kevin* by Gilbert Martin
Les Cloches (The Bells) by Nicolas Lebegue

EASTER BONNET PARADE!

A MOMENT OF GREETING

This is the day the Lord has made.
Let us rejoice and be glad in it!

***HYMN NO. 204,** *Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Passing of the Lord's Peace

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jesus walked the earth with God's message of peace, blessing all creation.

Abundant life for all!

Jesus preached God's love and justice for all.

Hope and healing; forgiveness and welcome!

Worldly powers tried to stop him. They led him to a tree and crucified him; laid him in a garden tomb. Three days in the darkness, and then he rose.

Like the seed which dies to live, so Jesus arose to new life!

And so let us celebrate the risen Christ, alive in our midst today.

May we be the hands and feet, hearts and minds of our risen Christ, proclaiming the good news to all!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

This is the day you have made, O Holy One, and we rejoice! Come! Let the world know you dwell with us. Stir our souls with love and hope, and let our feet dance for joy on your good earth. Open our eyes to the need of nurturing this planet, and all who share its life. Embolden our hearts to works of justice in your name. Be present to us. Empower us with your resurrection life. Hear our voices now as we raise them in prayer to you, *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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

THE EASTER NARRATIVE

SCRIPTURE: The Book of Acts 10:34-43

CHORAL RESPONSE *The Heavens Are Telling* from Haydn's Creation
Trio: Greg Mills, Jonathan and Jolie Drury

SCRIPTURE: John 20:1-18

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE, HYMN NO. 51, *All Creatures of Our God, Now Sing

MESSAGE: The Great Perhaps!

OFFERTORY

ANTHEM: *The Angels Rolled the Stone Away*, Spiritual

*Doxology - No. 44

Offertory Prayer

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

* **HYMN NO. 205**, Christ the Lord is Risen Today

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE, *The Hallelujah Chorus* from Handel's Messiah
(Copies can be found at the end of each pew; please raise your voice in song with our choir)

POSTLUDE: *Recessional* by George Friedric Handel

*Those who are able, please stand

Visitors - We welcome you to our church fellowship and hope you will come again. We invite you to sign the *Friendship Pad* that is passed in the pew. There are many new faces in our congregation; we encourage those with name tags to please wear them.

Print-outs of the day's sermon are available. Please speak to one of this morning's Deacons.

Lay Reader is Dennis McGillicuddy.

Greeters are Anne Dyer and Carla Zavorskas.

Ushers are Betsy Honey, Wil Bindler-Desbiens Gace and Sue Day, Bob and Judy Heller.

Deacons of the Month are Cathy Holmes and Martine Bindler-Desbiens.

Flowers on the altar-table are given by Carol and Greg Mills in memory of Maley and Eleanor Cramer, Donald Martin Cramer, MIA, and Benjamin and Guinevere Mills.

***Following our service this morning, Danielle and the Board of Christian Ed invite you to join the children outside for a special Easter picnic!**

Announcements

We are delighted to welcome Marsh Zafiriou as our guest organist this morning!

Emergency Cleanup Buckets

Church World Service

Our Outreach Committee is teaming up with North Falmouth Congregational Church to assemble 50 emergency buckets.

Please consider donating any of the following items:

- Package of 5 scouring pads (no stainless steel or pads with soap)
- 16-34 oz dish soap (antibacterial preferred)
- 50-100 ft. clothesline (cotton or plastic)
- package of 2 heavy duty dishwashing gloves
- scrub brush (with or without a handle)

You don't need to gather all 5 items.

Please place your donations in the marked receptacles by each of the entrances to the church



by Sunday, May 4th. Thank you!

If you would like to commemorate a person or special event by purchasing flowers for the altar should please contact Joanne Blum-Carnevale at capecodjoanne1@gmail.com or by calling 508-548-0480.

THE VOLUNTEERS AT THE SERVICE CENTER currently help to operate 17 DIFFERENT PROGRAMS to assist our neighbors in need. We can add to those efforts by dropping food into our church buckets or by delivering our food items directly to The Service Center: APPLE JUICE (64 oz; , RAISIN BRAN, GRAPE/STRAWBERRY JELLY, ITALIAN/RANCH DRESSING; CANNED BAKED BEANS; DIAPERS- Size 1. Thank you!
Your Outreach Committee

PLANT TABLE at the RUMMAGE SALE: We are looking for annuals, perennials, small shrubs, seeded vegetable plants and herbs. Donations can be dropped off directly to the plant table outside of Fellowship Hall either on WEDNESDAY 4/30 or THURSDAY 5/1 between 9A.M. - 3PM. EMPTY POTS FOR YOUR USE WILL BE AVAILABLE IN THE CHURCH LOBBY SUNDAY MORNING, APRIL 27th.

Paul Revere's Ride and His Falmouth Bell: A Celebratory Event

Sunday, April 27, 4 to 5 PM | Reflections on Paul Revere's enduring legacy in Falmouth, by Reverend Jonathan Drury | Virtual tour up the steeple to view the Paul Revere bell | Reading of excerpts from Henry Wadsworth Longfellow's poem on "Paul Revere's Ride" | Celebratory bell ringing!

THIS WEEK'S CALENDAR

Mon.	5:30 p.m.	Bible Study
Tues.	9:00 a.m.	Prayer Group
	10:00 a.m.	Friendly Circle
	10:30 a.m.	Mahjong
Wed.	9:00 a.m.	Playtime Playgroup
Thurs.	7:00 p.m.	Adult Choir
Sat.	10:00a.m.	Children's Clothing Project

Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God has brought Israel into joy from sadness;
loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.
'Tis the spring to souls today; Christ has burst his prison,
and from three days' sleep in death as a sun has risen;
all the winter of our sins, long and dark, is flying
from the Light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.
Now the joyous season, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, come its joy to render;
come to glad Jerusalem who with true affection
welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection.
Neither might the gates of death, nor the tomb's dark portal,
nor the watchers, nor the seal hold him as a mortal;
but today amid the twelve Christ now stands, bestowing
peace and joy which evermore pass all human knowing.

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, ye heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!
Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!
Christ has opened Paradise, Alleluia!
Hail the Lord of earth and heaven! Alleluia!
Praise to thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia!
Hail, the Resurrection thou! Alleluia!