



FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
Order of Worship

**All who are able please stand*

April 5, 2015 Easter Sunday (Family Worship) 10:00AM

Meditation

“God has made Him to be, both Lord and Christ, this Jesus whom you have crucified.”

-The Apostle Peter

PRELUDE

“Andante Religioso”

Jay Chandler

Felix Mendelssohn

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS***

****If you have an announcement to share, please come to the front of the church*

SPECIAL MUSIC “Glory To God, Hosanna in the Highest”

By J. Paul Williams Adult and Children’s Choirs

***INVOCATION**

Pastor Frank

Pastor: In the name of the Father and the Son and the Holy Spirit.

People: Amen.

Pastor: The Lord be with you.

People: And also with you.

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN #182 (red) “Christ the Lord is Risen Today”**

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mark Taylor

Leader: Rejoice, heavenly powers! Sing, choirs of angels, Jesus Christ, our light, is risen! Sound the trumpet of salvation!

People: Rejoice, O earth, in shining splendor, radiant in the brightness of your Sovereign! Christ has conquered! Glory fills you!

Mourning vanishes forever!

Leader: The power of this holy morning dispels all evil, washes guilt away.

People: Restores lost innocence, brings mourners joy; it casts out hatred, brings peace, and humbles earthly pride.

Leader: Rejoice, O servant church! Exult in glory! The risen Savior shines upon you! Let this place resound with joy, echoing and mighty song of all God’s people!

People: Morning truly blessed. When heaven is wedded to earth, and humanity is reconciled with God.

Leader: This is the day when Jesus Christ broke the chains of death, and rose triumphant from the grave.

People: Alleluia the Lord has risen indeed Alleluia

***PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Leader: Let us confess those things that hurt and destroy. God is ready to hear and forgive. God is ready to roll away the stones that entomb us

All: O God, we confess our lack of faith. Although we call you the God of hope, we often feel lost, alone, cynical, without hope. We are reluctant to leave the tomb of our own ignorance, and we fear to claim the promise. We confess that our weaknesses and insensitivities stand in the way of new life in our world. We know that the world is full of suffering. Our sisters and brothers are nailed to crosses of poverty and injustice. Friends, neighbors and loved ones are sealed in tombs of loneliness and despair. Forgive us. Help us feel your power in our lives. Save us from fear. Open for us the way of new life shown to us by Jesus Christ our risen Lord. Amen

CHILDREN’S TIME

Pastor Frank

ANTHEM “Alleluia, he Lives!”

Adult Choir and Hand Bell Choir

By Joel Raney

SCRIPTURES

Reese Taylor

EPISTLE:

Ephesians 2: 1-10

GOSPEL ALLELUIA #736 (Please Stand)

GOSPEL:

Mark 16: 1-8

Reader: The Word of the Lord. People: Thanks be to God

***GLORIA PATRI #734 (blue)**

SERMON “Raised Up With Christ”

Pastor Frank

***HYMN #191 (red) “O Sons and Daughters, Let us Sing”**

PASTORAL PRAYER

CHORAL RESPONSE

Choir

OFFERTORY “A Joyful Noise”

Hand Bell Choir

By Douglas E. Wagner

***DOXOLOGY #34 (blue) #514 (red)**

OFFERTORY DEDICATION

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

****Note: Red is wine and white is grape juice.**

INVITATION: *(responsively)*

The Lord be with you. And also with you.

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to the Lord.

Let us give thanks to the Lord, our God.

It is right to give him thanks and praise.

PREFACE PRAYER

RESPONSE OF PRAISE: *(sung together)*

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power, God of might.

Heaven and earth are full, of your glory.

Hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna in the highest.

(be seated at close)

EUCCHARISTIC PRAYER

THE DISTRIBUTION OF COMMUNION

***Please wait until all have been served so that we might share together.**

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

***CLOSING HYMN #199(red) “Crown Him with Many Crowns”**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“Carillon de Longpont”

Jay Chandler

By Louis Vierne

The First Congregational Church

978-632-2142

Email: fccgardner@gmail.com

Pastor: Frank McKenzie

Christian Education Director: Sue Rader

Organist: Jay Chandler

Administrative Assistant: Marion McCann

Custodian: Dale Rader

Deacon: Joan Mellanson

Trustee: John Moretti and Ben Parker

Ushers: Laura Carbonari and Joe Sanders

Fellowship: Easter Breakfast

Nursery: The nursery is available for parental use