

# First Congregational Church of Walpole

# **United Church of Christ**

Second Sunday of Easter April 27, 2025, 10:00 a.m.

We can easily forgive a child who is afraid of the dark; the real tragedy of life is when men are afraid of the light.

-Plato

15 Washington Street Walpole, New Hampshire www.walpolenhucc.org

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Introit**

Call to Worship (Based on Psalm 150)

Leader: Praise God in the sanctuary;

and in the mighty firmament!

People: Praise God's mighty deeds.

**Praise God's surpassing greatness!** 

Leader: Praise God with trumpet sound, with lute and harp!

People: Praise God with tambourine and dance:

praise God with strings and pipe!

Leader: Praise God with clanging cymbals;

praise God with loud crashing cymbals!

All: Let everything that breathes praise God! Hallelujah!

**Hymn** TWC #2 Holy, Holy, Holy, Lord God Almighty

## **Prayer of Invocation and Confession (**unison)

God, you make yourself known to us in resurrection power. You are our hope and comfort. You cause our hearts to rejoice. Our mouths fill with praise, though our praise rings hollow. Our joy is empty. Like Peter, we are haunted by the times we have denied you by word and action. We ignore your call to serve. Forgive us, we pray. Renew us by the power of your love, so we may proclaim its saving grace. Unlock our hearts and be known to us in this silence we offer...

### **Words of Assurance**

**Sharing the Peace of Christ** 

Leader: May the peace of God be with you.

People: And also with you.

The Children's Message

**Joys and Concerns** 

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

**Joys and Concerns** 

**Pastoral Prayer** 

Sung Amen

**Scripture Lessons:** Revelation 1:4-8 ● John 20:19-31

**Scripture Response:** 

Leader: For the Word in Scripture, for the Word among us,

for the Word within us: All: Thanks be to God!

**Sung Response** (2 Times) Psalm 119:105 Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

Sermon

**Hymn** NCH #491 Awake, My Soul, Stretch Every Nerve

**Call To Offering** 

**Doxology (**Old Hundredth)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;

Praise Christ, the Word in flesh born low;

Praise God above, you heavenly host;

Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.

# **Prayer of Dedication**

From our hearts and from our hands, we humbly and gladly offer these gifts to you, O God, that they may be used to serve you and to bless your people, through Christ our Savior. Amen

**Hymn** TWC #251 Thine Is the Glory

**Benediction** 

## **Benediction Response** Go Now in Peace

Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do. Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see. God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.

**Pastor:** The Reverend Richard Malmberg

Lay reader: Michael Brodeur

**Ushers and Greeters:** Ann Looney and Nancy Sloan

**Zoom Director:** Paul Looney

**Church Staff:** 

Office Administrator: Jane Vesper Treasurer: Tracey Martin

Music Director: Anna Dunn Clerk: Linda Wright

**Deacon of the month:** Michael Brodeur

Please pray for Dean Prentiss, Bill Sudsbury, Chuck Shaw, Linda Smith, Ann Rogers, Stephen Hill, Dave Adams, our sister church in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe.

Members living in retirement homes: Becky Hubbard, Carol Lamp,

and Carole Hill.

The altar flowers today are given by Ann Looney.

Convenient Online Giving to the First Congregational Church of Walpole is available through our website. Thank you for your support!

https://apps.digigiv.org/o/walpolenhucc

On the cover: The Incredulity of St. Thomas, Rembrandt van Rijn, Dutch, Pen and wash, c.1652