



easter
SUNDAY

Christ Is Risen!

THE ORDER OF SERVICE FOR THE WORSHIP OF GOD

The Congregational Church, United Church of Christ
Amherst, New Hampshire

April 17, 2022

Easter Sunday

10:00 a.m.

PRELUDE

Alleluia!

W.A. Mozart/
Maurizio Machella

GREETING AND WELCOME

EASTER PROCLAMATION

One: Rejoice in the good news! Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen indeed!

One: Let all the earth proclaim this joy!

All: Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!

INTROIT

Easter Acclamation
Bell Choir

Michael E. Akers

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: For the women who first went out
into the early dawn, taking spices to the tomb,
there was fear and surprise.

**Many: For those of us familiar with the Easter story,
there is the risk of complacency,
because we've heard it so many times before.**

One: Let us open ourselves
to the astounding possibility
that life can break out at any moment!

**Many: Let us challenge the thought
that we have planned the future so efficiently
that there will be no surprises!**

One: Let us face the fact that the walls of this church,
and the life of our institution
cannot entirely contain Jesus Christ!

**Many: Let us celebrate the irrepressible power of God
breaking out with life
where we least expect it!**

**All: It is Easter morning again:
and we will celebrate!**

*HYMN

Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

No. 123

PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD'S PRAYER (unison)

Living God, long ago, faithful women proclaimed the good news of Jesus' resurrection, and the world was changed forever. Teach us to keep faith with them, that our witness may be as bold, our love as deep, and our faith as true. Help us to be an Easter people. Believing that out of despair will come hope, out of darkness will come light, out of sadness will come joy, and out of death, new life will rise. May we feel your Spirit moving among us now, O God, as we pray the words of Jesus:

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.

CHILDREN'S TIME

*THE PASSING OF THE PEACE

The peace of God be with you. AND ALSO WITH YOU.

THE SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24:1-12

But on the first day of the week, at early dawn, they came to the tomb, taking the spices that they had prepared. They found the stone rolled away from the tomb, but when they went in, they did not find the body. While they were perplexed about this, suddenly two men in dazzling clothes stood beside them. The women were terrified and bowed their faces to the ground, but the men said to them, "Why do you look for the living among the dead? He is not here, but has risen. Remember how he told you, while he was still in Galilee, that the Son of Man must be handed over to sinners, and be crucified, and on the third day rise again." Then they remembered his words, and returning from the tomb, they told all this to the eleven and to all the rest. Now it was Mary Magdalene, Joanna, Mary the mother of James, and the other women with them who told this to the apostles. But these words seemed to them an idle tale, and they did not believe them. But Peter got up and ran to the tomb; stooping and looking in, he saw the linen cloths by themselves; then he went home, amazed at what had happened.

SERMON

"Rolling Away the Stone"

ANTHEM

I Will Serve the Lord All My Days
Chancel Choir

Don Besig/
Nancy Price

JOYS AND CONCERNS and PASTORAL PRAYER

If you have a prayer to share, fill out a prayer card in your pew and place it in the "Joys and Concerns" plate at the back of the sanctuary. Ushers will bring the cards forward to the pastor during the Anthem.

ORGAN PRAYER RESPONSE

INVITATION TO SHARE OUR TITHES AND OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Christ the Lord Is Risen Today
Bell Choir

arr. Jason W. Krug

*DOXOLOGY (Tune: *From All that Dwell Below the Skies*)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below. Alleluia, Alleluia.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia! Amen.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Generous and surprising God, when we thought that death had claimed your only Son, you amazed us with the resurrection. Surprise us again with your ability to turn these humble offerings into gifts that will transform the world through our witness to your love. We lay our very lives at your feet, O God, knowing that you will use us to proclaim and embody the gospel. Amen.

*HYMN

The Day of Resurrection!

No. 118

*THE LIGHT OF CHRIST GOES OUT INTO THE WORLD

*COMMISSION AND BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

Postlude on "St. Thomas"
(I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord)

Aaron Williams/
Jason D. Payne

(*Indicates that those who are able may stand.)

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service
obtained from One License with license #A-731944.*

THE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF AMHERST, NH, UCC



**A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ**



**“No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey,
you are welcome here.”**

We, the members of The Congregational Church of Amherst, New Hampshire, United Church of Christ, believe God’s Holy Spirit and Jesus Christ call us to love all our neighbors as we would want to be loved. We are called to be as one body, seeking to walk together in the full life and ministry of our church.

We welcome each individual as a child of God. As covenant members of Christ’s church, we celebrate God’s love for people of all races and ethnic backgrounds, all mental and physical abilities, all socioeconomic backgrounds, all sexual orientations, all gender identities and gender expressions, and all of the other diverse attributes woven into the fabric of humankind.

With God’s grace, we invite all to share in the life and leadership, ministry and fellowship, worship and sacraments, responsibilities and blessings of our church.

We are pleased that you have chosen to worship with us. Our membership is open to all those who choose to walk with us in our witness. Please speak with any of our deacons or pastors should you have any questions regarding our church or our membership.

Worship Notes:

- Our church nursery is open, but not currently staffed, and is available when parents with young children feel the need for a quiet, safe space to go to during worship. A monitor is available to watch and listen to the service.
- Joys and Concerns may be written on the cards found on the small table as you entered the sanctuary. You are also welcome to submit your prayer request through our website in advance of the worship service.
- In the event of an emergency, please remain seated until instructions have been given. An emergency plan is in place for the children in the church school.

The church office is open Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 10:00 to 1:00 p.m., and available Monday through Friday by telephone 673-3231 and by email info@ccamherst.org. Please feel free to leave a message and we will get back to you as soon as we can. Visit our church’s website at www.ccamherst.org, and follow us on Facebook.com/ccamherst and Instagram.com/ccamherstnh.

Grounded in God’s Love—Serving Neighbors Near and Far—Welcoming to All

PARTICIPATING IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Members and Friends of The Congregational Church

Rev. Maureen R. Frescott

Rev. Katherine R. Kennedy

Sara L. Phelps

Michael Havay

Wendy Valeri

Gail Wiegand

Patricia Bodan

Gretchen Davis

Ministers to the World

Senior Pastor

Associate Pastor

Director of Music

Organist/Accompanist

Bell Choir Director

Deacon in Charge

Videographer

Interim Children's Coordinator

100 ENVELOPES—A SHYG FUNDRAISER!

This year's Senior High Youth Group Mission Trip is in Austin, TX. From June 19-24, our SHYG will be working with an organization called Reach Beyond Mission, serving those facing food insecurity and learning all about the injustice of food insecurity in our country.

You can help! With rising inflation, this year's trip will be a little bit pricier than trips past. The SHYG's 100 Envelopes fundraiser launches TODAY. In the community room, you will find a bulletin board display of envelopes numbered 1 to 100. Think about how much you'd like to donate to the SHYG mission trip, and grab an envelope (or a combination of envelopes) with that number on it! Want to give \$35, but envelope #35 is taken? Get creative and snag envelopes #32 and #3!

Thank you so much for your support!

Our Church Calendar

April 17—23, 2022

Some events are taking place virtually.

Links are sent out directly by email, and a list of recurring meetings with their links can be found in the member section of our website.

Today	7:00 a.m.	Easter Morning Worship
	10:00 a.m.	Easter Worship
Monday	10:00 a.m.	Woman's Association
	6:00 p.m.	Budget & Finance Team
Wednesday	9:30 a.m.	Staff Meeting
Thursday	6:00 p.m.	Bell Choir
	7:30 p.m.	Chancel Choir
Saturday	11:00 a.m.	Memorial Service for Rick Safarz

JOIN THE CHURCH SCHOOL in Celebrating Screen-Free Week—May 1-7: Screen-Free Week is an international celebration held in schools, churches, and whole communities. It's an opportunity to unplug (after school and work responsibilities are done) for other types of entertainment, connection and fun!

Even though it's about going without screens, it isn't about going without—it's about what we get! More time with our family. Siblings getting along better! More time outdoors! More time reading or playing board games! Better sleep! For people of faith, it's also an opportunity to remove distractions and spiritual roadblocks and seek out what is meaningful in our lives—feeling more joy and wonder.

But wait there is more! Friday May 6th, Church School will be hosting a Family Fun Night from 6-8pm. Join us here at the church for a campfire, outdoor glow stick games and s'mores! We will wrap up our screen free week with an evening of fun for everyone. Look for our table in the Community Room during the Fellowship hour to grab some great resources like Screen-Free Bingo and a list of 1-1 Screen-Free Activities. To pledge with families and individuals around the world, visit www.screen-free.org.

SHARE FOOD PANTRY requests for April include toothbrushes and toothpaste, deodorants, shampoo and conditioner, bar soap, feminine hygiene products, diapers and wipes. Donations should be brought directly to the SHARE Center in Milford; if you are unsure where, please call their office at 673-9898. Many thanks for your continuing support!

GOOD STUFF SALE DONATIONS NEEDED:

The Woman's Association is busy preparing for our first post-pandemic Good Stuff Sale (formerly Rummage Sale). We invite everyone with items to donate to bring them to the church so that they can be sorted for the sale. Information about what items we are accepting can be found on the WA page on the church website, on the email that was sent out on April 5 or from any WA member. Or you can email wa@ccamherst.org. We are not accepting clothing or shoes for this sale. Please mark your calendar for the sale on April 29 & 30, and thanks!

Financial Summary
(as of March 31, 2022)

	YTD	YTD	
	<u>Actual</u>	<u>Budget</u>	<u>Difference</u>
Income	\$327,019	\$337,104	\$(10,085)
Expenses	\$336,440	\$339,956	\$ (3,517)
Net Income	\$ (9,421)	\$ (2,853)	\$ (6,568)

Numbers have been rounded to the nearest whole dollar; as such, some columns may not appear to total correctly.

We hope you are finding this information helpful. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to reach out to anyone on the Finance Team: Keith Lammers, Paul Spiess, Doug Topliffe, Todd Whitney and Tim Wiegand (Treasurer).

Sunday, April 17, 2022



Abigail