

MARCH 26, 2023

10AM LENTV

but let *JUSTICE*

roll down like water

and *RIGHTEOUSNESS*

like an ever-flowing stream.

SOUTH CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

27 Pleasant St. Concord, NH 03301

603.224.2521 | www.southchurchconcord.org

Welcome to South Congregational Church, United Church of Christ! Whoever you are, whatever your faith tradition, whatever creed you profess, whatever your age, ability, race, sexual orientation or gender expression, you are welcome here!

PRELUDE

Via Dolorosa

arr. Dale Wood

WORDS OF WELCOME

THE THRESHOLD

(The piano and the Pastor begin.)

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Holy and Living God, to choose You is to choose love.

May peace flow. Let justice roll.

Nudge us toward the reconciliation that ushers in right relationship.

May peace flow. Let justice roll.

Forgive us our sins and the pride from which they come.

May peace flow. Let justice roll.

*HYMN #526

We Are Marching

A MESSAGE FOR ALL GOD'S CHILDREN

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Please join me: **We covenant with you, our new-found siblings, to walk in the ways of Jesus, to become with you a people of peace and reconciliation in a world of violence and estrangement; to pray for you in your times of need and to celebrate with you in your moments of joy; to cultivate a spirit of Sabbath among us wherein life is measured in the fullness of time, rather than in the rush toward accomplishment; to share with you our time, our hopes, our stories, our questions, and our help; to muster our courage with you, that together we might become the church Christ intends: strong in the Spirit, bold in faith, open in welcome, glorious in diversity, and committed in service. Amen.**

(Following the reception of new members, children are invited to join us downstairs for Church School.)

CHORAL ANTHEM

Set Me As a Seal Upon Your Heart

by David N. Childs

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

God of wonder, in you are hidden all the treasures of wisdom and knowledge. Open our eyes that we may see the wonders of your Word reflecting all around us, and give us your grace that we may freely hear and choose the way of your wisdom; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 35: 1-3; Matthew 21: 1-12

SERMON

The Day is Coming

Rev. Jared A. Rardin

*HYMN #12

Come My People

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER *(Maori & Polynesia)*

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echo through the universe; The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world; Your heavenly will be done by all created beings; Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come

on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trial too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

A MOMENT FOR RACIAL JUSTICE

Sue Moore

AN INVITATION TO GENEROSITY

Virtual offering plate: **bit.do/southchurch**: other options include using the "Donate" button on the website, or mailing/dropping off a check to the office.

OFFERTORY

Sure On This Shining Night

arr. Agee
Carolyn Kerr, Soprano

*SUNG RESPONSE

Pardon for sin and a peace so enduring, your own dear presence to cheer and to guide. Strength for today and bright hope for tomorrow, blessings all mine with ten thousand beside. Great is your faithfulness! Great is your faithfulness! Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed your hand has provided, Great is your faithfulness, God, unto me!

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

For the gift of this church and its work in the world,
we give thanks.

For the way in which these offerings can embody our welcome to friend and stranger alike,
we give thanks.

For the gift of this community bound and working together,
we give thanks.

*HYMN #245

The Day of Resurrection

*BENEDICTION

We invite you to come forward and tie a blue cloth to the lattice work as we continue to build our Lenten Waterfall.

**Please stand in body or spirit.*

Please join us following worship for Coffee Hour!

Prayers, Joys, and Concerns

Prayers for Edna Elle; Betsy Gates; Chris Scott; Kayla Pingree's brother Matthew; Judy Todd; Yorke Peeler; Lisa and Doug Richards; the Vodra family; Doug Kilgore; and Myrna Prevost.

Joy for Brooke Hollar Morgan, born to Anne Morgan and Brian Hollar on Tuesday, March 21.

Joy for our New Members!
Jan Kinnier, Ellie Murphy, Bill Murphy, Ben Rice, and Nance Ruhm.

Today's Participants

Lay Reader: Debbie Carley

Ushers: Paula Cheney & Cal Genzel

Pastor: Rev. Jed Rardin

Pianist: Abigail Charbeneau

Music Director: Sue Berlenbach

Memorial Bells Choir Director: Carlene Ruesenberg

Director of Christian Education: Alison Nyhan

Zoom Technician: Walt Irvine

Flowers are kindly donated by the Babladelis family
in celebration of Oliver and Matilda's March birthdays.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Moment for Mission: For the month of **March**, the Faith in Action Committee has chosen the NH Food Bank as our Moment for Mission. The NH Food Bank is the only food bank in the state! In addition to providing hunger relief to those suffering from food insecurity, the NH Food Bank provides hands-on educational programs to teach parents and adults with limited food budgets how to shop for and cook healthy meals. The Food Bank also offers a free Culinary Job Training program to people seeking employment in the food service industry. And they maintain a production garden with the goal of providing fresh produce for the culinary program and their soup kitchens, and educating people on how to maintain a garden. Thank you for your continued support of the Faith in Action ministry.

Childcare: The Faith Formation Ministry has been providing childcare during the 10am worship service for our young families and their children from infants to three years old. We are looking for volunteers to help supervise the children. If you are interested in volunteering, please contact Alison.

Prayer Shawl Ministry: If you like to knit, crochet, or quilt, we would love to hear from you. We are about to launch a new ministry which will involve making prayer shawls for those who could use some comfort during difficult times. We also have baskets with yarn and instructions in the back of the sanctuary for those who would like to work on a shawl during church services. We encourage you to pick one up and continue the shawl. If you are interested in being a part of this ministry, please contact Ro Metcalf or Nancy Roberts.

Bake Sale: Genesis Circle will be hosting a bake sale on **Sunday, April 2** after both worship services. They will be selling treats such as pies, rolls, cookies, and more. Please support the Genesis Circle and their mission by purchasing baked goods.

Concord Female Charitable Society: The CFCS Annual Meeting and turkey supper will be held at Alan's Restaurant on **Tuesday, April 11**, at 5:30pm, followed by Dwight Phetteplace (guitarist and singer). Reservations should be made with Cheryl Nickerson, Helen Porter, or Eileen Jones by **April 2**. Tickets are \$24 and will not be sold at the door.

Art Contest: The NH Conference of the United Church of Christ is hosting an Earth Day Art Contest! Prizes will be awarded in four age groups. Entries will be accepted until **April 15**, and should be sent to robert.grabill@ccdcucc.org. Please contact Susan Moore with questions.

Love Blooms Here: Recently, a Jewish synagogue, homes, and businesses owned by or including Jewish, BIPOC and LGBTQ communities were defaced with red spray paint depicting hate symbols, including swastikas. In response to these hate-motivated crimes, a group of local non-profits banded together and created Love Blooms Here: a response to show that these actions are condemned and that we all stand

together to eliminate hate, racism, antisemitism, and bias in all its forms. To continue this positive energy flow, we are encouraged to send postcards with messages of support and love to these affected friends.

The Temple of Israel
200 State St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Cup of Joe
31 Market St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Deadwicks
18 Sheafe St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

3 Bridges Yoga
185 High St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Cotillion Bureau
65 Bow St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Grim North Tattoo & Piercing
167 High St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Macro Polo
89 Market St.
Portsmouth, NH 03801

Broken Spoon Restaurant
416 Central St.
Franklin, NH 03235

Star Island: Live and Work on an Island this Summer . . . working on Star Island can be extremely rewarding. And it's more than just a summer job – it's about being together with other interesting, talented, and hardworking people. The community that grows each summer is a result of common goals, care for our shared environment, and a network of support. Star Island is seeking candidates to fill several managerial positions: Assistant Conference Center Director; Island Nurse/First Aid Station Coordinator; Head Carpenter; Assistant Island Engineer/Administrator; Communications & Program Coordinator. To learn more about these opportunities check out their website.

Horton Center: Are you a nurse? Do you know someone who is a nurse? If so, you are encouraged to spend a week at Horton Center this summer in the fresh mountain air! Horton Center runs weeklong sessions for kids (grades 3-12) and some sessions for families and adults, with an average number on site of 30-50 people. The nurses' quarters are simple, but comfortable, with a private bedroom, bathroom, and treatment room/office all in the same building. These are one-week, paid positions for nurses with a current NH license (LPN or higher) or a Compact License, and it includes room and board onsite. Interested in learning more, contact Tim Hughes.

Office Hours: The office is open Monday through Friday, 8am-4pm.

Siyahamb' ekukhanyen' kwenkhos'

(We Are Marching in the Light of God)

Ps. 89:15

South African freedom song; transl. Freedom Is Coming, 1984

Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen-khos', si - ya -
 We are march - ing in the light of God, we are

hamb' e - ku - kha-nyen' kwen-khos'. Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha -
 march-ing in the light of God. We are march-ing in the

nyen' kwen - khos', Si - ya - ham - ba,
 kha - nyen' kwen-khos', ham - ba, si - ya -
 light of God. We are march-ing,
 the light of God. march-ing, we are

Oo, si - ya - hamb' e - ku-kha-nyen' kwen-khos'.
 ham - ba, ham - ba,
 Oo, we are march-ing in the light of God.
 march-ing, march-ing,

This South African song and fourteen others were first recorded and published in 1980 by the Church of Sweden Mission and the singing group "Fjedur" after a visit they made to South Africa. The subsequent 1984 collection Freedom Is Coming brought the songs to a worldwide audience.

Tune: SIYAHAMBA Irr.
 South African song

Hymn #12 *Come, My People*

Come, my people, welcome to worship.
Love is in the warmth of this place.
Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,
sing to God a song of praise!
Gather in safety, welcomed in Christian love;
God touches us with strength from above.

Come, my people, welcome to worship.
Love is in the warmth of this place.
Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,
sing to God a song of praise!
Stories of Jesus show us the way to live,
how to serve others, how to forgive.

Come, my people, welcome to worship.
Love is in the warmth of this place.
Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,
sing to God a song of praise!
Stand with each other in one community,
working together God's reign to see.

Come, my people, welcome to worship.
Love is in the warmth of this place.
Sing to God a song of thanksgiving,
sing to God a song of praise!

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Hymn #245 *The Day of Resurrection*

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 has brought us over with hymns of victory.

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.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its 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 has no end.

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Holy⁺ Week

SCHEDULE

Sunday, April 2	Palm Sunday Services - 8am & 10am
*Monday, April 3	Midday Prayer - 12pm
*Tuesday, April 4	Late Afternoon Prayer - 4pm
*Wednesday, April 5	Foot Washing Service - 7:30am
*Thursday, April 6	Maundy Thursday Service - 7pm
*Friday, April 7	Good Friday Silent Prayer - 10am to 2pm
Saturday, April 8	Holy Saturday
Sunday, April 9	Easter Sunday Services - 6am & 8am & 10am

**Labyrinth in Fellowship Hall 8am-4pm*

