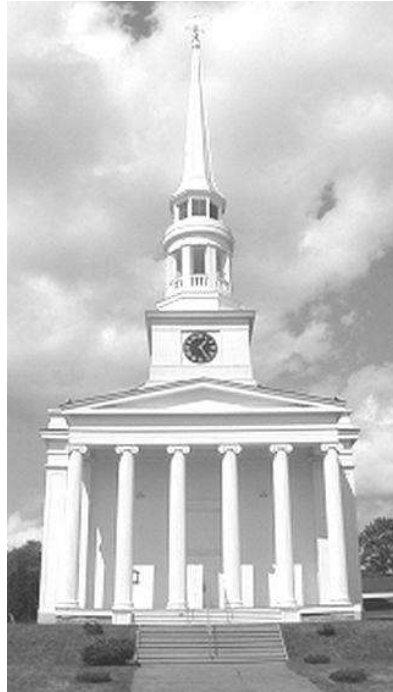


First Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Ellsworth, Maine



Founded in 1812

*Come with hope or despair,
expectation, or disappointment, and
seek God even as God seeks you.*

**ORDER FOR WORSHIP
SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER**

May 5, 2024

10 a.m.

*Hearing devices and large print hymnals are available—
please ask an usher if you require them.
Thank you for turning off electronic devices before worship begins.
Please stand if you are able.

RINGING THE BELL

9:45 a.m.

LIGHTING THE CANDLES

PRELUDE *Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing* Arr. Page
 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross Arr. Page

WELCOME

INTROIT (all) *Now We Come Before God's Presence* # 410

**Now we come before God's presence, full of joy with songs of praise for
the cup and bread life-giving, healing all our sinful ways.**

1

CALL TO WORSHIP (*responsively*)

from Psalm 98:1- 8

One: Sing to our God a new song.

All: God has done marvelous things!

One: Make a joyful noise to the Lord!

All: Break forth into joyous song and sing praises.

One: Let the sea roar and all that fills it.

All: Let the world and its people sing together for joy!

*HYMN

Come, Christians, Join to Sing

90

*GATHERING PRAYER (*unison*)

Loving God, help us to love others as Christ has loved us.

Bring us into the spiritual joy of living our lives as your friend.

Teach us to abide in your love that we may show that love to the world. Keep us mindful of all the marvelous things you are doing around and within us today. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME FOR ALL AGES

THE LORD'S PRAYER (*unison*)

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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

2

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Lord Is By My Side Colin Buchanan, James Ferguson,

I know my Shepherd gives me peace, The Lord is by my side. For every day He walks with me, The Lord is by my side.

The Lord is by my side, Forever by my side. His hope, His strength, His peace is mine __ The Lord is by my side. I know my Shepherd gives me strength, The Lord is by my side. For I am small, and He is great, The Lord is by my side. The Lord is by my side, Forever by my side. His hope, His strength, His peace is mine, _ The Lord is by my side. I know my Shepherd gives me hope, The Lord is by my side. For He will lead me safely home, The Lord is by my side. The Lord is by my side, Forever by my side. His hope, His strength, His peace is mine, _ The Lord is by my side. And when I look back, I will surely see __ Your goodness and love, they have followed me. __ For when I look back, I will surely see __ My Shepherd has laid down His life for me. __ And when I look back, I will surely see __ Your goodness and love, they have followed me. __ For when I look back, I will surely see __ My Shepherd has laid down His life for me. __ The Lord is by my side, Forever by my side. His hope, His strength, His peace is mine, __ The Lord is by my side. The Lord is by my side. Forever by my side, His hope, His strength, His peace is mine, __ The Lord is by my side.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (*unison*)

Enlighten the eyes of our hearts, O God, and grant us a spirit of wisdom and revelation through the reading of this, your Word. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS:

EPISTLE READING
Gospel

1 JOHN 5: 1 – 6
John 15: 9 - 17

pg. 213 NT
pg. 96 NT

MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays:

Sarah, Linda, Danielle

Choral Response: *Let the Words of My Mouth* # 301

*Let the words of my mouth,
and my heart's meditation be acceptable to you, O God.*

HOLY COMMUNION

*Hymn *Fairest Lord Jesus* # 97

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING (*responsively*)

One: The Lord be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them to the Lord.

One: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

All: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

PREFACE

5

PRAISE RESPONSE (*unison*)

Holy, holy, holy Lord, God of power and 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.**

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION
WORDS OF INSTITUTION & SHARING THE ELEMENTS
PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (*unison*)

**O God, you richly bless us with all that we need,
bread from the earth and the bread of heaven.
Grant us one thing more: grateful hearts to sing your praise. Amen.**

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES (*Mail to PO Box 12, Ellsworth, 04605*)

OFFERTORY *Give Me Jesus* Arr. Lau

* DOXOLOGY # 46

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

*HYMN *Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant* # 490

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE *The Lord Bless You* (S.A.T.B.)

The Lord _ bless you, The Lord _ keep you, The Lord _ give you peace. Amen.

POSTLUDE *Toccata* Wagner

*Our purpose,
First Congregational Church, UCC, Ellsworth, Maine:*

To embrace the life, ministry, and teachings of Jesus Christ
In meaningful and dynamic ways through
creative worship,
supportive fellowship,
compassionate outreach, and
stimulating Christian education for all ages;

To be a faithful community which, led by the Holy Spirit,
expresses hospitality,
nurtures spiritual growth, and
promotes a deep sense of belonging;

To strive to build on commonalities while seeking to
understand, accept, and
celebrate our differences;

To stand as a beacon of hope in a hurting and troubled world by
sharing the Good News of the Gospel, and
practicing God's love as embodied by Jesus Christ.

We welcome all to walk with us on the journey of faith.

As adopted by the Congregation at its Annual Meeting – January 22, 2012



First Congregational Church UCC - Founded 1812

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MASKING IS OPTIONAL IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.

We suggest physical distancing. Thank you for respecting the space of those who choose to mask.