



First Congregational Church UCC - Founded 1812
PO Box 12, 2 Church Street
Ellsworth, Maine 04605
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ellsworthucc.org facebook.com/fccellsworth

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

**ORDER OF WORSHIP
PALM SUNDAY**

April 13, 2025

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

All Glory, Laud and Honor
What Wondrous Love is This

arr. Lau
arr. Lasky

WELCOME

CHORAL INTROIT *“Hosanna, loud Hosanna”*

“Hosanna, loud hosanna,” the little children sang;
Through pillared court and temple the lovely anthem rang.
To Jesus, who had blessed them close folded to his breast,
The children sang their praises, the simplest and the best.

CALL TO WORSHIP (responsively)

One: Awake to the day of triumph for our Savior!

All: Give thanks for this day. Blessed is Jesus Christ who did not turn back for fear of the cross.

One: Come with your branches, hosannas, and songs!

All: Fill the air with welcome to the Lord!

One: Hosanna! God saves! Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord.

*HYMN

All glory, laud and honor

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*GATHERING PRAYER (unison)

Gracious God, as we enter this Holy Week, strengthen us to move beyond the festive parade of palms and to follow Jesus into the way of the cross, that, united with him and all the faithful, we may one day enter through the gates of righteousness into the eternal city, the New Jerusalem, where we may praise you with Christ and the Holy Spirit forever. 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.

CHORAL ANTHEM

The Palms

arr. Lerman

*The congregation is invited to sing the refrain after the 3rd verse.
Watch Nancy for the cue.

O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay
Are strewn this day in festal preparation.
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.
Join all and sing. His name declare.
Let every voice resound with acclamation. Hosanna!
Praise to the Lord. Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation.
His word goes forth, and people by its might
Once more their freedom gain degradation.
Humanity doth give to each the right.
While those in darkness are restored to light. *Join all and sing...*
Sing and rejoice, O blest Jerusalem.
Of all thy sons sing the emancipation.
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem
Brings faith and hope to thee forevermore.
**Join all and sing. His name declare.*
Let every voice resound with acclamation. Hosanna!
Praise to the Lord. Bless him who cometh to bring us salvation.

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION (all)

Let your Word, O God, break open our hearts this day through the power of the Holy Spirit, that we may be sustained this Holy Week with the same mind that was in Christ Jesus, a blessing that we treasure in our hearts and souls. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament

Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29

pew Bible p.528 OT

Gospel

Luke 19:28-40

pew Bible p.72 NT

SERMON

Shouting Rocks

Rev. Bowie

*HYMN

Ride on, ride on in majesty!

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MORNING PRAYERS

Joys & Concerns

Silent Prayer & Pastoral Prayer

Prayer for those Celebrating Birthdays & Anniversaries:

Erik, Lois, Sue, Betty, Brian & Jane, Peter & Sue

Choral Response

Hear our prayer

Hamill

Hear our prayer, O God, and grant us your peace. Amen.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS & TITHES

OFFERTORY

Lamb of God

Paris

*DOXOLOGY

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*PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)

Holy One, we give you thanks for the great deeds of salvation that you have done and continue to do. Bless these offerings of thanksgiving that they may further your kingdom in this world; through Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

*HYMN

“Hosanna, loud hosanna”

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BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE

Amen

Robinson

POSTLUDE

Ellacombe

arr. Carter

"Hosanna, Loud Hosanna"

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*Jennette Threlfall, 1873; alt.**Mark 11:8-10;*

1 "Ho - san - na, loud ho - san - na," the lit - tle chil - dren sang;
2 From Ol - i - vet they fol - lowed a - mid a cheer - ing crowd,
3 "Ho - san - na in the high - est!" That an - cient song is ours.

through pil - lared court and tem - ple the love - ly an - them rang;
the vic - tor palm branch wav - ing, and chant - ing clear and loud.
We hail our great Re - deem - er and sing with all our powers:

To Je - sus, who had blessed them close fold - ed to his breast,
The one whom an - gels wor - ship rode on in low - ly state,
"Ho - san - na, Christ, we praise you with heart and life and voice.

the chil - dren sang their prais - es, the sim - plest and the best.
and glad to see the chil - dren, slowed down the don - key's gait.
Ho - san - na! In your pres - ence for - ev - er we'll re - joice!"

Jennette Threlfall of England, who was disabled by two accidents, wrote hymns that inspired hope and courage in others. This text was published in her collection Sunshine and Shadow.

Tune: ELLACOMBE C.M.D.
Gesangbuch der herzoglichen Württembergischen
katholischen Hofkapelle, 1784

Hosanna, loud hosanna, text Jeanette Threlfall 1873, tune ELLACOMBE Gesangbuch der H.W.k.Hofkapelle 1784
Public Domain

The Palms, text translation Theodore Baker, music J. Baptiste Faure (1830-1914) | Public Domain

Hear our prayer, text from Psalm 143:1 | Public Domain
Music Paul Hamill

Lynn Hall, *Organist*
Nancy Sargent, *Choir Director*
Martin Vachon, *Liturgist*
Rev. Keith Bowie, *Transitional Minister*
Ginny Davis & Cindy Sargent, *Ushers*
Lois Stevens, *Greeter*
Katharine Schrader, *April Deacon*

MASKING IS OPTIONAL IN THE CHURCH BUILDING.
We suggest physical distancing. Thank you for respecting the
space of those who choose to mask.



**Worship is broadcast live through
WDEA AM 1370, Facebook, and Zoom.**

**THE WELCOME TABLE SERVED 115 MEALS ON APRIL 9.
Serving Wednesdays 2 – 3:30 p.m., take-out only**

WELCOME TABLE, our free community meal, serves take-out only.
Please call the church on Wednesdays **before 11 a.m.**, 667-8321,
to reserve a meal. Donations always gratefully received.

Holy Week Services 2025 at First Congregational Church



TODAY: PALM SUNDAY, April 13, 10 a.m. – Palm Sunday is considered the Gateway to Holy Week. As we remember Jesus’ triumphal entry into Jerusalem, we will bless and distribute palm leaves to everyone. We will sing our hosannas and wave palms in praise of the One who came that we might have life and have it abundantly.

MAUNDY THURSDAY, April 17, 7 p.m. – Every first Sunday of the month when we celebrate Holy Communion, we remember this night—the night that Jesus shared his last supper with his closest friends. Following the sacrament of the Lord’s Supper, we will close with a Tenebrae Service consisting of hymns and scripture readings pertaining to the last hours of Jesus’ earthly life. Friends from the Ellsworth Falls UCC will share this service with us here at FCC. ***Are you interested in reading scripture at this service? Speak with Rev. Bowie immediately.***



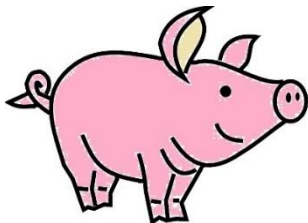
EASTER SUNRISE, April 20, 7 a.m. – We will join the Community Easter Sunrise Service at Harbor Park off Water Street.

RESURRECTION WORSHIP, April 20, 10 a.m. – Join us as we celebrate the Easter good news! The choir is preparing special music, we’ll sing Easter hymns, and the sanctuary will be decorated with lilies and tulips. Rejoice with us and be glad!

Baked Ham Supper

Saturday, April 26, 2025

Serving 5:00 to 6:30 pm



Baked ham, mashed potatoes, glazed carrots, green beans, salad, rolls, homemade pies, and beverages (coffee, tea, lemonade)

\$12 per person ~ \$25 per family (2 adults, 2 children)

Take-out available

Handicap accessible at the State Street entrance

For more info, call Lois at 207-669-2028

♪ *Bliss Matthews will perform music* ♪

*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