

First Congregational Church of Walpole

United Church of Christ

April 20, 2025

10:00 a.m. - Easter Sunday

*You are the trembling of time, that passes between
vertical light and the darkened sky.*

— Pablo Neruda

*We went down to the silent garden. Dawn is the time when nothing breathes,
the hour of silence. Everything is transfixed, only the light moves.*

— Leonora Carrington

15 Washington Street Walpole, New Hampshire

www.walpolenhucc.org

Welcome and Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (adapted from I Corinthians 15:54, 55, 57)

Leader: Christ the Lord is risen today!

People: Christ is Risen indeed! Hallelujah!

Leader: Death is swallowed up in victory!

People: O death, where is your victory?

O death, where is your sting?

All: Thanks be to God, who gives us the victory
through our Lord, Jesus Christ.

Hymn TWC #234 vs 1-4 *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today!*

Prayer of Invocation and Confession (unison)

O God, our God, through the mighty resurrection of your son, Jesus Christ, you liberated us from the power of darkness and brought us into the realm of your love. Grant that as Christ was raised from death, so may we all walk in newness of life and look for those things that are of heaven. Though you shine a saving light into our lives, we often choose to lurk in the shadows. We prefer old, failed ways to the challenge and promise of new life. Forgive us, we pray. Grant us courage to walk with you, and the audacity to hope. In the name of Christ who is alive and reigns with you forever, we open our hearts to you in this silence...

Words of Assurance

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Leader: May the peace of God be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

The Children Come Forward

The Lord's Prayer (trespasses)

Concerns and Celebrations

Pastoral Prayer

Sung Amen

Scripture Lessons: Isaiah 65:17-25; John 20:1-2, 11-18

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 #242 *The Strife is O'er*

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

God, we have so much of what is yours. Your bounty overwhelms us. We offer this portion for ministry in your name. Give us courage to follow where you lead. Grant that we may be known for our warm welcome, passion for justice, and for shining the light of your love in all that we say and do. In Christ we pray. 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.

Postlude

Pastor: The Reverend Richard Malmberg

Lay reader: Kathy Yardley

Usher and Greeter: George and Linda Jeffrey

Zoom Director: Paul Looney

Church Staff:

Office Administrator: Jane Vesper **Treasurer:** Tracey Martin

Music Director: Anna Dunn

Clerk: Linda Wright

Deacon of the month: Mikael Brodeur

Please pray for:

Dean Prentiss, Bill Sudsbury, Chuck Shaw, Linda Smith, Ann Rogers, Stephen Hill,

Dave Adams, Marie Robbins, our sister church in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe.

Members living in retirement homes: Becky Hubbard, Carol Lamp, Carole Hill.

Church Office Hours: M – F, 9 a.m.-12 noon

Telephone: 603-756-4075

Email: walpolechurch@yahoo.com. Website: www.walpolenhucc.org

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>

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