

First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC  
~ ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~  
~ APRIL 6, 2015 ~ FIFTH SUNDAY IN LENT ~ COMMUNION



**THOUGHT FOR THE DAY** *"Generosity is giving more than you can, and pride is taking less than you need."* Khalil Gibran

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**PRELUDE** *Heaven's Bread* (Susanna Keene) Sharon Pinsonnault

**WELCOME** Pastor Jane

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**LIGHTING OF THE ALTAR CANDLES AND RINGING OF THE BELL**

Steve and Judy

**One:** What is our church's mission?

**Many:** To embody **God's powerful love...**

- **welcoming all people, with a vision and message of hope,**
- **weaving deep relationships with Jesus and each other,**
- **working, praising and playing in our towns and world.**

**OPENING HYMN** *CH # 151 vs. 1& 2 When I Survey the Wondrous Cross*

*When I survey the wondrous cross  
on which the Prince of glory died,  
my richest gain I count but loss,  
and pour contempt on all my pride.*

*Forbid it, Lord, that I should boast,  
save in the cross of Christ, my God:  
all the vain things that charm me most,  
I sacrifice them to his blood.*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

**LEADER:** Let us worship God, who has done great things.

**PEOPLE:** ***We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the deserts of this world.***

**LEADER:** Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

**PEOPLE:** ***We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice.***

**LEADER:** Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

**PEOPLE:** ***We praise God for the grace that has save us. We rejoice.***

**LEADER:** Let us worship our God together as one.

**INVOCATION**

Lisa Fenwick

**PRAISE & WORSHIP** *Sanctuary***UNISON PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**ALL:** *Holy Jesus, you call us to follow you. We want to respond, but our attention flutters. One day we are steady disciples and another day we are distracted by the clamors of the world or by our own needs. Forgive our wavering commitment and make us more reliable disciples. May we each day respond when you beckon, becoming ever more faithful. Amen.*

**WORDS OF ASSURANCE AND GRACE**

**Pastor:** God is continually creating, doing a new thing in us. Where we have erred, God brings us back into Gods embrace. In the name of Jesus, your sins are forgiven.

**ALL:** *Thanks be to God.*

**THE LORD'S PRAYER**

*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.*

**GLORIA PATRI**

*Glory be to the Father  
and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost;  
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be,  
world without end. Amen. Amen.*

**TIME WITH THE YOUNG—A MESSAGE OF GOD'S LOVE****SCRIPTURE LESSONS**

Joanie Brown

**HEBREW READING ISAIAH 43:16-21****RESPONSORIAL READING OF PSALM 126**

**LEADER:** It seemed like a dream, too good to be true, when GOD returned Zion's exiles.

**PEOPLE:** We laughed, we sang, we couldn't believe our good fortune.

**LEADER:** We were the talk of the nations-- "God was wonderful to them!"  
God was wonderful to us; we are one happy people.

**PEOPLE:** And now, God, do it again— bring rains to our drought-stricken lives so those who planted their crops in despair will shout "Yes!" at the harvest.

**LEADER:** So those who went off with heavy hearts will come home laughing, with armloads of blessing.

## **GOSPEL READING JOHN 12:1-8**

**SERMONIC HYMN** *Chalice # 66 vs. 1 & 4 Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise*

*Immortal, invisible, God only wise,  
in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,  
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,  
almighty, victorious, thy great name we praise.*

*Thou reignest in glory; thou dwellest in light,  
thine angels adore thee, all veiling their sight;  
all praises we render: O help us to see  
that only the splendor of light hideth thee.*

**SERMON** Priceless!

Pastor Jane

## **OFFERING**

**DOXOLOGY** *Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow  
Praise Him, all creatures here below  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

## **DEDICATION OF THE OFFERING**

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

## **SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Mary Ann Charron & Steve Fredette

## **INVITATION**

**One:** Dear friends, the Spirit of God gives life to the world!

**All:** *Life that never ends!*

**One:** Here and now Christ feeds the world!

**All:** *Plenty for all, enough for today!*

**One:** Come to the table of justice and joy!

**All:** *No one will be turned away! No neighbor in need will go wanting!*

**One:** Let praise go up to God our Life!

**All:** *From every creature on God's good earth!*

## **PREFACE**

**One:** How right it is to praise you, gracious God, for in the beginning, when the world was fresh from your hand, you made us neighbors one people in many kinds and lavished on us pleasures too many to name or know! For you we were a sheer delight. For each other, helpers and friends. And so you entrusted to us your justice and your joy.

**All:** *But we kept them for a few and denied them to many, creating worlds of poverty and pain. And so we broke each other's hearts. But you did not reject us. In the fullness of time you gave us Jesus, full of grace and truth. By his ministry of mercy, you restored us to each other and to you.*

*Mending our hearts and repairing the world. And by his Spirit you impel us even now to be for each other what he is for us pardon and peace, blessing and delight. For all your gifts, we thank you!*

**One:** And with everything that lives under, on, and above the world, we give you glory, and we praise your name!

## **SANCTUS**

*Holy, Holy, Holy- Lord God of hosts. 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.*

## **WORDS OF INSTITUTION**

**One:** And we remember that on the night he was handed over, while at supper with his friends, he gave us a pledge of love that does away with death.

He took bread, gave thanks for it, broke it, and gave it to the disciples, saying: Take and eat, all of you: This is my body, surrendered for you.

And when the supper was over, he took a cup filled with wine, gave thanks for it, and shared it with them, saying: Take and drink, all of you: This is the seal of a new covenant, my poured-out life.

I will drink this cup with you again at the table of God's joy in the New Day that is coming. Whenever you do these things, remember me.

## REMEMBERING JESUS

**One:** And now, O God, we remember Jesus. (A brief silence.)

**One:** We remember that he forgave our sins.

*All: He breathed on us the peace of God.*

**One:** We remember that he called us friends.

*All: He taught us to love each other as he loved us.*

**One:** We remember that he feasted with the poor and rich, with strangers and friends.

*All: To eat with him was to taste how good you are.*

## PRAYER TO THE HOLY SPIRIT

**One:** Come, Holy Spirit, bless this bread that the earth has given and human hands have made.

*All: May it be for all the Bread of Life!*

**One:** Bless also this cup, fruit of the vine and work of human hands.

*All: May it be for all the Cup of Peace!*

**One:** Bless us too, that by our eating and drinking we may have love for each other and be servants of Christ's peace, until the New Day comes and every creature finds an honored place at the Banquet of Life!

*All: We pray in the name of the Risen One, who is with us now, and to the end of the age!*

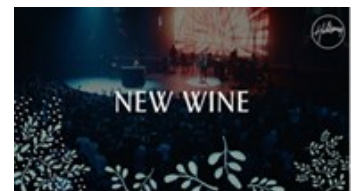
## SHARING BREAD AND CUP

**COMMUNION HYMN VIDEO** *New Wine*

## GIVING THANKS

**One:** Let us give thanks.

*All: Thank you, God, for life in the Spirit of Jesus: for gladness in this bread and cup, for love that cannot die, for peace the world cannot give, for joy in the company of friends, for the glory of creation, and for the mission of justice you have made our own. Give us the gifts of this holy communion: oneness of heart, love for neighbors, forgiveness of enemies, the will to serve you every day, and life that never ends.*



**CLOSING HYMN** *Chalice # 97 Fairest Lord Jesus*

*Fairest Lord Jesus,  
ruler of all nature,  
O thou of God to earth come down;  
thee will I cherish,  
thee will I honor,  
thou, my soul's glory, joy, and crown.*

*Fair are the meadows,  
fairer still the woodlands,  
robed in the blooming garb of spring:  
Jesus is fairer,  
Jesus is purer,  
who makes the woeful heart to sing.*

*Fair is the sunshine,  
fairer still the moonlight,  
and all the twinkling, starry hosts:  
Jesus shines brighter,  
Jesus shines purer,  
than all the angels heaven can boast.*

**BENEDICTION AND PASSING OF THE PEACE****BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD**

**POSTLUDE** *Melodie Sacra* David Paxton Sharon Pinsonnalt

*Our thanks to everyone who helped with the worship this morning*

***Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service***

**DEACON OF THE MONTH OF APRIL IS** Mary Ann Charron. She may be reached at 802-345-2371 or [catlove01@gmail.com](mailto:catlove01@gmail.com)

**PRAYER LIST** Our prayer list is a network of love and faith in the power of prayer. We receive these names from members and friends of our church who hold these individuals up in their own prayer life for God's healing and strength upon them. **IMMEDIATE NEEDS:** Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, C.J. Dave Mallory, Connie Manukka, Judy Sheldon, Carlene Kasuba, Phil Stack, Pastor Pete.

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**BOOK STUDY** will meet this morning after worship for discussion and light lunch.





**LAST TWO WEEKS TO BE RAFFLE TICKETS** Tickets are \$5 each or 5 tickets for \$20. The drawing will be held on Easter Sunday at the church.

### STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

What does the Bible say about change? How can we be inspired by change when it is needed?

*"...there is a time for tearing down and the time for building."* Ecclesiastes 3:3

There seems to always be a guarantee in life that change will happen! And change is something we tend to fear and become anxious about because we don't feel in control of life. The good news is that God has a plan for our lives that includes hope and prosperity. We are promised that all things will work together for good. God is walking this journey with us and His presence is always with us. This year let's once again make positive changes that honor God.

**PALM SUNDAY** will be celebrated on Sunday, April 13th at 10 AM

**MAUNDY THURSDAY** On April 17th beginning at 5:00 PM followed by a Tenebrae Service with Communion

**GOOD FRIDAY** Seven Last Words Service on April 18th at 6:00 PM.

**EASTER SUNRISE SERVICE—APRIL 20TH** The service will begin at 6:00 AM in the park.

**EASTER MORNING BREAKFAST** will follow the Sunrise Service in Reid Chapel. At the end of breakfast we will draw the winner of our Quilt. We hope everyone will come and join us.

**EASTER SERVICE** will be at 10:00 AM

**EASTER LILIES** will again be available to be purchased for \$15 each. Please fill out the order form with your dedication.



**PLEASE BRING NON-PERISHABLE FOOD TO SHARE FOR SLATE VALLEY CARES A BOX IS AT THE ENTRANCE**

If you would like to schedule time with Pastor Jane, please call her directly at 802-430-3636 or email her at [janechurchlady@gmail.com](mailto:janechurchlady@gmail.com) To schedule time with a Deacon either in-person or zoom, please contact Eileen via email to be placed on their calendar. [Eileen@fhucc.org](mailto:Eileen@fhucc.org)

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Church Administrator: Eileen Hurlburt [eileen@fhucc.org](mailto:eileen@fhucc.org)

Debbie Pratt - Lead Deacon

Sharon Pinsonnault & Joan Brown Organist/Pianist

The Deacons – Social Media

