

The beautiful flowers for our Easter Celebration were donated by:

Ron and Lynn Stack In loving memory of Albert Lois Wilson
In loving memory of David Stack
In celebration and thankfulness for Dorothy Stack

Ann Ellis In loving memory of James Bucci
In loving memory of Robert and Jane Ellis

Kimberly Stannard In loving memory of Heman Stannard & family
In loving memory of Chick Matteson
In loving memory of Art & Pearl Whitney
In loving memory of Pete & Kate Matteson
In celebration and thankfulness for having been
able to know & learn from other's wisdom

Pastor Jane & John LoBrutto In loving memory of Joan & Walter Schumacher
In loving memory of Florence & Peter LoBrutto
In celebration & thankfulness for our children,
John & Megan LoBrutto and Cathy & Josh Johnson

The Sheldon Family (Judy) In loving memory of Stacy & Charles Sheldon
In loving memory of Vicky Barney

Nancy & Alan Wolmuth In loving memory of Fred & Barbara Turner
In loving memory of James & Helen Wolmuth
In loving memory of Rodger Pierce

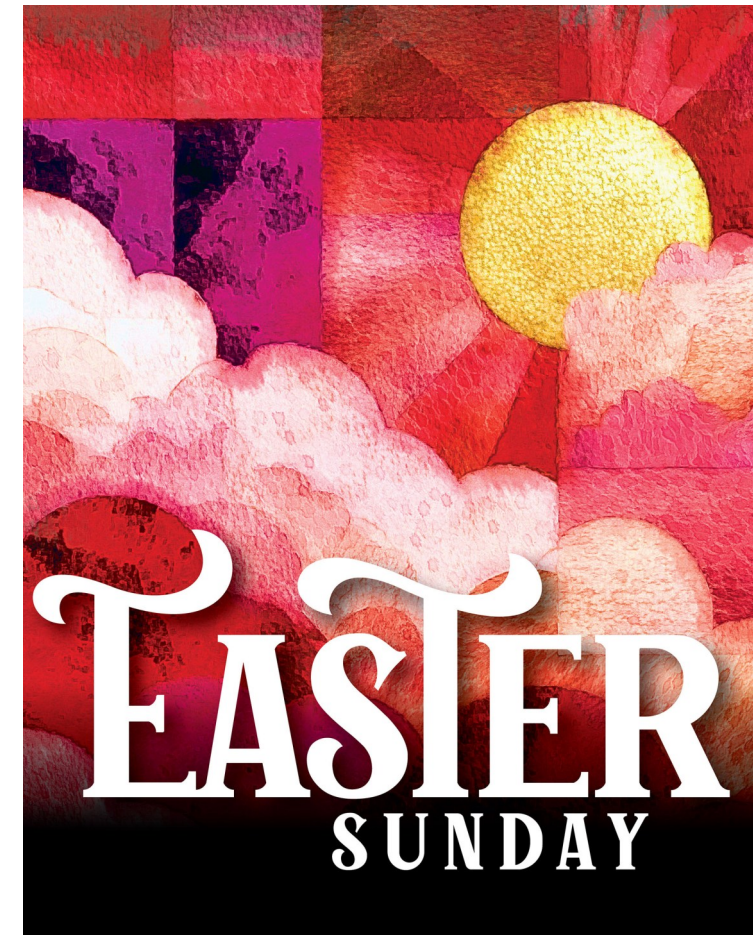
Chris Sheldon In loving memory of Dick Sheldon
In celebration & thankfulness for
Roland, Frances & Gail Thompson

John & Lisa Fenwick In loving memory of Loved Ones

Michele Grenier In loving memory of Norm Grenier, Sr.

Lyman Jerome In loving memory of Karen Jerome
In loving memory of Edmund Ovellette
In loving memory of Marjorie & Howard Jerome
In loving memory of Barbara Ovellette

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF FAIR HAVEN
~ALL ARE WELCOME HERE! ~ APRIL 5, 2026 ~
~ EASTER SUNDAY ~



THOUGHT FOR THE DAY *“So live in the light of resurrection and renewal of this world, and of yourself, in a glorious, never-ending, joyful dance of grace.” — Tim Keller*



First Congregational Church of Fair Haven, UCC
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~ APRIL 5, 2026 ~ EASTER SUNDAY ~

PRELUDE *Jesu, Joy of Man's Desiring* (J.S. Bach) Sharon Pinsonnault

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Pastor Jane

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES & RINGING OF THE BELL Lynn & Debbie

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) # 216 *Christ the Lord is Risen Today*

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!

All creation join to say, Alleluia!

Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!

Sing, O heavens, and earth reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious king; Alleluia!

Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!

Jesus died, our souls to save, Alleluia!

Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia!

Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!

Death in vain forbids him rise, Alleluia!

Christ has opened paradise. Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ was led, Alleluia!

Following our exalted head, Alleluia!

Made like him, like him we rise, Alleluia!

Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Easter people, Christ is risen! God is doing a new thing!

People: ***Life has conquered death! Love has overcome fear! Hallelujah! Christ is risen!***

Leader: Easter people, raise your voices! Christ is risen! Christ is risen indeed! Hallelujah!

INVOCATION

Mary Ann Charron

PRAISE & WORSHIP *Lamb of God* Sharon Pinsonnault

Your only Son no sin to hide

But You have sent Him from Your side

To walk upon this guilty sod

And to become the Lamb of God

Rejoice, rejoice, O Christian,

Lift up your voice and sing

Eternal hallelujahs

To Jesus Christ the King!

The Hope of all who seek Him,

The Help of all who find,

None other is so loving,

So good and kind. Refrain

BRINGING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST OUT INTO THE WORLD

CHORAL BENEDICTION *This Little Light of Mine*

BENEDICTION

Pastor Jane

POSTLUDE *The Joyous Eastertide* Traditional Dutch melody Sharon Pinsonnault

Please join us for Coffee and Fellowship following the service

Thank you for coming to worship with us!

IMMEDIATE NEEDS PRAYER LIST : Pam Berryhill, Jeff Buxton, C.J., Connie Munukka, Carlene Kasuba, Jessica Smith, Rick Hall, Jeanne Cole, Erik Van Scoy, Vance, Chris, Joe and Matt, Peter, Jennifer Clement, Curtis, Maggie Ashton.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

NEW MEMBER CLASS Interested in becoming a member of our church? We invite you talk to or email Pastor Jane, she will answer any questions you might have. Please plan to attend a class on Sunday, April 19th after worship. Installation of new members will be held on Sunday, May 3, 2026 during worship

FREE ARTIFICIAL FLOWERS The Poalino's were beloved members of the Fair Haven community who ran a successful florist business for many years. After the death of their parents, the Poalino children gave away many decorations from their business, to benefit the town. The Itty Bitty Committee, a group of town volunteers, has been helping with this project. On **Sunday May 10, from 11 am to 1 pm**, there will be a display of beautiful artificial flowers set up outside in front of the church. The flowers are free to anyone who can use them. They would work well for decorations in your home or for cemetery memorials. Please stop by and pick up some flowers.

WE ARE OPENING THE CHURCH FOR FELLOWSHIP AND FREE LUNCH. 11 AM—2 PM on Wednesday, April 11, 2026 All are welcome, invite a neighbor and friend. Let's get to know each other better. Eastertide and Spring is a time of new life. Let's share our abundance and make new friends.

PRAYER FOR THE HOLY SPIRIT

All: *Come Holy Spirit. Bless this bread and cup and bless each of us. May these elements transform us. May they inspire and give us courage to follow the way of Jesus, which is ever inclusive and expanding.*

One: Come, for our table is ready, let's eat this bread and drink this cup together.

COMMUNION VIDEO *Remembrance* Matt Redman

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. Together we trust in this moment of transformation which is made possible by You. Give us the strength to continue on the journey and to set tables that are welcoming and ever expanding.*

CLOSING HYMN (CH) # 226 He Lives!

*I serve a risen Savior
He's in the world today.
I know that He is living,
Whatever men may say.
I see His hand of mercy;
I hear His voice of cheer;
And just the time I need Him
He's always near.*

Refrain: *He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.*

He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!

You ask me how I know He lives?

He lives within my heart.

In all the world around me

I see His loving care,

And though my heart grows weary,

I never will despair;

I know that He is leading,

Through all the stormy blast;

The day of His appearing

Will come at last. Refrain

*Your gift of love they crucified
They laughed and scorned Him as he died
The humble King they named a fraud
And sacrificed the Lamb of God*

*Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God
I love the Holy Lamb of God*

Oh wash me in His precious Blood

My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

I was so lost I should have died

But You have brought me to Your side

To be led by Your staff and rod

And to be called a lamb of God

Oh Lamb of God, Sweet lamb of God

I love the Holy Lamb of God

Oh wash me in His precious Blood

My Jesus Christ the Lamb of God

Oh wash me in His precious Blood

My Jesus Christ the Lamb of 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.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

 John 20:1-18

SERMONIC HYMN (CH) # 234 Crown Him with Many Crowns

Crown him with many crowns,

the Lamb upon his throne.

Hark! how the heavenly anthem

drowns all music but its own.

Awake, my soul, and sing

of him who died for thee

and hail him as thy matchless King through all eternity.

*Crown him the Lord of life,
who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife
for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing
who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring,
and lives that death may die.*

*Crown him the Lord of peace,
whose power a scepter sways
from pole to pole, that wars may cease,
and all be prayer and praise.*

*His reign shall no end,
and round his pieced feet
fair flowers of paradise
extend their fragrance ever sweet.*

*Crown him the Lord of love;
behold his hands and side,
those wounds, yet visible above,
in beauty glorified.*

*All hail, Redeemer, hail!
for thou hast died for me;
thy praise and glory shall not fail
throughout eternity.*

SERMON Welcome to our new Lives

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 COMMUNION

Deacons: Mary Ann and Kimberly

INVITATION

One: Come, all who hunger.

All: *Come all who thirst.*

One: Come no matter what's needed because everyone needs something and everyone needs someone.

All: *At this table, we are included and room is ever being made to include more. More love, more understanding, more food, more drink, more community, and more good and goodness.*

One: Your invitation is eternal for this table belongs to God. We don't get to decide who we sit next to, but we do get to decide to enjoy whoever is seated.

All: *So come to the table, where strangers become friends, friends become family, and family keeps expanding.*

One: Come as you are and leave better than how you came.

COMMUNION PRAYER

One: In the beginning, the earth was formed. It was the first table that all creations were invited to. This table has gone through several iterations and holds steady. Jesus was at this table at some point in history. He lived, he taught, he was put to death, and then he resurrected. In doing all these things, he taught us a new way to look at tables and how to set them inclusively.

All: *He showed us that we are included in the heart and mind of God always and he taught us how to include those we might be inclined to label as "other". For these reasons among many others, we give thanks for this meal.*

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

One: We remember that night during the Passover Jesus had his last meal at a table, with those closest to him. There, they shared their love of God and Jesus and of each other. In the midst of love, Jesus gave thanks and broke the bread and said, something like this, "Take and eat this gift from the earth and from the human hands that prepared it and know that God gives it to you, a blessing for your body and your spirit." Later, Jesus took a cup and after blessing it said something like this, "Drink this fruit of the vine, the gift of the sun and labor in the fields. Taste and know the goodness of God."

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Here

