



Christ is risen!

*Alleluia!*

**First Congregational Church of Hanover  
Sunday, April 20, 2025 at 9:30 AM**

# *Easter Sunday*

**\*Please stand, as you are able.**

**Prelude**

Chad Weirick

**\*Processional Hymn**

*Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*

#182 Red Hymnal

**Welcome**

Rev. Peter Johnston

**Choral Introit**

*Christ the King*

**Call to Worship** (inspired by John 20: 1-18)

Leader: Mary looked into the tomb

**People: The body was gone. The clothes lay in a pile**

Leader: He asked her, "Woman, why are you crying? Who is it you are looking for?"

Then she knew.

**People: "I have seen the Lord!"**

Leader: Christ is risen!

**People: Christ is risen indeed.**

**\*Sharing the Peace of Christ**

**\*Morning Prayer**

Holy and Risen God, We come together this beautiful, glorious Easter morning with our hearts bursting with joy. We rejoice with the words of the psalmist proclaiming, "Give thanks to the Lord, for He is good; His steadfast love endures forever!" On this day—this day that You have made—we rejoice and are glad in it.

Let the Holy Spirit come today and fill our hearts with the joy of the empty tomb. Let the darkness of Lent fall behind us as we are flooded with the light of your resurrection. We pray this in the name of our Risen Lord, Jesus. Amen.

**Time for All Ages**

*Following the time for all ages, children are invited to a special activity and to enjoy a snack! Parents can meet their children downstairs after the service.*

**Anthem**

*Easter Hymn*

**Scripture Readings**

**Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24**

1 O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! <sup>2</sup> Let Israel say, "His steadfast love endures forever."<sup>14</sup> The Lord is my strength and my might; he has become my salvation. <sup>15</sup> There are glad songs of victory in the tents of the righteous: "The right hand of the Lord does valiantly; <sup>16</sup>the right hand of the Lord is exalted; the right hand of the Lord does valiantly."

<sup>17</sup> I shall not die, but I shall live and recount the deeds of the Lord. <sup>18</sup> The Lord has punished me severely, but he did not give me over to death. <sup>19</sup> Open to me the gates of righteousness, that I may enter through them and give thanks to the Lord. <sup>20</sup> This is the gate of the Lord; the righteous shall enter through it. <sup>21</sup> I thank you that you have answered me and have become my salvation. <sup>22</sup> The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. <sup>23</sup> This is the Lord's doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. <sup>24</sup> This is the day that the Lord has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

### **John 20:1-18**

**20** Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. <sup>2</sup> So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." <sup>3</sup> Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. <sup>4</sup> The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. <sup>5</sup> He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. <sup>6</sup> Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, <sup>7</sup> and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. <sup>8</sup> Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, <sup>9</sup> for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. <sup>10</sup> Then the disciples returned to their homes.

<sup>11</sup> But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, <sup>12</sup> and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. <sup>13</sup> They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." <sup>14</sup> When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. <sup>15</sup> Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." <sup>16</sup> Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). <sup>17</sup> Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" <sup>18</sup> Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

**\*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.*

**Call to Sermon**

**Sermon**

Rev. Peter Johnston

**\*Sermon Hymn**

*Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

#185 Red Hymnal

**The Offertory**

Invitation to Giving

Offertory

\*Doxology

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God, all creatures here below.*

*Praise God above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

Prayer of Dedication

**Easter Prayer**

**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 debts, as we forgive our debtors and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

**\*Closing Hymn**

*Alleluia! The Strife Is O'er*

#181 Red Hymnal

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**



**Serving in the House of the Lord**

Our sanctuary is decorated with flowers given by the congregation.

Greeters are Dean and Glenda Larson.

The Lay Reader is Karen Tripp.

The Deacon of the Month is Karen Tripp.

## *Easter Lilies Given By:*

Sandy and Ted Adami in memory of Family

Al Alexander in memory of Loved Ones

Priscilla Cedrone in memory of C. Louis Cedrone

Bob Cluett in memory of his wife Janet

Alan and Janet Cook in memory of Loved Ones

Mary and Stephen Dunn in memory of Aunt Vivian

The Frattalone Family in memory of Loved Ones

Linda and Gary Gilardi in memory of All We Love

Ruth Hall in memory of Loved Ones

Louise Jackson in memory of Parents

Carol Johnston in memory of her daughter, Brenda Cuneo

Dean and Glenda Larson in memory of Loved Ones

Florence McNeilly in memory of Mom and Dad

The McNeilly family in memory of Matthew D. McNeilly

Bob and Elisabeth Meader in memory of Loved Ones

Donald Morrison in memory of Johanne Morrison

The Scribi family in memory of Loved Ones

Deborah Spratley in memory of Richard D. and Jason Spratley

The Taylor family in memory of Loved Ones

Maddie and Hal Thomas in celebration of grandchildren and great grandchildren

Karen Tripp in celebration of Easter and in memory of Loved Ones

Dave and Sandy Vaughn in memory of Loved Ones

Cynthia Woods in memory of Loved Ones



## *Our Prayer List*

Peace in Israel and Ukraine  
Peace in our nation  
Federal workers who have been laid off,  
including Mary Dunn's son  
Kilmar Abrego Garcia  
The family of Betty MacDonald, who  
passed March 29  
The family of Brenda Cuneo, sister of Rev.  
Peter, who passed March 31  
The family of Paul Finch, whose wife's  
aunt passed  
The family of Rev. Derek White, upon the  
passing of wife Carolyn's aunt Donna  
Jane, friend of Patti MacLennan, on chemo  
Charlie Smith, friend of the Vaughans,  
recovering from heart surgery  
Jessie Berry's sister-in-law, surgery  
Dawn, Ken Cheo's friend, cancer surgery  
Ronald Patt, recovering from triple bypass  
Andrea, Christine Nelson's sister, on hos-  
pice  
Stephanie Zawalich, Deb's sister-in-law,  
recovering at home from brain surgery  
Bill Loman, Deb's cousin, clear pathology  
Phyllis Settele, mother of Amy Kelly, on  
hospice  
Ericka Penney, on new treatment  
Hal and Maddie Thomas on the passing of  
their dog Stella

Rich, facing open heart surgery  
Ken, who has brain cancer  
Ken Floyd, grandfather of Kelsey MacKin-  
non, knee surgery  
**We Continue Our Prayers for Those with  
Long-Term Needs:**  
Lynn White, on hospice at home  
Judith Patt, aunt of Steve Patt, on hospice  
Cynthia Ness in hospice care at home  
Laura Delaplain's sister Cathy, with multiple  
myeloma  
Donald, brother-in-law of MaryBeth  
Tarnauskas, with cancer  
Rick, brother of Dennis Falcione



### **Join Our Prayer Chain**

We welcome you to join  
our prayer chain so you  
can pray for the requests that we receive.  
You can also add your own requests so we  
can pray for you. ~Thank you, Linda  
garygilardi@icloud.com.



## Desserts Needed

Our Youth Group & Confirmation Class are going to provide the meal for Main-

Spring on May 3rd. Thank you kids and advisers! We are looking for the congregation to provide desserts (brownies, cookies, etc.). **Please sign up.** Thank you!

Dayna Scribi for Outreach & Service

## CE Invites You to King of Kings on April 22 at 2:10

The CE Committee would like to extend an invitation to view the new animated King of Kings movie (PG rating). We are planning to see it at the Independence Mall theaters in Kingston on April 22 at 2:10pm. Buy your tickets ahead of time, bring yourselves or any kids/grandkids on school vacation, get some snacks, and we'll meet you there for a great experience to learn about the life of Jesus!



## Churchwide YARD SALE



Our church yard sale was a great success, raising \$3591. Thank you to everyone who donated items.

To all of you who worked so hard on Saturday and the days prior, what a WONDERFUL job you all did!!!~ Adrienne Rafferty

## The 300th Anniversary

of the Town of Hanover (2027) and of the First Congregational Church of Hanover will be upon us before we know it. In the context of community outreach, the Diaconate has discussed several ideas on the shape of this birthday celebration and realized that it is time to enlist ideas of all members of the congregation in this discussion. Please contact Diaconate members if you wish to be involved in this discussion.



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## CWS Hygiene Kits Provide Hope and Dignity

Donations of CWS Hygiene Kits will be gladly accepted through April 30th in the church narthex or at the church office. The items requested are very specific and should be placed in a zip locked bag. The complete list is printed on the tags hanging from the forsythia tree in the narthex. Please do not include any extra items!



## New Members Class

Rev. Peter and Patti MacLennan will be holding a series of new covenant member classes. Please speak to one of them if you would like to participate.



We are grateful that you are with us this morning. We hope you find nurture in our worship and warmth in the fellowship of our congregation.

**If you are worshipping with us for the first time**, please take a brochure from the pew racks and fill out a Connect Card and place it in the offering plate, or hand it to a minister. Please take a moment to meet the ministers following the worship service.

**Large print** copies of the bulletins and hymnals are available from the ushers.

**We are a praying church.** If you would like to lift joys or concerns during the time of prayer, please fill out a prayer card found in the pews. These will be collected during the second hymn, and read by the minister. You may also lift names aloud during the time of prayer.

**Restrooms** are located on the lower level of the church. There is an elevator behind the door at the front right of the church.

**Join us!** Following worship, you are invited to a time of fellowship and refreshment downstairs in the Vestry. (Just follow the crowd.)



**First Congregational  
Church of Hanover**  
United Church of Christ

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**Offices: 17 Silver Street, Suite 201, Hanover, Mass. 02339**  
**Church Office Hours: Tuesday and Thursday from 8:30 a.m.—2:30 p.m.**  
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