



ORDER OF WORSHIP for April 18, 2021

Third Sunday of Easter

The First Congregational Church of Hanover, Massachusetts
An Open and Affirming Church of the United Church of Christ

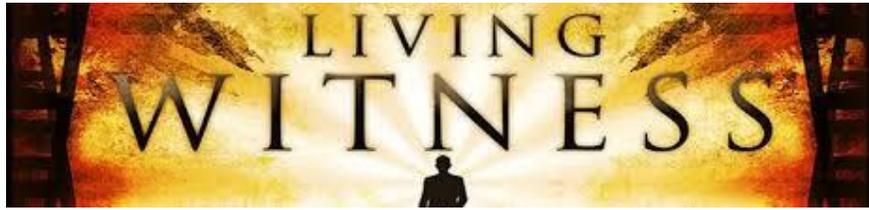
John A. Terry, Interim Pastor
Chad Weirick, Minister of Music

Link to this service:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCGOZdozbwpMp1qbJeHbwAaA>

Prelude

Words of Welcome



Call to Worship (Psalm 4)

Answer me when I call, O God of my right! You gave me room when I was in distress. Be gracious to me, and hear my prayer. How long, you people, shall my honor suffer shame? How long will you love vain words, and seek after lies? But know that the LORD has set apart the faithful for himself; the LORD hears when I call to him. When you are disturbed, do not sin; ponder it on your beds, and be silent. Offer right sacrifices, and put your trust in the LORD. There are many who say, "O that we might see some good! Let the light of your face shine on us, O LORD!" You have put gladness in my heart more than when their grain and wine abound. I will both lie down and sleep in peace; for you alone, O LORD, make me lie down in safety.

Invocation

Almighty God, through your only Son you overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life. Grant that we who celebrate our Lord's resurrection, may, through the renewing power of your Spirit, arise from the death of sin to the life of righteousness; through the same Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen.

Hymn: *This Is My Father's World*

This is my Father's world, And to my listening ears, All nature sings, and round me rings
The music of the spheres. This is my Father's world: I rest me in the thought
Of rocks and trees, of skies and seas--His hand the wonders wrought.

This is my Father's world: The birds their carols raise, The morning light, the lily white,
Declare their Maker's praise. This is my Father's world: He shines in all that's fair;
In the rustling grass I hear Him pass, He speaks to me everywhere.

This is my Father's world: O let me ne'er forget That though the wrong seems oft so strong,
God is the Ruler yet. This is my Father's world: Why should my heart be sad?
The Lord is King: let the heavens ring! God reigns; let earth be glad!

Scripture introduction

Scripture Reading: Luke 24:36b-48

³⁶ While they were talking about this, Jesus himself stood among them and said to them, ‘Peace be with you.’ ³⁷ They were startled and terrified, and thought that they were seeing a ghost. ³⁸ He said to them, ‘Why are you frightened, and why do doubts arise in your hearts?’ ³⁹ Look at my hands and my feet; see that it is I myself. Touch me and see; for a ghost does not have flesh and bones as you see that I have.’ ⁴⁰ And when he had said this, he showed them his hands and his feet. ⁴¹ While in their joy they were disbelieving and still wondering, he said to them, ‘Have you anything here to eat?’ ⁴² They gave him a piece of broiled fish, ⁴³ and he took it and ate in their presence.

⁴⁴ Then he said to them, ‘These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the law of Moses, the prophets, and the psalms must be fulfilled.’ ⁴⁵ Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures, ⁴⁶ and he said to them, ‘Thus it is written, that the Messiah is to suffer and to rise from the dead on the third day, ⁴⁷ and that repentance and forgiveness of sins is to be proclaimed in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. ⁴⁸ You are witnesses of these things.

Sermon: *Can I Get a Witness*

Hymn: *Jesus Shall Reign*

Jesus shall reign where'er the sun does its successive journeys run, his kingdom stretch from shore to shore, till moons shall wax and wane no more.

To him shall endless prayer be made, and praises throng to crown his head. His name like sweet perfume shall rise with every morning sacrifice.

People and realms of every tongue dwell on his love with sweetest song, and infant voices shall proclaim their early blessings on his name.

Blessings abound where'er he reigns: the prisoners leap to lose their chains, the weary find eternal rest, and all who suffer want are blest.

Let every creature rise and bring the highest honors to our King, angels descend with songs again, and earth repeat the loud amen.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Offering

Doxology

Benediction

Postlude

PLEASE JOIN US FOR OUR VIRTUAL COFFEE HOUR on Sunday at 10:30.

<https://zoom.us/j/94497541799?pwd=a2pSSjkxbUs2NIZ6RFZ0dG9XaU9FUT09>

Meeting ID: 944 9754 1799 **Passcode:** 738510