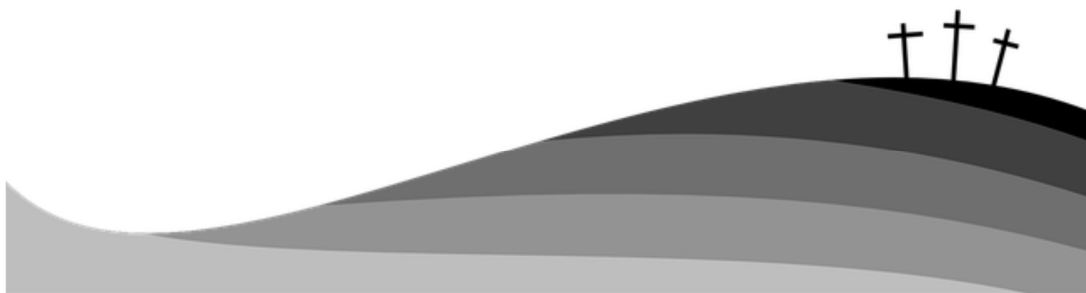


Christ  
is  
Risen!





**THE UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
FIRST CONGREGATIONAL  
Norwich, New York 13815**



**An Open and Affirming Church**

**April 17, 2022**

**10:00 a.m.**

**Easter Sunday**

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***PREPARING TO WORSHIP GOD***

**CHIMING OF THE HOUR**

**PRELUDE**

*Fugue in C Major*

Dietrich Buxtehude

**WELCOME**

(Please sign the attendance pad found in the pew.)

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

***GATHERING***

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

ONE: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**ALL: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

ONE: This is the day that the Lord has made;  
let us rejoice and be glad in it.  
Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**ALL: Christ is risen, indeed! Alleluia!**

**INVOCATION**

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\*Please stand if you are able.

**Large Print Bulletins are available from the ushers.**

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**\*OPENING HYMN**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today*  
(Tune: EASTER HYMN)

#233

***TIME OF SHARING***

**CHILDREN'S MOMENT**

The Lord's Prayer

**INCLUSIVE CHURCH PRAYER**

Lord of the dawn, revealed to women of courage and men of doubt: take us from the empty places where death holds power to the rising of your love as light for all the world; in Jesus Christ, the Resurrection and the Life. Amen.

**TEACHING THE WAY OF JESUS**

**PASTORAL BLESSING OF PEACE**

ONE: May the Peace of Jesus Christ be with you.

**ALL: And also with you.**

**OFFERTORY PLEDGE**

ONE: We love God with all our heart, soul, mind, and strength.

**ALL: We pledge our whole selves to God.**

ONE: We love our neighbors as ourselves.

**ALL: We pledge to do justice as Christ's ambassadors of reconciliation.**

ONE: We love one another as Jesus loves us.

**ALL: We pledge to be and become Christ's Beloved Community in our life together.**

ONE: We make disciples by teaching and modeling how to follow Jesus' Way of Love.

**ALL: We pledge to be Jesus' disciples sharing Jesus' Way of Love in the way we live our lives and practice our faith.**

*We will not be passing the offering plates. Instead, they are located at both doors for your convenience as you enter or exit the Nave.*

## ***WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD***

### **SCRIPTURE READING - Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24**

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.

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

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’ 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 hold on to 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.

## **CHOIR ANTHEM**

### **Combined Choirs of Broad St. UMC and UCC**

Michael Moren, director; Jason Handy, accompanist.

*Resurrection Victory*

by Lloyd Larson

Words by Cecil F. Alexander and Godfrey Thring.

Music by Lloyd Larson

incorporating *DIADEMATA* by George J. Elvey

## **SCRIPTURE READING - Acts 10: 34-43**

<sup>34</sup> Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, <sup>35</sup> but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. <sup>36</sup> You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. <sup>37</sup> That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: <sup>38</sup> how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. <sup>39</sup> We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; <sup>40</sup> but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, <sup>41</sup> not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. <sup>42</sup> He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. <sup>43</sup> All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

## **SERMON**

### ***RESPONDING TO GOD’S WORD***

## **INTERLUDE**

## **SHARING OF JOYS/CONCERNS**

## **PASTORAL PRAYER**

### ***COMMISSION AND BLESSING***

**\*CLOSING HYMN** *The Strife is O'er*  
(Tune: VICTORY)

#242

## **BENEDICTION AND EASTER ACCLAMATION**

ONE: You are witnesses to the resurrection;  
you are messengers of the gospel.  
Go forth to tell the good news,  
preaching peace by Jesus Christ—  
he is Lord of all.

ONE: Rejoice, people of God! Christ is risen from the  
dead! Go in peace to love and serve God. Christ is  
with you always. Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

**ALL: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!**

## **POSTLUDE**

*Christ the Lord is Risen Today* Arr. Victor C. Johnson  
*The Strife is O'er, the Battle Done* Arr. Victor C. Johnson

Bulletin Notes:

The *Inclusive Church Prayer* comes from *Prayers for an Inclusive Church* by Steven Shakespeare, Church Publishing: New York, 2009.

*Teaching the Way of Jesus* section come from *Youth Ministry as Peace Education* by Elizabeth W. Corrie, Fortress Press: Minneapolis, 2021, and *Teaching the Way of Jesus* by Jack L. Seymour, Abingdon Press: Nashville, 2014.

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### *Questions for Reflection*

What difference does it make to believe that Jesus Christ is risen from the dead? How does your faith in the resurrection of Jesus Christ change the way you think about sin and death? How does it change the way you live?

### *Household Prayer: Morning*

God of endless life,  
in the light of this new day we see the dawning of your new creation.  
Give us wonder and delight to enjoy this day that you have made;  
through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.

### *Household Prayer: Evening*

Stay with us, Lord, for it is evening and the day is almost over.  
Help us to know that you are with us— through the promise of your Word, in the sharing of a meal, and by the power of your Spirit that burns within our hearts. Bless and keep us, this night and always.  
Amen.

## ***Easter Memorial Dedications***

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*We remember those who have died since Easter 2021  
Lillian Connine, Paul Flores, George Hallahan,  
Rick Lanfear, Paul Laughlin, Rebecca Myers, Doug Yantz*

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In memory of  
**Gary Gray, Sr. and Elizabeth Gray and  
William and Doris Noel**  
from Gary and Vicki Gray

In memory of  
**Roslyn and Frank M<sup>c</sup>Aleish**  
from Karen and Vincent Mallozzi

In memory of  
**The Obenauer Family**

In memory of  
**Paul J. Sternberg and Amanda B. Sternberg**  
from Pat Sternberg

In memory of  
**loved ones**  
from Mary and Peter Williams

In memory of  
**loved ones**  
from Betty Yeahl





## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NEXT WEEK** we will resume Coffee Hour after the worship service in the Founders' Room. The Deacons will be your hosts. Social distancing is recommended.

**POSITION AVAILABLE - Director of Inclusive Church Ministries (ICM).** The Director of ICM is primarily responsible for directing our strategic efforts in diversity, equity, inclusion and advocacy and to help implement these practices in all areas of church ministry. This is a part-time, ten hour per week position. For a job description and requirements, please contact Cheri in the church office (office@uccnowichny.org or 607-334-3434.) To apply, submit a resume and cover letter to the church office. Deadline to apply is April 30, 2022.

**TODAY IS THE LAST DAY** to drop off your donations of jelly for Helping Hands. A box is in the Nave hallway.

**COVID-19 TEST KITS** are available at the church office. If you need one, pick up a box on Sunday, or make arrangements with the church office 607-334-3434 or office@uccnorwichny.org.

**SCHOLARSHIPS AVAILABLE FOR MUSIC LESSONS** – If you need help affording music lessons, consider applying for a Music Scholarship. Applications are available from the church office. For more information, talk with Meena Conant, Music Committee Chair.

**#RAINBOWMONDAYS** - Join us on Mondays to show our support, love and affirmation of those in the LGBTQ+ community by posting a rainbow selfie on your social media account with #rainbowmondays.

**IF YOU NEED HELP** with something, please reach out to the church office, a Deacon or Pastor John. We're here to help each other.

### CALENDAR

*The Chenango Muslim Community meets upstairs daily at 9:30 p.m. and Fridays at 1:30 p.m.*

### SUNDAY, APRIL 17 - EASTER SUNDAY

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, on Zoom

10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave or [www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2)

### MONDAY APRIL 18

*Church Office Closed for Easter Holiday*

9:00 a.m. AARP Tax Prep, Founders' Rm.

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle on Zoom

1:30 p.m. K. Given Tutoring, upstairs

2:00 p.m. E. Fischer Lessons, upstairs

3:00 p.m. Tai Chi, Mayflower Rm.

### TUESDAY, APRIL 19

1:00 p.m. Quilting Circle, Kitchen

### **WEDNESDAY, APRIL 20**

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle on Zoom  
3:30 p.m. J. Handy Lessons, upstairs  
6:00 p.m. Democratic Committee, Founders' Rm.  
7:00 p.m. Zoom Choir Rehearsal

### **THURSDAY, APRIL 21**

6:30 p.m. Quilting Circle, Founders' Rm.  
6:30 p.m. Executive Council, Founders' Rm.

### **FRIDAY, APRIL 22**

10:00 a.m. Prayer Circle, on Zoom  
3:30 p.m. J. Handy, Lessons

### **SUNDAY, APRIL 24**

9:00 a.m. Sunday School, on Zoom  
10:00 a.m. Worship, Nave or [www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2)  
11:00 a.m. Coffee Hour, Founders' Rm.

**Combined Choirs of  
Broad Street United Methodist Church and  
United Church of Christ, First Congregational**

*\* Christ the Lord is Risen Today      + Resurrection Victory*

Directors

Michael Moren\*\*  
Mary Williams\*

Musicians

Jason Handy<sup>+</sup>, accompanist  
Bob Oehme\*, organist  
Gregg Norris<sup>+</sup>, trombone  
Amy Hoxie<sup>+</sup>, trumpet  
Gary Solomon\*, trumpet

Sopranos

Pat Burke\*\*, Meena Conant\*\*, Jessica Hoople\*\*, Elspeth Hunter\*,  
Jessica Posner\*\*, Kacie Turnbull\*, Ericka Tyler\*\*

Altos

Mikaela Brown\*, Megan Carpenter\*\*, Bonnie Connolly\*,  
Miranda Hunter\*\*, Joyce Lawson\*\*, Jennifer Mallozzi\*\*, Donna Moren\*\*,  
Linda Oehme\*\*, Mary Williams\*\*

Baritones

David Burch<sup>+</sup>, Jason Handy\*, Craig Lawson\*\*, James Moren\*,  
Michael Moren\*, Brad Morrison\*, Bob Oehme\*\*, Pete Williams\*

Tenors

Jason Handy<sup>+</sup>, Michael Moren<sup>+</sup>, Brad Morrison<sup>+</sup>, Pete Williams<sup>+</sup>

**TODAY'S PARTICIPANTS IN MINISTRY OF SERVICE:**

Interim Pastor: **Rev. John Steitz**

Director of Music Ministries: **Mary Williams**

Organist: **Jason Handy**

Director of Children's/Youth Ministries: **Linda Oehme**

Provisional Director Inclusive Church Ministries: **Brad Morrison**

Sunday Sexton: **Shea Breese**

Live Stream: **Jennifer Mallozzi, Chris McSweeney**

Usher: **Ericka Tyler**

Liturgist: **Linda Oehme**

**NEXT WEEK'S PARTICIPANTS - 4/24**

Usher:

Liturgist: Mary Williams

Flowers: The Obenauer Family

Watch a live stream of our service Sundays at 10:00 a.m. at

[www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/live-stream-2)

Past worship services can be viewed at

[www.uccnorwichny.org/sermons](http://www.uccnorwichny.org/sermons)

**MINISTERS:** All the People

**INTERIM PASTOR:** Rev. John Steitz, 215-820-1650 (cell)

**MODERATOR:** John Kolb

**CHAIR OF DEACONS:** Mary Williams

**DIRECTOR OF MUSIC MINISTRIES:** Mary Williams

**DIRECTOR OF CHILDREN'S/YOUTH MINISTRIES:** Linda Oehme

**PARISH COORDINATOR:** Cheri Oakley

**FINANCIAL ASSISTANT:** Jennifer Mallozzi

**CHURCH OFFICE HOURS - By appointment only.**

**CONTACT:**

**Address:** 11 West Main St., Norwich NY 13815

**Telephone:** 607-334-3434

**E-mail:** [office@uccnorwichny.org](mailto:office@uccnorwichny.org)

**Web site:** [www.uccnorwichny.org](http://www.uccnorwichny.org)

**facebook**

**April 17, 2022**

## **UCC Norwich Reopening Guidelines**

Revised 03/31/22

COVID Protocols that have been modified:

- Face coverings in the church building will be optional
- Social distancing of 6 feet is still recommended.
- Childcare will be available again beginning in September 2022
- Parishioners may choose their own seating in the Nave. Distancing between non-family groups is still recommended.
- Hymnals, Pew Bibles will be accessible in the pew racks and may be used.
- Congregational singing is now permitted.
- Prayer requests may be spoken during the worship service or may be submitted in the prayer basket. (Usher will bring microphone around to congregation. Microphone cover will be supplied)
- Coffee Hour will resume April 24, 2022 and will be hosted and coordinated by the Deacons.

COVID Protocols that remain in place:

- Passing of the peace will continue to be suspended at this time.
- Offerings will be collected by placing your envelope in a basket upon entering or exiting the Nave.
- Communion will be offered in the pews using individually portioned elements.
- Hearing assistive devices will be available for those that need them. You will receive the headset in a bag. Please write your name on the bag and store the headset in the same bag for use during future services.
- Hand sanitizing stations are located near the Nave entrance hall and in each pew. Please wash your hands or use sanitizing stations frequently.
- We ask that if you are not feeling well and /or may be exhibiting cold or flu-like symptoms, that you refrain from attending until you feel better.
- Disinfection Plan: our Custodian will disinfect all high touch surfaces, including rest rooms and seating areas, before and/or after weekly services.