

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

*Established 1727~ An Open and Affirming Community*



PALM SUNDAY  
March 29, 2015 ~ 10:00 a.m.

# ~ORDER OF WORSHIP~

---

*We welcome all and extend a special greeting to our guests; our service is enriched by your presence! Please join us in Chapin Hall for fellowship time after worship.*

*The Welcome Table in Chapin Hall offers information about the church and members who can answer your questions. **Hearing devices and large-print bulletins** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is always available downstairs in Room 4.*

---

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

*Please include your full address and phone number as you sign our friendship registration pads, and please wear your nametags. All announcements should be written down and given to the ushers or pastors prior to worship.*

*If you have a prayer request you would like read aloud for today's prayers, please fill out one of the prayer cards found in the pew racks (your name is optional) and be prepared to pass it to the center aisle at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.*

## INTROIT

“Domidow”

from Papua New Guinea

The Children's Choir

The translation of the text for “Domidow” is from Matthew 7:7-8: “Ask and it will be given to you; seek and you will find; knock and the door will be opened to you”.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

We come to prepare for the holiest of weeks.

**We will journey through praise, with joy on our lips;  
we will travel through betrayal and death,  
cradling hope deep in our hearts.**

Jesus leads us through this week, and we will follow,  
for he is the life we long for, he is the Word who sustains us.

**We wave palm branches in anticipation,  
we lay our love before him, to cushion his walk.**

Setting aside all power, glory, and might, he comes:  
modeling humility and obedience for all of us.

**Hosanna! Hosanna in the highest!**

**Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord!**

*\*Please rise in body or in spirit.*

*\***Bold type denotes collective response.***

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“The Palms” (*Les Rameaux*)

by J. Faure

*In the spirit of Palm Sunday, you are encouraged to wave your palm branches,  
as we raise our voices to welcome and bless Jesus Christ in our midst.*

*O'er all the way green palms and blossoms gay  
Are strewn this day in festal preparation.  
Where Jesus comes to wipe our tears away,  
E'en now the throng to welcome him prepare.*

*Refrain*

*Join all and sing, His name declare!  
Let every voice resound with acclamation!  
Hosanna! Praise ye the Lord!  
Bless Him that cometh to bring us salvation!*

*His word goes forth, and peoples by its might  
Once more regain freedom from degradation.  
Humanity to each doth give his right.  
While those in darkness find restored the light. (Refrain)*

*Sing and rejoice, O! blessed Jerusalem.  
Of all thy sons sing thee emancipation!  
Through boundless love the Christ of Bethlehem  
Bring faith and hope to thee forevermore. (Refrain)*

**\*PRAYER OF RECONCILIATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

O Holy One, we are too distressed to notice that you join us in the parade.  
We are too deeply grieved to be aware that you sit beside us at the table.  
We are too busy sighing. We are too busy talking.  
We have insisted upon our own answers.  
We proclaimed our own knowledge about why the world feels so broken.  
But, our lives are in your hands.  
O Holy One, speak to us.  
Fill our silences.  
Comfort us with your love  
so that we may find your understanding.  
Trust us to find your answers  
when we finally tire from our own.  
Save us, O Holy One, with your steadfast love.

*You are invited to make a silent prayer of confession to God  
in the community of God's people.*

God in Community, Holy in One,  
we open our hearts to you,  
as we pray as Jesus teaches us,

**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.**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**



A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.

The image shows a musical score for a sung response. It consists of two staves, a treble clef on top and a bass clef on the bottom, both in 2/2 time. The melody is written on the treble staff, and the bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. The lyrics 'A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men. A - men.' are written below the treble staff, aligned with the notes. The music is in a simple, hymn-like style.

**\*THE PRACTICE OF PEACE**

**MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES**

**ANTHEM**

“As The Deer”

arr. Karen Thompson

The Jubilate Handbell Choir

**READING FROM THE GOSPELS**

Mark 11:1-11

**SERMON**

“A Change Is Gonna Come”

The Rev. Meghan D. Young

**\*HYMN**

“Mantos Y Ramos (Filled with Excitement)”

New Century (black) 214

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

*Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the pastor(s) will come to the center aisle to receive prayer request cards.*

## Invitation to the Offering

*For those who have already given their offering, Giving Cards are available in your pew so that all may participate in the act of the offering.*

## Offertory Anthem

“Improperium”

McNeil Robinson

The Choir with Katie Hoffman-Fulda, flute

*You have abandon'd me and broken my heart,  
And I am full of woe.*

*I look about for someone who is merciful,  
But there is no one.*

*No one will console me.*

*No one will comfort my pain.*

*But you gave me vinegar to drink,  
And when I was hungry you fed me the bitterest gall.*

*You have abandon'd me and broken my heart,  
And I am full of woe.*

## \*Doxology



Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

## \*Prayer of Dedication

## PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

### Joys & Concerns

### Sung Call to Prayer



The Lord is my light, my light and sal-va-tion: in God I trust, in God I trust. The

### Pastoral and Silent Prayer

## \*HYMN

“My Song Is Love Unknown”

New Century (black) 222

## LITANY FOR HOLY WEEK

Christ our Friend, today we have entered the week we call holy –  
with songs and shouts, palms and prayers:

we have cheered you as our savior, hailed you as our hero;

**forgive us tomorrow, when our passion wanes.**

Today we have turned to you and trusted you again;

**forgive us on Tuesday when we will think we can take care of  
ourselves.**

Today we have called you the center of our lives;

**forgive us on Wednesday when we will have forgotten.**

Today we have called out to you by name;

**forgive us on Thursday, when we pretend we've never met you.**

Today we have gathered and called ourselves your disciples;

**forgive us on Friday, when we will turn and run away.**

In your hour of trial, you will seek your trusted friends and they will say,

**“We do not know him.”**

In your hour of trial, you will say “See, my betrayer is at hand,”

**and we will pretend not to understand.**

Before Pilate you will stand and claim a kingdom not of this world;

**and Pilate will not understand.**

The crowds will gather, like today, and Pilate will ask them,

“What shall I do with this Jesus?” And the crowds will shout,

**“Crucify him!”**

And so it will be, that with cheering voices and nailed-shut hearts,

**we will crucify Love.**

And then it will be, that with faithfulness from the foundations of the world,

**Sorrowed Love will await its rising.**

*Please remain seated for the postlude.*

**POSTLUDE** “Ah Holy Jesus, How Hast Thou Offended” setting Helmut Walcha

---

**ACOLYTES** Victoria Bower and Tyler Morgan

**USHERS** Arianna Baret, Allan Smith, Kathy and Chris Mosure, Candy Smith

**The flowers are given in loving memory of Jane and Jim Gordon  
by the DeGiovanni family**

---

11:30am parlor - SECOND HOUR DISCUSSION on the book  
“Learning to Walk in the Dark”

# HOLY WEEK



## **APRIL 2 MAUNDY THURSDAY**

7:00 p.m. Service commemorating the Last Supper, with Communion, Tenebrae, special music.

## **APRIL 3 GOOD FRIDAY**

5:30 p.m. A meal and walk through Jesus' last words in Chapin Hall. RSVP appreciated. Email [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org) or call the office for more information.

## **APRIL 4 HOLY SATURDAY**

3:00 to 5:00p.m.

All Church gathering & EASTER EGG HUNT, Chapin Hall Prepare or the risen Christ with family activities and worship. Come to prepare the bread for Easter Communion, and participate in an Easter egg hunt, and worship as we prepare for Easter rejoicing. RSVP appreciated. Please email [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org), for more information and to sign-up.

## **APRIL 5 EASTER DAY**

6:00 a.m. Easter Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery

6:25 a.m. Breakfast in Chapin Hall

10:00 a.m. **Festival Easter Worship, with special music**

### **Lenten Labyrinth**

*Throughout Lent in the Chapel.  
Open during office hours and on Sundays.*

Come walk the Lenten Labyrinth. Stop by the church and spend some time in prayerful reflection walking a labyrinth. Labyrinths have been used for centuries, in many cultures, to facilitate prayer, meditation, and spiritual transformation. Labyrinths have one way in and one way out, winding back and forth, to the middle and back out, until we reach the center. When we walk the labyrinth, we begin a pilgrimage. Where will yours take you?

## **S.P.I.R.I.T. Corner**

*Serve, Pray, Invite, Receive, Ignite, Tell*

***Children are invited to remain in worship today,  
following along with the children and youth bulletins.***

*S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School will resume on April 12 with "Celebrating God's Creation"*

### **NOAH'S TABLE (6<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> Grade) – A Walk Through Holy Week – TONIGHT!**

*March 29, 5 PM – 6:30.* Join us as we make dinner, make some Easter baskets for those in need, and take a walk through Holy Week. Please RSVP by Friday, March 27, with Meghan Young at [Meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:Meghan@rhccucc.org). 1 Adult volunteer is needed for this gathering.

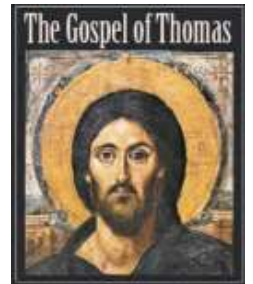
### **Silver Lake 2015 – Calendars and Scholarships Available**

*Pick up your Silver Lake 2015 summer camp calendars in Chapin Hall and sign-up for summer fun! Scholarships are available. Scholarship requests must be received by March 30. Please contact Meghan Young at [meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org) for more information.*

## **WEDNESDAY SCRIPTURE STUDY**

**Wednesdays, 12:00 – 1:00, Fiorilli Room**

We are currently reading **The Gospel of Thomas**. Discovered in 1945, it is one of the several gospels we now know existed in early Christian times but was not included in the canon of the New Testament. Copies of the text will be made available. No need for any particular background, come and explore what the Gospel of Thomas says that Jesus taught... and see how it compares with what we are familiar with from the gospels we know.



## **MEN'S BIBLE STUDY**

The group meets the first and third Saturdays in the Fiorilli Room, 8:30-9:30am. For the next several months we will be addressing the subject of "forgiveness". Come join your Christian brothers as we pursue and try to understand God's words.

For more details please contact Jim Stevens . 860-632-5810





## **SCRIP-SURE**

***What is it?** Scrip-sure is a **fundraising program** for our church, which allows the regular shopping we do at a variety of retailers to generate income for the church. How? Participating retailers sell gift certificates or gift cards to our church at a discount. Church members buy the certificates for full face value and redeem them for full face value, and our church keeps the difference as revenue. Everybody wins! The retailers get our business, and our church gets a regular source of revenue that involves nothing other than what we would all be doing anyway – shopping/spending at grocery stores, drugstores, restaurants, gas stations, and many other businesses, including online retailers.*

Today is the deadline to order gift cards that are not stocked in inventory. Order forms may be turned in at the scrip table, or emailed to treasurer@rhccucc.org by the end of today. Orders placed by that time will be available for pickup next Sunday (Easter).

Special opportunity: Kari Blaise has issued an appeal for gifts to fund the purchase of Easter baskets for the kids in the Covenant-to-Care program. We'll be providing gift cards to Kari that she can use to buy Easter baskets and supplies. If you would like to donate to this cause, you may put a check in the offering plate (payable to RHCC, memo: Covenant to Care) or drop off your donation (cash or check) at the scrip table this morning. We'll accumulate all donations to buy as much scrip as we can.

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning. Here is a partial list of cards available:

**Coffee:** Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

**Fast food:** Boston Market, Chipotle, McDonalds, Panera, Subway, Wendy's

**Gas:** Exxon/Mobil, Shell, Sunoco

**Grocery:** Big Y, Stop & Shop, Trader Joe's, Westside Marketplace,  
Whole Foods

**Pharmacy:** CVS, Walgreens

**Restaurants:** Bertucci's, Bonefish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, Denny's  
On the Border, TGI Fridays

**Shopping:** Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond,  
Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, Lowes, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us,  
Walmart

See Deb Copes at the scrip table in Chapin Hall this morning for a complete listing of available cards, or to have all of your questions answered.

**THINK SCRIP**

## THIS WEEK AT RHCC

### March 29

#### PALM SUNDAY

10:00am **Worship**  
11:30am **Second Hour**  
4:00pm **Tamil Sangam**

### March 30

10:30am **Apple Rehab Service**  
7:00pm **Women's AA**  
7:00pm **Bowling**  
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

### April 1

9:30am **Quilters**  
12:00pm **Bible Study**  
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

### April 2

#### MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm **Worship Tenebrae**  
**Confirmation overnight**

### April 3

#### GOOD FRIDAY

5:30pm **Meal and Worship**

### April 4

#### HOLY SATURDAY

8:30am **Men's Bible Study**  
9:00am **Yoga with Lynn**  
3:00pm **All Church Gathering**

### Sunday

Sanctuary  
Chapin Hall  
Rms 22, 23, 24, 25

### Monday

Chapin Hall

Loft

### Wednesday

Rm. 6.  
Fiorilli Room  
Choir Room

### Thursday

Sanctuary

### Friday

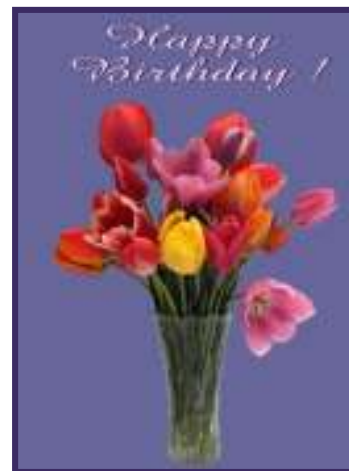
Chapin Hall

### Saturday

Parlor

Chapin Hall

Chapin Hall



Mar 29 Kim Burghoff  
Eric Rousseau  
30 Jayson Veley  
31 Mark Walworth  
Pat Hughes-  
Walworth  
April 1 Dick Webster  
Donna Gagnon  
Lynn Macri  
2 Gregson Curtin  
4 Bobbie Hawkins  
Marsha Hoffman  
Sherry Silkowski

### **WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE**

Audio recordings, written sermons and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website, [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

(See WORSHIP BULLETINS)

or you may contact the office to request an audio CD or printed sermon.

# Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street  
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org) / 860 529-4167

Church Website: [rhccucc.org](http://rhccucc.org)

Visit us on Facebook at: [www.facebook.com/rhccucc](http://www.facebook.com/rhccucc)

## **Office Hours**

Monday – Thursday 8:30 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday 8:30 to 12:00

## **Open and Affirming Statement**

Because we believe that all people are created in God's image and thus are blessed and loved equally by God, and because love is a unifying and strengthening force within our Christian Faith,

We, the members of the Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, hereby declare ourselves an Open and Affirming Christian community, actively expressing Jesus' inclusive embrace of all people.

We welcome all who seek to follow Jesus, including persons of every age, gender, race, national origin, faith background, marital status and family structure, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, economic and social status, and educational background, to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our church family.

Jesus teaches us to welcome all God's children into God's covenantal community. As we grow together in faith and love, we will strive to celebrate the diversity in which God has created us.

*Approved by congregational vote June 2009*

## **Ministry Team**

Ministers: All the members of the church

Interim Senior Pastor: The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka [brenda@rhccucc.org](mailto:brenda@rhccucc.org)

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: The Rev. Meghan D. Young

[meghan@rhccucc.org](mailto:meghan@rhccucc.org)

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero [mary@rhccucc.org](mailto:mary@rhccucc.org)

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker [office@rhccucc.org](mailto:office@rhccucc.org)

Webmaster: Dave Hall [webmaster@rhccucc.org](mailto:webmaster@rhccucc.org)