

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



April 2, 2017~ 10:00 a.m.

Fifth Sunday in Lent

Communion Sunday

~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** are available for worship—ask an usher. **Nursery care** is available down the hall in Room 4.*

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

*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 pastor 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 friendship registration pads (your name is optional) and be prepared to pass it to the aisles at the time of the offering, when the cards will be collected.***

PRELUDE

“Lagrima”
Jared Maynard, guitar

Francisco Tarrega

CALL TO WORSHIP

Candy Smith

Leader: The prophet asks: Can our soul-weary bones live again?

People: O God, you know!

Leader: We ask: Can we dance again after mourning, loss and grief?

People: O God, you know!

Leader: The gift is sure and unmistakable:

People: God's breath poured out as new life for weary souls!

Leader: Let us celebrate the gift of God's new life,

People: And come to worship God in laughter and dancing!

*HYMN

“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”

NC (black) 43

*Please rise in body or in spirit.

Bold type denotes collective response

*INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

Compassionate God,
the wind of your Spirit is the very sign of life
for all who long for you.

One breath from you and we are filled with the holy hope you grant to all your
faithful children.

Let our whole lives be filled with the life-breath of the Spirit,
that what has lain dormant may burst into bloom,
and what looks to us to be death
may be revealed as but sleep
before the emergence of new life.

To the praise and honor of Jesus Christ, who taught us to pray, saying,
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

NCH 769

Hear our prayer, O God, hear our prayer, O God; in -
cline your ear to us, and grant us your peace.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

CHILDREN'S RECESSIONAL

(Children are invited to depart for S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School)

“We Will Keep a Place For You”

by John Corrado



The musical notation consists of three staves of music in G major (one sharp) and common time (C). The lyrics are written below the notes.

We will keep a place for you where - ev - er you may go.
We'll sus-tain this home of faith and love you've come to know. Go in peace, bring
hope to hearts that yearn. We will keep a place for you 'till you re-turn.

SCRIPTURE READING

John 11:1-44

NT Pew Bible p104

SERMON

“Take Away the Stone”

Rev. Craig L. Cowing

*HYMN

“Here, O My Lord, I See You Face to Face”

NCH (black) 336

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, Rev. Cowing will come down the center aisle to collect your prayer 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

“Communion Invitation”
The Choir

Martin

*Doxology



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



¹ Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen

*Prayer of Dedication

PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH

Joys & Concerns

Sung Call to Prayer "I Need You Every Hour" (verse 1)

NCH 517

1 I need you ev-ery hour, O God of grace;
2 I need you ev-ery hour, in faith or fear;
3 I need you ev-ery hour, in joy or pain;
4 I need you ev-ery hour; teach me your will,

the peace your voice af-fords, I now em-brace.
temp-ta-tions lose their power when you are near.
come quick-ly and a-bide or life is vain.
and your rich prom-is-es in me ful-fill.

Refrain

I need you, how I need you! Ev-ery hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Sav-ior; I come to you.

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer of Confession

Revitalizing God,
your power goes far beyond our own,
and yet still we act as though the pains of this world
have final claim upon us.
We give in to the despair and hopelessness of death,
not trusting in your ability
to call forth new life from the tombs of our lives.
Forgive us for doubting your power
to raise up new life in the midst of all the deaths we experience.
Forgive us for wanting to limit you
to “the last day” or “the world beyond this one”,
not trusting you to move and act
among us, within us, through us.
Forgive us, and open our eyes
to the wonder of new life sprouting into being in our very midst.

Silence

Assurance of Pardon

Leader: “Come out,” Jesus calls,
and his word unbinds us from the oppressive weight of our past
and pushes away the rocks that close us off from love.
We are made free in the spirit of God, and forgiven all our sins.

People: May God’s name always be praised from our lips!

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

This church practices open Communion. All are welcome to participate, including children, and regardless of denominational affiliation or church membership.

This morning, the congregation will be seated for Communion; the elements (bread and non-alcoholic grape juice) will be brought to each pew. Please wait until all have been served so that we may take the elements together. As you pass the trays to your neighbor, you may use the words “The bread of life” and “The cup of blessing.” If you would like to receive gluten-free bread, please raise your hand so that a Deacon may serve you.

Invitation

Recalling the Story: The Words of Institution

Sharing the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Our God, we celebrate the new life you give us in Christ. We thank you for the invitation to eat at his table and receive nourishment for the days ahead. Help us to bring the many blessings he has given to us into the world around us. Amen.

Sharing the Peace of Christ

Now let us share among us a sign of God's peace.

You are invited to share a sign of the reconciling peace of Christ with those around you (a handshake, an embrace, or a non-contact gesture).

***HYMN** "Come, We Who Love God's Name" NC (black)382

BENEDICTION

*POSTLUDE

LITURGIST	Candy Smith
COMMUNION SERVERS	Deb Copes, Nancy Parsons, Stephanie Heneghan Judy Graham, Wendy Ware, Jan LaCava
USHERS	Lynn McKenna, Sue Monahan, Steve Smith
HOSPITALITY	Jean Goff

*This week's Altar Flowers are given by Janet LaCava in loving memory of
her parents, **Dorothy and Ronald Young***

*The Tower is lit this week by Gail and Natalie Tine
in loving memory of **Mary Francis Midkiff***



TODAY 2nd Hour – Lutheran Reformation Presentation

**PROTESTANT
REFORMATION
500TH ANNIVERSARY**

1517 – 2017



All are welcome to join in today's Second Hour Presentation on the Lutheran and Anabaptist Reformations by Pastor Craig at 11:15 a.m. in Chapin Hall or the Parlor.

TODAY - Taco-in-a-Bag Fundraiser!

Visit us in Chapin Hall after worship to purchase delicious, freshly made tacos. Funds raised will benefit the High School Youth Group mission trip to Louisiana as well as future trips.



HOLY WEEK



WORSHIP SCHEDULE

- April 9 – Palm Sunday** - 10:00 a.m. Worship in the Sanctuary
- April 10 – 15 - Icon of the Day** – Visit the Weil Chapel during office hours for prayer and reflection. Craig will display a different Icon Painting each day during Holy Week.
- April 13 – Maundy Thursday** - 7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary
- April 14 – Good Friday** 9am-2pm Chapel open for prayer, and from 1-4pm Rev. Craig will be painting an Icon in Fiorilli Room, all are invited.
- April 15 – Holy Saturday** - 10:00 – 11:30 a.m. Egg Hunt, Family Activities and Worship in Chapin Hall.
- April 16 – Easter Sunday** - **6:00 a.m. Sunrise Service** at Rose Hill Cemetery, Breakfast will follow in Chapin Hall.
10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service in the Sanctuary. All are Welcome!



REMEMBER OR HONOR LOVED ONES WITH EASTER FLOWERS



The flowers will adorn the sanctuary for worship on
Easter Sunday, April 16

The three choices this year will be:
Easter Lily in 6 1/2 inch pots with 6+ buds (\$11.00)
Hyacinth 6 inch with 3 bulbs (\$8.50)
Tulip 6 inch full pots with limited color options (\$8.50)

The Deadline for orders is Palm Sunday, April 9

Please fill out the information below

Given by: _____

Daytime Telephone Number: _____

Dedication ("in loving memory of...", "in honor of...", etc.):

	<u>Number ordered</u>	<u>Dollar Amount</u>
Lily @ \$11.00 each	_____ x \$11.00 =	_____
Hyacinth @ \$8.50 each	_____ x \$8.50 =	_____
Tulip @ \$8.50 each	_____ x \$8.50 =	_____

TOTAL ENCLOSED \$ _____

Please select:

- I will pick up my plant after worship on Easter Sunday, April 16.
- The flowers may remain in church to decorate the sanctuary

Make your checks payable to:

Rocky Hill Congregational Church with "Easter flowers" in memo line and mail to:

Kim Burghoff, 204 Gray Fox Lane, Rocky Hill CT 06067.

You may call Kim with questions at 860 563-3287.

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

We have most of the usual cards in inventory for immediate purchase this morning.

Here is a partial list of cards typically 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, Olive Garden, On the Border, Outback Steakhouse, Red Lobster
- Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Home Depot, Kohl's, iTunes, L.L. Bean, Lowes, Michaels, Payless Shoes, Target, Toys R Us, Walmart

The next ordering deadline (for cards not kept in inventory) will be on May 7.

Did you know that you can donate to the Rocky Hill Food Pantry and "Covenant-to-Care for Children" through our scrip program? Your cash/check donations are used to buy gift cards to local groceries (food pantry) or other retail stores (CC). For these donations, we do not retain any profit, so a \$1.00 donation effectively buys about \$1.07 in groceries or clothing. You may donate at the scrip table in Chapin Hall.

Stop by 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

April 2

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
11:00am **Youth Group Taco Sale**
11:00am **2nd Hour Reformation**
4:00pm **Tamil School**

Sunday

Sanctuary
Room 4
Rms 24,25,26
Chapin Hall
Parlor
Rms 22,23,25,26,27



April 3

7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

Monday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

April 4

7:00pm **Boards & Committees**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**

Tuesday

Fiorilli
Room 23

April 5

6:00pm **Pilates**
7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

April 6

9:30am **Music Together**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Thursday

Room 22
Chapin Hall

April 7

Middle School Youth Group

Friday

Fiorilli/Parlor

April 8

Middle School Youth Group
8:30am **Men's Bible Study**

Saturday

Fiorilli/Parlor
Chapel

2	Gregson Curtin
4	Bobbie Hawkins
4	Marsha Hoffman
4	Sherry Silkowski
7	Judy Frascarelli
7	Grace Hoffman
8	Meghan Montana
8	Isabel Donahue



Women Together

Calling all women who would like to join together for fun and fellowship.

Save the second Thursday of the month and join in for an event or excursion.

On April 13th, we plan to go to The New Britain Museum of Art. Most likely we will find a lunch spot as well. We generally meet at the church at 12:30pm to car pool. If you are interested in being included contact Marge, Gladys or Steph.

Rocky Hill Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

805 Old Main Street
Rocky Hill, CT 06067

Church Office: office@rhccucc.org / 860 529-4167

Church Website: rhccucc.org

Visit us on Facebook at: www.facebook.com/rhccucc

Office Hours

Monday – Thursday 9:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.

Friday – 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m.

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

Pastor: The Rev. Craig L. Cowing ccowing@rhccucc.org

Minister for Children and Youth: Georgette L. Huie ghuie@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Theresa E. Cleary office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org

Child Care Provider: Liz Pulling lrpulling@icloud.com