

**ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

Established 1727 ~ An Open and Affirming Community



April 9, 2017 ~ 10:00 a.m.

Palm 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

“Fanfare”

R. Mark Otterstad

CALL TO WORSHIP

Don Pagnucco

Leader: We gather together in this place.

People: Raising our branches in joy!
Joining all who wish to see Jesus
eager for a healing touch,
a blessing received.

Leader: We gather together in this place.

People: Raising our branches in hope!
Joining all who wish to hear Jesus
longing for a message of welcome
and acceptance on our journey.

Leader: We gather together in this place.

People: Laying down our branches in fear.
Wondering if we are able to walk with Jesus
through the week ahead,
through anguish, accusations, despair.

Leader: We gather together in this place.

People: Waving branches of prayer.

All: Walking toward the Cross, and the empty tomb.

**Please rise in body or in spirit.*

**Bold type denotes collective response.*

*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.*

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

“The Palms” (*Les Rameaux*)

by J. Faure

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 INVOCATION AND THE LORD'S PRAYER

OPENING PRAYER

Hosanna, O God in the highest!

How you come to us in ways we never expect.

A king on a donkey?

A Savior on a cross?

How can we recognize you, with us, among us?

Will your message come through?

Will the palms we wave with joy today

be thrown down tomorrow with doubt?

May your Spirit guide us through this Holiest of Weeks,

beside us, around us, before and behind us, within us,

as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught 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 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.

ANTHEM

“Triumphal Entry”
The Bell Choir

Bedford

SCRIPTURE READING: Matthew 21:1-11

NT pew bible p23

SERMON

“Ride On in Majesty”

The Rev. Craig Cowing

***HYMN**

“Hosanna, Loud Hosanna”

NC (black) 213

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Following the receiving of offerings by the ushers, the pastor 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

“God So Loved the World”
The Choir

John Stainer

*Doxology



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



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 "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.

*I need you every hour,
O God of grace;
the peace your voice affords,
I now embrace.
I need you, how I need you!
Every hour I need you;
O bless me now, my Savior;
I come to you.*

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

*HYMN

“When I Survey the Wondrous Cross”

NC (black) 224

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”

Helmut Walcha

LITURGIST

Don Pagnucco

USHERS

Bobbie and Dave Hawkins, Jim Stevens, Joan Tennyson

HOSPITALITY

Sue VanNess and Jennifer Martin

This week's Altar Flowers are given by Jim and Lois Stevens

In loving memory of Jim's Parents and Lois' Parents.

The Tower is lit this week by Gail Tine

In loving memory of her step father, O.V Baize, and father Leo Latham Arnold



The Diaconate is looking for help delivering Easter flowers to our church members and friends who are homebound. If you have the time and desire to deliver a flower to one of our members, please contact Deb Copes, 860-729-6541, or by email at deb.copes@gmail.com.

We would be extremely grateful if you could lend a hand. Thank you!

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

Wednesday, April 12th at 9:00am Breakfast Club at Bob's Coffee Shop, 33 New Britain Ave, Rocky Hill. Members of RHCC meet once a month, on the second Wednesday. Join us for coffee and fellowship.



WORSHIP RECORDINGS AVAILABLE Audio recordings and bulletins for many of our Sunday worship services are available on the church website, rhccucc.org (See WORSHIP BULLETINS)

HOLY WEEK AT ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

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 (9am-2pm) for prayer and reflection. Craig will display a different Icon Painting relating to the themes of Easter each day during Holy Week.

April 13 – Maundy Thursday

7:00 p.m. Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary

Tenebrae is distinctive for its gradual extinguishing of candles while a series of readings and psalms is recited.



April 14 – Good Friday

9:00 a.m. - 4:00 p.m. The Chapel will be open for prayer and reflection.

1:00 - 4:00 p.m. Rev. Craig will be painting an Icon in the Fiorilli Room, all are invited to watch and visit.

April 15 – Holy Saturday

10:00 a.m. – 11:30 a.m. Egg Hunt, Family Activities and Worship in Chapin Hall



April 16 Easter Sunrise Service - 6:15am Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery

- Arrive at 6am, just before sunrise
- Follow the car path to the right and up to the back corner (close to Gilbert and West St. end)
- Breakfast will follow at the Church in Chapin Hall
- All are Welcome!

April 16 - 10:00 a.m. Easter Worship Service in the Sanctuary

With full choir and accompaniment

Followed by coffee hour in Chapin Hall





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 9 SUNDAY

Easter Flower Orders Due

10:00am **Worship**
9:30am **Childcare**
10:00am **Church School**
4:00pm **Tamil School**
5:00pm **Confirmation Class**

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

April 10

Little Scholars Preschool Vacation Week

12:30pm **Bonsai Society**
7:00pm **Women's AA**
7:30pm **Bell Choir**

Monday

Chapin Hall
Fiorilli
Sanctuary

April 11

7:00pm **Deacons**
7:00pm **Hearing Voices**
(no Council mtg)

Tuesday

Parlor
Room 23

April 12

9:00am **Breakfast Club**
6:00pm **Pilates**
7:30pm **Choir**

Wednesday

Bob's Coffee Shop
Chapin Hall
Sanctuary

April 13

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm **Service of Tenebrae in the Sanctuary**
12:30pm **Women Together**
7:30pm **Men's AA**

Thursday

Museum
Chapin Hall

April 14

GOOD FRIDAY

9am-2pm **Prayer and meditation**
1pm-4pm **Icon Painting**

Friday

Chapel
Fiorilli

April 15


HOLY SATURDAY

10:00am **-Family Activities and Worship**

Saturday

9	Sam DeGiovanni
11	Brian Donahue Kaedryn Pulling
12	Steve Ware Skyler Dean-Lee
13	Alan Wind David Hawkins Ruth Fitzgerald Sara Lataille Maya Donahue
14	Carolyn Furman Nicholas Benson

Holy Saturday
10:00 am.
Egg Hunt, and a brief time of Worship.



Easter Worship:
6:15am Sunrise Service at Rose Hill Cemetery and
10am Service in Sanctuary
All are welcome!

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