

ROCKY HILL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Established 1727~ An Open and Affirming Community



PALM SUNDAY
April 13, 2014 ~ 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. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

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.

PRELUDE

"Sing Hosanna, Sing!"

by Joel Raney

Children's Choir, Adult Choir, Handbell Choir

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
Lift your voices, let them ring!*

*Sing hosanna, sing hosanna,
To the King of kings!*

*Open wide the gates of Jerusalem,
Lift His banner high forevermore.*

*Sing as He rides through the streets in majesty.
Blessed is He who comes in the name of the Lord.*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Meghan D. Young

And now it is the week we call "holy" —

We will tell once more the story of Christ's love.

It is the week that starts with shouts, that moves to tears,
that leads through death, that watches for life —

We will tell once more the story of Christ's love.

Today, Jesus enters where we are, and touches who we are,
with life that is ready to give itself —

Hosanna, hosanna!

Blessed is the one who comes in 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)*

***GATHERING PRAYER AND THE LORD'S PRAYER**

God of the servant Christ and our God,
gather us now in the spirit of his life,
that we may be a community of service and love.
Gather us in the memory of his death,
that we may be people of his new covenant.
Gather us as those who watch for his rising,
that we may live inside the gift of new life.
God of the servant Christ and our God,
lead us through the days of this Holy Week
with faith that is brave and strong,
that we may stay close to the one
who is crucified yet risen.

In his name and spirit we pray, as we also say together:

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

The musical score for the Sung Response is written for a single melodic line on a grand staff (treble and bass clefs). The tempo is marked as quarter note = 76. The key signature has one flat (B-flat). The first system contains 12 measures with the lyrics: "Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's ho - ly name." The second system contains 12 measures with the lyrics: "Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me in - to life." Chord symbols are placed above the staff: Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, F, A in the first system, and Dm, G, Dm, Bb, C, Dm in the second system. The piece begins and ends with a piano (p) dynamic marking.

*THE PRACTICE OF PEACE

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

ANTHEM

"As The Deer" arranged by Karen Thompson
The Jubilate Handbell Choir

READING FROM THE GOSPELS

Matthew 21:1-11

SERMON

"Danger Zone"

The Rev. Dr. Brenda Pelc-Faszczka

*HYMN

"Ride On! Ride On in Majesty"

New Century (black) 215

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 "I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say" words by Horatius Bonar
Third Mode Melody by Thomas Tallis, setting by Donald Busarow
The Choir with Katie Hoffman-Fulda, Flute

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Come unto me and rest;
Lay down, O weary one, lay down
Your head upon my breast."*

*I came to Jesus as I was,
So weary, worn, and sad;
I found in Him a resting place,
And He has made me glad.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"Behold, I freely give
The living water, thirsty one;
Stoop down and drink and live."*

*I came to Jesus, and I drank
Of that life-giving stream;
My thirst was quenched, my soul revived,
And now I live in Him, I live in Him.*

*I heard the voice of Jesus say,
"I am this dark world's light;
Look unto me, your morn shall rise,
And all your day be bright."*

*I looked to Jesus, and I found
In Him my star, my sun;
And in that light of life I'll walk
Till trav'ling days are done.*

*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

Pastoral and Silent Prayer

Prayer Response

Bless the Lord, my soul, and bless God's holy name;

Bless the Lord, my soul, who leads me into life.

***HYMN** "Lord, Through This Holy Week"

Pilgrim (red) 168

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

"Meditation on The Passion of Christ"

by Mary DeLibero

GREETERS

Jean Goff and Jeannie Alessi

HOSPITALITY

Lynn and Emily McKenna

USHERS

Lois and Jim Stevens, Polly and Don Pagnucco, John Sword

The flowers are given in memory of her father Leo Arnold
and step father O.V. Blaize by Gail Tine

The altar scape was designed by the Lenten Art & Faith small group.

HOLY WEEK

MAUNDY THURSDAY

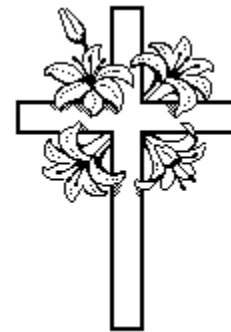
7:00 pm Sanctuary

Tenebrae Service with Communion

GOOD FRIDAY

5:30pm Chapin Hall

Meal and walk through Jesus's last words



HOLY SATURDAY

3:00 – 5:00pm Chapin Hall

All Church Gathering

Family activities, Easter Egg Hunt and worship



EASTER SUNDAY

5:40am Rose Hill Cemetary

Sunrise Service

6:25am Chapin Hall

Breakfast

10:00am Sanctuary

Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

Easter Sunday Worship

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 & youth bulletins for Palm Sunday. S.P.I.R.I.T. Faith Formation will resume on April 27, with week 1 of Following Jesus' Way.

HOLY SATURDAY GATHERING & EASTER EGG HUNT

April 19, 3 PM – 4:30 PM in Chapin Hall, An ALL church gathering.

Prepare or the risen Christ with family activities and worship. Come ready to be creative and artistic as we transform what we put away on Ash Wednesday, participate in an Easter egg hunt, and worship as we prepare for Easter rejoicing. **RSVP appreciated.** Please email meghan@rhccucc.org, for more information and to sign-up.

NOAH'S ARK – April Schedule

Noah's Ark meets twice a month on Sunday evenings from 5 PM – 6:30 PM for dinner, fellowship, and faith. In April we will meet tonight and the 27th. If you are planning to attend in April, please RSVP with Diana Hellyar.

NURSERY VOLUNTEERS: Nursery Volunteers are needed. If you are interested in volunteering in the Nursery during Sunday morning worship, please contact a member of the Childcare Committee or email them at RHCCchildcare@gmail.com for more information. You can also sign-up outside the Nursery.

GROW YOUR FAITH & GET INVOLVED WITH S.P.I.R.I.T.

The RHCC S.P.I.R.I.T. Church School is a place that values intergenerational relationships, growing in faith, and learning throughout our lives to be the disciples Christ calls us to be. You are invited to come join the circle and get involved. **We are currently in need of a 6th-8th Grade Shepherd as well as Community Life, Show & Tell and a Hands Learning Center Guides for unit 5 (begins on April 27).** Learning Center guides prepare engaging activities to teach the bible story through community service, drama, games, crafts, and food. Training and lesson plans are always provided. **If you are interested in getting involved in this ministry please contact Meghan Young at meghan@rhccucc.org.**

GOOD FRIDAY

Friday, April 18

5:30 - 7 PM, Chapin Hall

A meal and walk through Jesus' last words. **RSVP appreciated.** Email Meghan@rhccucc.org or call the office for more information.

SPREAD THE WORD

The **Dixieland Music** group that performed last year will be returning **April 22nd at noon in Chapin Hall.**

The Search Committee and Pew Crew are sponsoring the event. A simple lunch is to be provided. After the entertainment there will be a time of fellowship and conversation. There will be a sign up sheet in Chapin Hall.

Questions call Steph Heneghan 860-529-4672

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 continue to stock a variety of cards in inventory from more than **35** different restaurants and retailers, available for immediate purchase this morning, including (but not limited to):

Coffee: Dunkin Donuts, Starbucks

Fast food: Boston Market, Burger King, 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, Bonafish Grill, Buffalo Wild Wings, On the Border

Shopping: Amazon, Barnes & Noble, Bed Bath & Beyond, Best Buy, Home Depot, Kohl's, Lowes, Marshall's, Target, Walmart

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

Think SCRIP!

RHCC FOOD PANTRY BASKET

Melissa Gerace-Hicks, Director of Rocky Hill Human Services with responsibility for the Food Pantry, informs us that the client list is increasing while donations are decreasing. In March, monetary donations normally designated for fresh food were used to purchase crackers, rice, and juice. Other staples are also in short supply.

The following food items are needed:

Spaghetti sauce and linguini pasta

Crackers

Rice

Juice, coffee, tea

Soups

Cereals

Tuna & canned chicken

Applesauce

Peanut butter & jelly

(Jars can be plastic or glass.)

Additionally all paper goods (towels, toilet paper, etc.) and detergents are in short supply and **always** needed. Toothpaste, shampoo and conditioners are needed. The pantry also accepts hotel size containers. **All donations are welcome.**

THIS WEEK AT RHCC

April 13

10:00am **Worship** Sanctuary
11:30am **Tenebrae Reader** Sanctuary
Rehearsal
12:00pm **Living the** Parlor
Resurrection
5:00pm **Noah's Table**

April 14

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

April 15

Tuesday

NEWSLETTER DEADLINE

11:00am Retired Clergy Group Parlor
4:00pm **Lodge Service**

April 16

Wednesday

9:30am **Quilters** Rm. 6
6:00pm Community Mtg Room 25
7:30pm **Adult Choir**

April 17

Thursday

MAUNDY THURSDAY

7:00pm **Tenebrae** Sanctuary

April 18

Friday

GOOD FRIDAY

5:30pm **Meal & worship** Chapin Hall

April 19

Saturday

HOLY SATURDAY

3:00pm All Church Gathering



April 13 Alan Wind
David Hawkins
Ruth Fitzgerald
Sara Lataille
Maya Donahue
14 Kevin Hall
15 John Shen
16 Ruby Bennett
Joan Diaz
David Lewis
17 Jake D'Addario
18 Sarah DeGiovanni
Dawn McLean
Kevin Griswold
Victoria Bower
Grace Tribblets
19 Lois Griswold
Sue Monaghan
Wendy Ware
Mya Corvo

WEEKLY BIBLE STUDY WILL NOT MEET THIS WEEK

Join us Wednesday, April 23 - 12 noon – 1 p.m. (Fiorilli Room)

Led by the preaching pastor for the week, the study is based on the Scripture text(s) coming up for the following Sunday in worship. All are welcome. No experience necessary. Bring your favorite translation or pick one up from the shelf. Brown bag lunch is optional.

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 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

Acting Associate Pastor for Faith Formation: Meghan D. Young meghan@rhccucc.org

Minister of Music: Mary DeLibero mary@rhccucc.org

Office Manager: Mitsey Baker office@rhccucc.org

Webmaster: Dave Hall webmaster@rhccucc.org