



## Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC

April 21, 2024 - 10:00 AM

### *Worship for the Fourth Sunday of Easter*

Welcome one and all! Whether you are gathering with us in-person or online, remember:

No matter who you are, no matter who you love,  
no matter where you are on life's journey, you're welcome here!

(\* You are invited to stand as you are able)

### WE GATHER

#### Gathering Music

#### Welcome & Announcements

#### Centering Music

#### Call to Community †

One: Let us fill our hearts and minds with hope as we hear the Words of Jesus Christ:

***Many: "Peace be with you."***

When peace and justice seem uncertain, let us hear anew the Words of Jesus Christ:

***"Why are you troubled, and why do doubts rise in your minds?"***

Let us be comforted by the presence of Christ, whose love and light dwells within us.

***May our lives be witnesses of these things.***

Let us be instruments of Christ's peace to all who need God's healing love.

***May our gathering prepare us to open our hearts in service.***

#### \* Hymn #623

***Woke Up This Morning***

WOKE UP

#### \* Our Gathering Prayer

***Risen One, create in us a clean heart  
so that we can meditate in your peace, abide in your mercy,  
be filled with your justice, and be made new by your love.  
In your powerful name, we pray. Amen,***

#### \* Gloria

Hirst/Effenberger

***Glory to you, creating One!  
Glory to you, redeeming Son!  
Glory to you, O Spirit, come!  
Meet us now, make us one! Glory to you, O God!***

#### Anthem

***Oh, Happy Day***  
Dawn Boyer, soprano

Edwin Hawkins, arr. Effenberger

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## WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

A Prayer before the Scripture Reading

(J. Mary Luti)

*At your word, God of Life, the earth grows green and every creature springs to life!*

*Re-create us too, we pray, by your holy Word.*

*As we receive the ancient Good News, give us the new joy and justice of Easter -  
all death destroyed, all captives freed! In Jesus' name we pray. Amen,*

The Scripture

Acts 3:12-19, Luke 24:36b-48

The Message

"You Are Witnesses"

## WE RESPOND

We Share our Joys and Concerns

The Prayers of the People

The Prayer of Our Savior

*Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name.*

*Your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven.*

*Give us today our daily bread,*

*and forgive us our sins as we forgive those who sin against us.*

*Save us from the time of trial, and deliver us from evil.*

*For the kingdom, and the power, and the glory are yours, now and forever. Amen,*

Invitation to Offering

Special Music

\* Response (#382 in hymnal, v. 1 only)

SCHUMANN

*We give thee but thine own, what e'er the gift may be,  
all that we have is thine alone, a trust, O God, from thee.*

\* Dedication of Gifts

*Let us remember that weeping may endure for a night,  
but joy comes early in the morning!*

*May these gifts of blessing be a sign of the love, light, and glory  
of our redeeming God who has created a world of abundance with all that we need.*

*May we remain grateful witnesses to your generosity, O God,  
as we dedicate these promises and offerings to you and your beloved creation. Amen,*

## WE GO OUT

\* Closing Hymn #464

*God of Grace, and God of Glory*

CWM RHONDDA

\* A Blessing

Music for Going Out

Welcome to our service of worship!

You have been greeted this morning by Elaine Hansberry and Priscilla deRochemont.

Our Ushers are Sharon and Ernie Wiswell, and today's Liturgist is Rick Hollings.

Please join us downstairs following worship for a time of refreshment and fellowship!

## **Second Christian Church of Kittery - UCC**

***An Open and Affirming Congregation***

**33 Government St., Kittery, ME 03904**

**207-439-3903    [church@2ccucc.org](mailto:church@2ccucc.org)**

Rev. Brad Hirst, Pastor • Mike Effenberger, Music Director • Charles Donnell, Treasurer

***Welcoming... Learning... Going Out...***

### **The Week Ahead:**

#### **Sunday, April 21:**

11:20am: Prospective New Member Gathering

4:00pm: Girl Scout Troop 919

#### **Monday, April 22:**

6:00pm Seacoast Gay Men

#### **Wednesday, April 24:**

10:00am AA

*No Choir Rehearsal this week!*

#### **Thursday, April 25:**

2:00pm Prayer Time - *via Zoom*

6:30pm Church Council Meeting - Vestry

All are welcome!

#### **Friday, April 26:**

9:00am Breakfast with Brad at *Kasha's Kitchen*

#### **Sunday, April 28:**

10:00am *Worship for the Fifth Sunday of Easter*

### **Our Mission Statement**

***Second Christian Congregational***

***United Church of Christ***

***is a God-centered, Christ-formed, Spirit-led,***

***Open and Affirming gathering of God's People.***

***It is our mission:***

***To welcome all people into our community of faith,***

***To learn together the cost and joy of discipleship, and***

***To go out into the world to follow the teachings of Jesus Christ,***

## Woke Up This Morning

*Oh, I woke up this morning with my mind  
(and it was) stayed on Jesus.  
Woke up this morning with my mind  
(and it was) stayed on Jesus,  
woke up this morning with my mind  
(and it was) stayed on Jesus.  
Hallelu (Hallelu), Hallelu (Hallelu),  
Hallelujah.*

*Can't hate your neighbor in your mind  
(if you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Can't hate your neighbor in your mind  
(if you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Can't hate your neighbor in your mind  
(if you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Hallelu (Hallelu), Hallelu (Hallelu),  
Hallelujah.*

*Makes you love ev'rybody with your mind  
(when you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Makes you love ev'rybody with your mind  
(when you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Makes you love ev'rybody with your mind  
(when you keep it) stayed on Jesus.  
Hallelu (Hallelu), Hallelu (Hallelu),  
Hallelujah.*

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American Spiritual

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## God of Grace and God of Glory

*God of grace and God of glory,  
on thy people pour thy power;  
crown thine ancient church's story;  
bring its bud to glorious flower.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the facing of this hour,  
for the facing of this hour.*

*Lo! the hosts of evil round us  
scorn thy Christ, assail thy ways!  
From the fears that long have bound us,  
free our hearts to faith and praise.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
for the living of these days,  
for the living of these days.*

*Cure thy children's warring madness,  
bend our pride to thy control;  
shame our wanton, selfish gladness,  
rich in things and poor in soul.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we miss thy righteous goal,  
lest we miss thy righteous goal.*

*Set our feet on lofty places;  
fill our lives that we may be  
strengthened with all Christ-like graces  
pledged to set all captives free.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
lest we fail our call from thee  
lest we fail our call from thee.*

*Save us from weak resignation  
to the evils we deplore;  
let the search for thy salvation  
be our glory evermore.  
Grant us wisdom, grant us courage,  
serving thee whom we adore,  
serving thee whom we adore.*

CWM RHONDDA  
WORDS: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930  
MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907