



# First Congregational Church of Lebanon

United Church of Christ – Open and Affirming

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**EASTER SUNDAY**

April 4, 2021

“Easter was when Hope in person surprised the whole world  
by coming forward from the future into the present.”

–N. T. Wright

*All hymns are included after the order of worship, on pages 5-7.*

**Prelude**

*Trumpet Voluntary*

H. Purcell

**Easter Proclamation**

Christ Conquers! Christ Reigns! Christ Commands!

**Hymn 185** (p. 5)      *Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain*

St. Kevin

**Call to Worship (Unison)**

Adapted from Psalm 118

O give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; his steadfast love endures forever! Let Israel say, “His steadfast love endures forever.” The LORD is our strength and our might; he has become our salvation. We shall not die, but we shall live, and recount the deeds of the LORD. Open to us the gates of righteousness, that we may enter through them and give thanks to the LORD. This is the gate of the LORD; the righteous shall enter through it. We thank you that you have answered us and have become our salvation. The stone that the builders rejected has become the chief cornerstone. This is the LORD’s doing; it is marvelous in our eyes. This is the day that the LORD has made; let us rejoice and be glad in it.

**Prayer of Invocation**

God, though we worship in places near and far today, we welcome your Spirit as it joins us together as one people. Lift up our worship, inspire our prayers, infuse them with your grace, your love, your power. We pray these things in your Son’s name. Amen.

**Gloria (Unison)**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost. As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

**Words of Welcome; Our Ministry and Mission**

*While we are not meeting in person, all are encouraged to stay in touch with one another by phone, email, or written cards. If you wish to organize a Zoom meeting, please contact the church office.*

**Musical Offering**      “He Was Cut Off Out of the Land of the Living”      G. F. Handel  
“But Thou Didst Not Leave His Soul in Hell” (from *Messiah*)

### Children’s Moment

Well, today’s the big day of the Christian year! Easter, not Christmas, is the holiest, most important holiday on the Christian calendar. While Christmas marks the day Jesus was born, Easter marks the day that Christ triumphed over death, giving each of us new life in the process. Now, this may seem odd or strange to us: we’re only born once, right? But in Jesus we each are given the opportunity to live life to the fullest, to do what God would have us do, to be children of the Kingdom, to accept the charge Jesus has given each of us to spread the news, to love our brothers and sisters, to show why the path of Jesus is the one we want to travel. You can spend a life chasing after empty dreams, or you can spend a life making the most of what God has given you. I pray that all of us will embrace this chance.

### Scripture Lesson

**Mark 16:1-8.** When the sabbath was over, Mary Magdalene, and Mary the mother of James, and Salome bought spices, so that they might go and anoint him. <sup>2</sup>And very early on the first day of the week, when the sun had risen, they went to the tomb. <sup>3</sup>They had been saying to one another, “Who will roll away the stone for us from the entrance to the tomb?” <sup>4</sup>When they looked up, they saw that the stone, which was very large, had already been rolled back. <sup>5</sup>As they entered the tomb, they saw a young man, dressed in a white robe, sitting on the right side; and they were alarmed. <sup>6</sup>But he said to them, “Do not be alarmed; you are looking for Jesus of Nazareth, who was crucified. He has been raised; he is not here. Look, there is the place they laid him. <sup>7</sup>But go, tell his disciples and Peter that he is going ahead of you to Galilee; there you will see him, just as he told you.” <sup>8</sup>So they went out and fled from the tomb, for terror and amazement had seized them; and they said nothing to anyone, for they were afraid.

**Sermon**      “Like a Rolling Stone”      Stephen R. Silver

**Hymn 182** (p. 6)      *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today*      Easter Hymn

### Sharing of Joys and Concerns; Pastoral Prayer

*As we hold our community members in prayer, please exercise care and discretion when sharing, as what seems public for you may be private for others. Help us keep our weekly prayer list current by contacting Rev. Silver or the church office to confirm or remove names on the list.*

On this day we offer our ongoing prayers for Pete, Lloyd, Arlene, Ruth, Evelyn, Barbara, Greg, Larry, Edith, Jan, Eileen, and James.

We pray for all those fighting the coronavirus or other illnesses, whether of mind, body, or spirit.

We pray for the healthcare workers and first responders who are on the front line dealing with this pandemic.

We pray for all those struggling with financial challenges, reduced hours and unemployment, and fears about the future.

Today we also offer this special prayer for Easter:

Almighty God, it is with gratitude and wonder that we thank you for this Easter, coming as it does after a long, weird, trying year. We are grateful for the insight and wisdom with which you have blessed us. We are grateful for the vaccines that can save lives and will allow us once again to gather together. Help us, we pray, to make the most of this new life. Though we are uncertain of what the future holds, of when this pandemic will be behind us, we can be sure of your love, your power, your grace. We can be sure of the great thing that happened some 2,000 years ago: the resurrection of your Son, our Savior, Jesus Christ. In him, through him, the light overcame the darkness, despair yielded to hope, and death was conquered by life. We confess these things knowing that sometimes it is hard for us to live as Easter People; still, you love us nonetheless. For this we give thanks and praise, saying Alleluia, Christ the Lord is risen today.

We pray this, and all the joys and concerns we hold in our hearts, in the name of Jesus Christ. Amen.

### **The Lord's Prayer (Unison)**

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.

### **Offering of Gifts**

*Remembering those who are without, who are in need, who are often ignored, we invite your support of our ongoing ministry in and for the community. Please mail in your offering as you are able.*

**Offertory**                      "I Know That My Redeemer Liveth" (from *Messiah*)      G. F. Handel

### **Doxology (Unison)**

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him, all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

### **Prayer of Dedication (Unison)**

God of resurrection hope, on this day of joyful celebration we present to you this offering, inspired by the wondrous gift of new life you have shared with us in our

risen Lord. We are confident that our gifts will contribute to the building of your Kingdom of love and grace. In Jesus' name we pray, Alleluia, Alleluia, Amen.

## The Sacrament of Holy Communion

### Invitation and Communion Prayer

**Sanctus**

Ho - ly, Ho - ly Ho - ly, Lord God of Hosts:  
Heav-en and earth are full of your glo - ry. Glo - ry be to you, O Lord most  
High. Bless-ed is the one that comes in the name of the  
Lord. Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho - san - na in the high - est, Ho -  
san - na in the high - est.

### Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*We will share in the bread and cup at the appointed time. If you do not wish to take the elements but would like to receive a blessing instead, please let the officiant know.*

### Communion Prayer of Thanksgiving (*Unison*)

Because the broken bread has meant our healing, because the outpoured cup has meant our life, because our common sharing has meant the communion of our souls, and because we have here been graced by your presence, God, we give you thanks and pray that our lives may be renewed in the life and the love of Jesus Christ. Amen.

**Hymn 193** (p. 7) *Thine Is the Glory*

Judas Maccabeus

### Benediction

My friends, life is short. We do not have too much time to gladden the hearts of those who travel the way with us. So, be swift to love, and make haste to be kind.

Now go forth with the love of God, the grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, and the communion of the Holy Spirit, this day and forevermore. Amen.

**Postlude**

*Trumpet Tune*

H. Purcell

### *Leading Worship This Week*

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist • David Ellis, Trumpet

Betsy Alexander, Soprano • Brian Clancy, Tenor • Stacey Steele, Liturgist

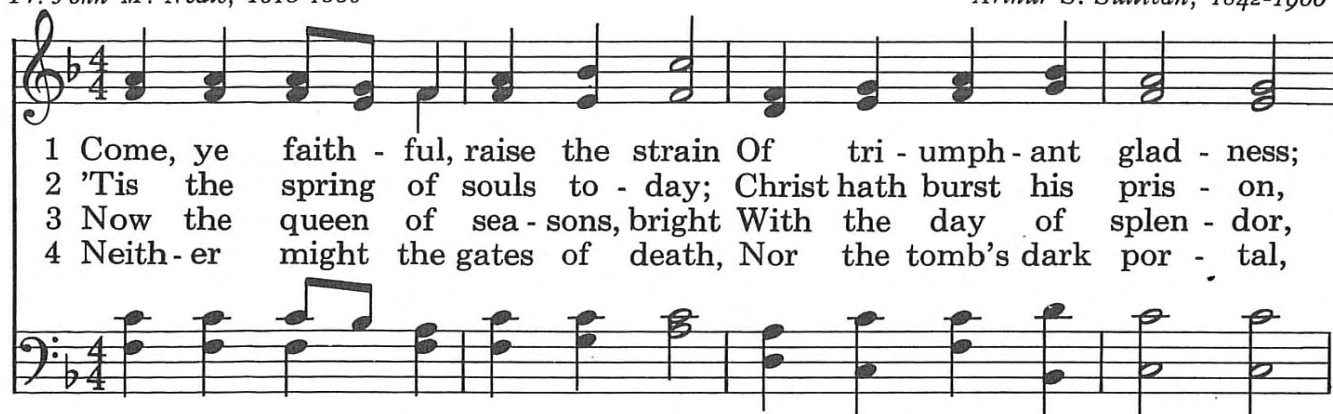
*If you have a joy, concern, or pastoral care request, either for yourself or a loved one or friend, please email [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org), or contact the church office or the Rev. Steve Silver directly.*

## Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain

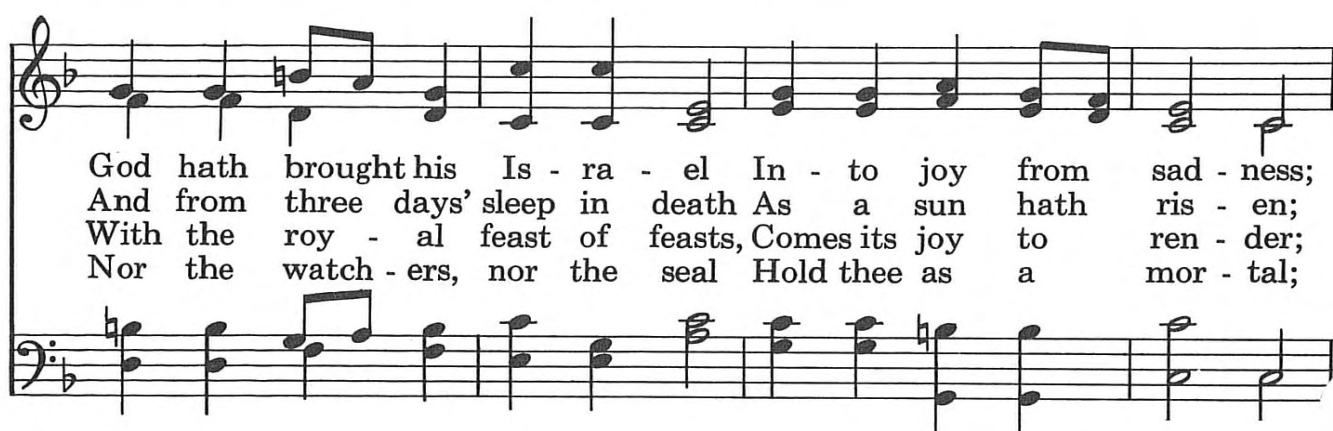
## First Tune

Attr. to John of Damascus, c.696-c.754  
Tr. John M. Neale, 1818-1866

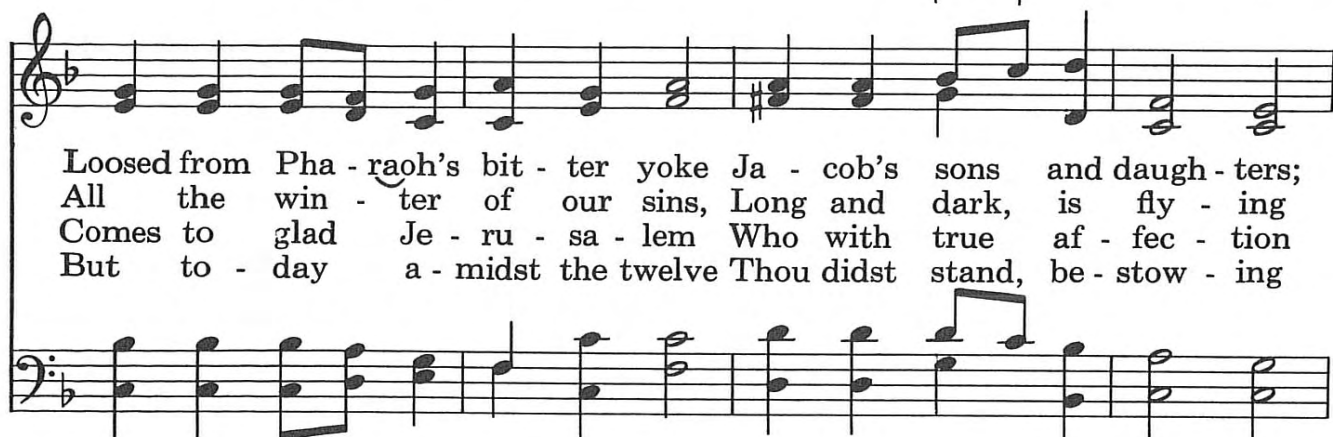
ST. KEVIN 7.6.7.6.D.  
Arthur S. Sullivan, 1842-1900



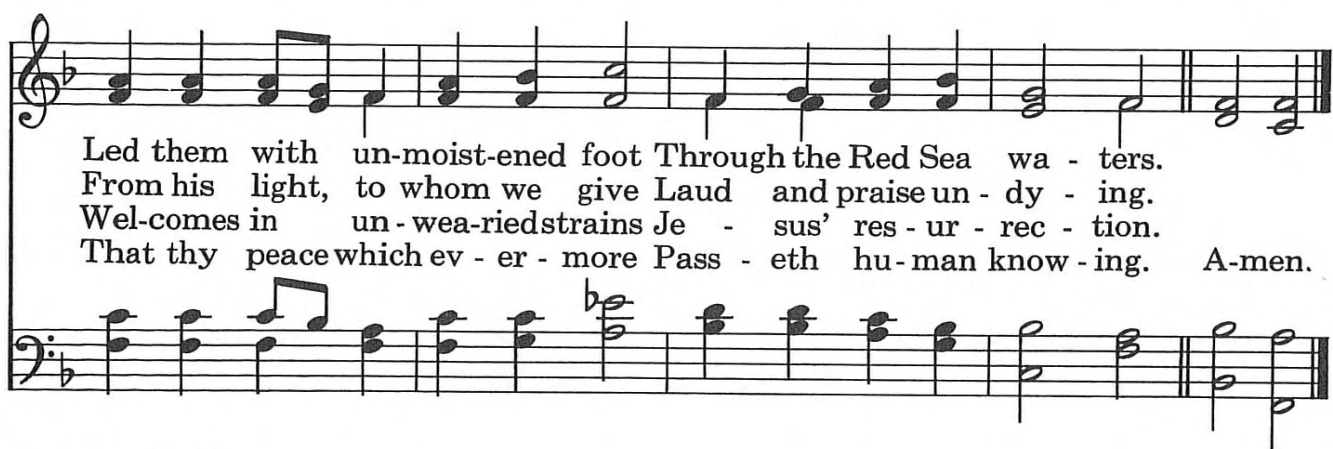
1 Come, ye faith - ful, raise the strain Of tri - umph - ant glad - ness;  
2 'Tis the spring of souls to - day; Christ hath burst his pris - on,  
3 Now the queen of sea - sons, bright With the day of splen - dor,  
4 Neith - er might the gates of death, Nor the tomb's dark por - tal,



God hath brought his Is - ra - el In - to joy from sad - ness;  
And from three days' sleep in death As a sun hath ris - en;  
With the roy - al feast of feasts, Comes its joy to ren - der;  
Nor the watch - ers, nor the seal Hold thee as a mor - tal;



Loosed from Pha - raoh's bit - ter yoke Ja - cob's sons and daugh - ters;  
All the win - ter of our sins, Long and dark, is fly - ing  
Comes to glad Je - ru - sa - lem Who with true af - fec - tion  
But to - day a - midst the twelve Thou didst stand, be - stow - ing



Led them with un-moist - ened foot Through the Red Sea wa - ters.  
From his light, to whom we give Laud and praise un - dy - ing.  
Wel - comes in un - wea - ried strains Je - sus' res - ur - rec - tion.  
That thy peace which ev - er - more Pass - eth hu - man know - ing. A - men.

# Christ the Lord Is Risen Today

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Charles Wesley, 1707-1788 alt.

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with Alleluias  
Arr. from "Lyra Davidica," 1708

1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day,  
2 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,  
3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
4 Soar we now where Christ has led,  
5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!

Sons of men and an - gels say:  
Where, O death, is now thy sting?  
Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,  
Praise to thee by both be given,

Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,  
Dy - ing once, he all doth save,  
Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Made like him, like him we rise,  
Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,

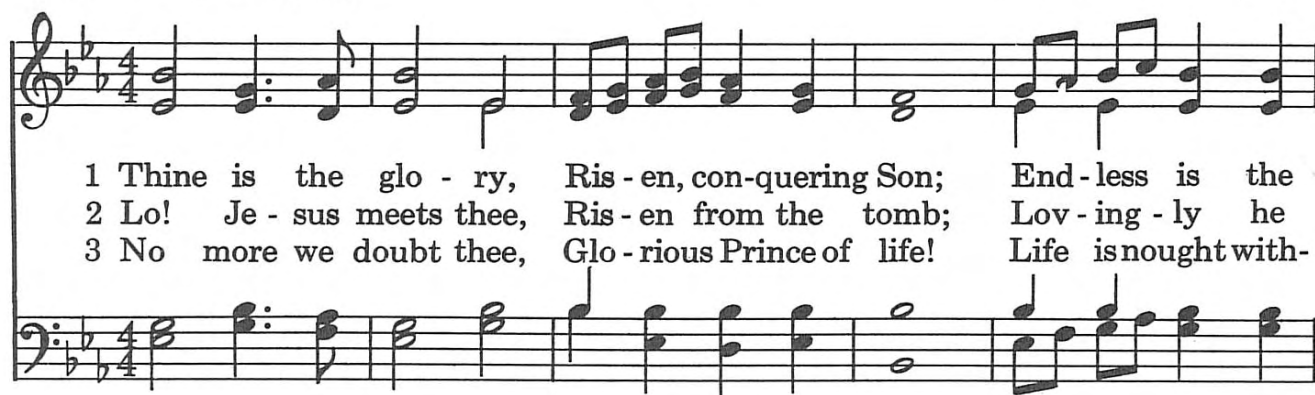
Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:  
Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?  
Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!  
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,  
Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou! A-men.

A descent may be found at M. 8.

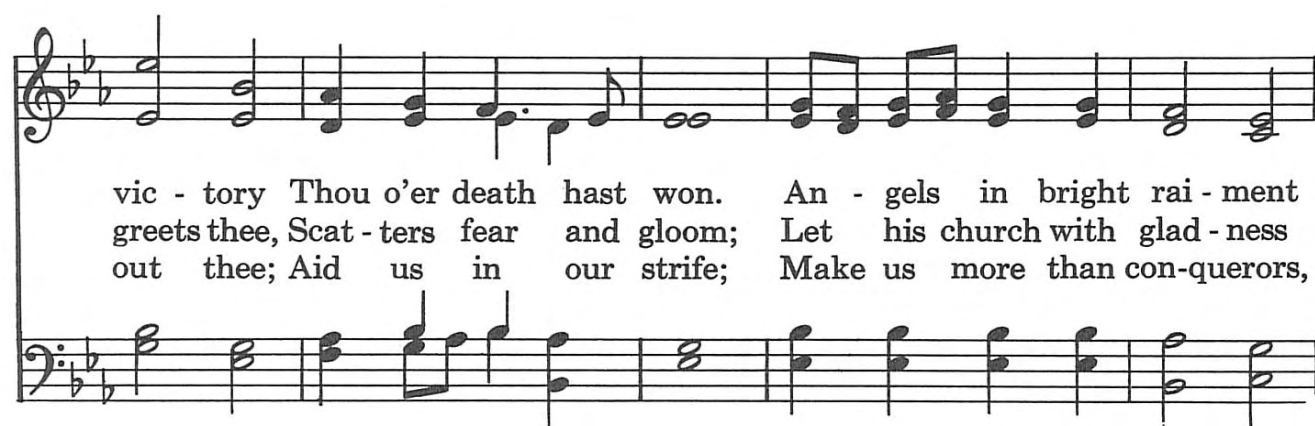
## Thine Is the Glory

Edmond L. Budry, 1854-1932  
Tr. R. Birch Hoyle, 1875-1939

JUDAS MACCABEUS 5.5.6.5.6.5.6.5. with Refrain  
Georg F. Handel, 1685-1759



1 Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-quer-ing Son; End - less is the  
2 Lo! Je - sus meets thee, Ris - en from the tomb; Lov - ing - ly he  
3 No more we doubt thee, Glo - rious Prince of life! Life is nought with-



vic - tory Thou o'er death hast won. An - gels in bright rai - ment  
greet thee, Scat - ters fear and gloom; Let his church with glad - ness  
out thee; Aid us in our strife; Make us more than con-querors,



Rolled the stone a way, Kept the fold - ed grave - clothes  
Hymns of tri - umph sing, For her Lord now liv - eth;  
Through thy death - less love; Bring us safe through Jor - dan

REFRAIN



Where thy bod - y lay.  
Death hath lost its sting. Thine is the glo - ry, Ris - en, con-quer-ing Son.  
To thy home a - bove.





# ALLELUIA! HE IS RISEN! HAPPY EASTER!

We are grateful to all those who offered contributions to our **OPEN DOOR  
MINISTRY** in loving honor or memory of all those listed below.

## IN HONOR OF...

Our four grandchildren, whom we are looking forward to seeing more of this year—*Kathy and Warren Belding*

DeAnn Clancy and Sandy Driscoll—*Brian, Amy, Katie, and Grace*

Our wonderful families—*Marcia Corkins and Pete Mason*

Betty Adams, Ike's mom; Terri Reese, Ike's aunt; and Carey Anne Jacobs and Craig Allen Jacobs,  
our children—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

Linda and Ike Jacobs—*Travis and Rachel Jones*

Louise Parsons (G. G.), Larry Kirkpatrick (Grandpap), and David Rappaport (Daddy)—  
*Nan Parsons, Shawna Osmer (Mommy), and Kailyn Rappaport*

All the mothers, grandmothers, and great-grandmothers in our family—*Deb and Jon Scott*

Beloved family and friends—*The Silver Family*

Juliet Marion, dearest mother and grandmother, God's richest blessing to us—*Stacey and Dominic*

## IN MEMORY OF...

My son Dan—*Ron Bailey*

Charles E. Baldwin III; Margaret McGregor "Ginger" Smith; Leta Gallup Fortmiller, Lola's mother;  
and Mary Fortmiller Cornwell, Lola's sister—*Lola Baldwin and Wendell Smith*

Florence and William Beckett—*Kathy Beckett*

Marilyn Mason, Laura Place, and Betty Howard—*Marcia Corkins and Pete Mason*

Parents, grandparents, and brothers who died too young—*Alyson and Terry Ellison*

Mom and Dad, Laura and Gordon "Doc" Place—*Sue and Ken Gould and Family*

Linda's Grammy; Laura and Doc Place; Betty and Ellis Howard; Grace and Roger Morse; Claude Young;  
Jim Oronte; and so many more dear friends—*Linda and Ike Jacobs*

All the lives lost to COVID-19 in the last year—*Barb Jones*

Mary Margaret Miller and A. Bertram Miller—*Elizabeth Nestler*

Donald Parsons (Bop), Robert Parsons (Gramps), Uncle Leo, Beatrice Parsons (Naunta), and  
Estelle Shaw (Nana)—*Nan Parsons, Shawna Osmer (Mommy), and Kailyn Rappaport*

My parents, Helen and Alfred Walling—*Susan Pratt*

Carol S. Mistretta, our daughter; and Charles L. Sargent, our son—*Barbara and Gordon Sargent*

Those who have gone before us, especially the first responders and frontline workers who have given  
their lives in service to the public during the pandemic—*Deserai, Walter, and Xavian*

Helen and William Smith—*Rachel Smith-Jones*

Grandpa Hezekiah; Grandma Gladys; Uncle Noel; Aunts Doris, Sonia, Heather, and Dulcey—*Stacey and Dominic*

Harriet Oman—*Nancy Ulf*



## **Thank You for Supporting the Lenten Lunch Bag Offering!**

The **Children's Community Corner** is grateful to all who have participated in this year's Lunch Bag Offering! You may still deliver or send your contributions to the church office until Friday; the total collection will be split between **Epilogos Charities** and **WISE of the Upper Valley**.

*Thank you all for helping FCC's children help other children near and far!*

## **Last Call for One Great Hour of Sharing: "Let Love Flow"**

This annual, nationwide UCC offering funds mission initiatives around the world. It supports healthcare, education, agriculture, refugee assistance, and emergency relief in over 130 countries. OGHS funds are leveraged with local, national, and global partners to maximize their impact.

*Many thanks to all those who have already contributed so generously!*

(Payable to FCC, with "OGHS" in the memo line. Contributions gratefully accepted until Friday.)

## *Welcome!*

We are a Christ-centered community that celebrates the love of God. Although we are of varied minds, with varying measures of belief and unbelief, we are one body, bound together in Christ. We recognize the uniqueness of every individual as God's beloved child. We seek to respond faithfully to God's call for justice for all creation. We strive in word and deed to be faithful to Jesus' model of loving acceptance. We seek to create a sanctuary where all will know they are welcome and included.

No matter your age, gender identity, sexual orientation, marital status, race or ethnicity, physical or mental ability, or economic circumstance, you are invited into the full life and ministry of First Congregational Church of Lebanon, including its worship, sacraments, and rites.

*Join us as we grow together in God's love.*

### **First Congregational Church of Lebanon**

The Rev. Stephen R. Silver, Pastor

Ernie Drown, Organist and Choir Director • Nancy Parsons, Children's Community Corner  
Barbara Teeter, Chair of Deacons • Linda Jacobs, Chair of Church Council • Barbara Jones, Moderator  
Brian Clancy, Church Administrator

*Church Office Hours:* Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, 9:00-12:00 (or by appointment as needed)  
603-448-4281 • [church@fccleb.org](mailto:church@fccleb.org) • [prayer@fccleb.org](mailto:prayer@fccleb.org) • [music@fccleb.org](mailto:music@fccleb.org) • [www.fccleb.org](http://www.fccleb.org)

*Please note that on-site, indoor worship and other events at FCC remain suspended until Pentecost Sunday, May 23, at which point Church Council will reassess COVID-19 concerns.*