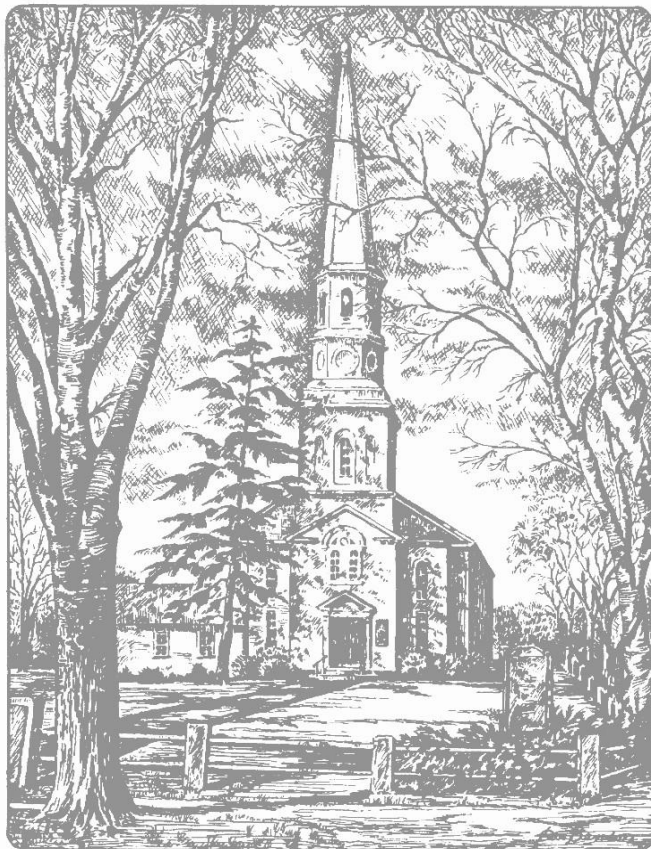


The First Congregational Church of Harwich
United Church of Christ



Celebrating 275 years ~ 1747-2022
Open & Affirming since 2001

697 Main Street
Harwich, Massachusetts 02645
(508) 432-1053

May 1, 2022



RESURRECTION CULTURE

May 1, 2022 ~ 10:30 am

We welcome you to our worship service before God! Please wear a face covering during the service if you are not fully vaccinated. If you are a regular, we ask you to please wear a nametag. Hearing devices, noise cancelling headphones, and Kids Worship Bags are available- please ask a Deacon. Whether you are a first-time visitor or long-time member or somewhere in-between, we pray you are blessed as we worship God this morning!!

“+” = please stand as you are able.

First Church welcomes Tom Jahnke as our Lector today!

PRELUDE

Clare Benediction

Gaelic Blessing

both by John Rutter

Marcia Hempel, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Susan Thomas

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Coming and going

All: God watches over us.

One: Resting and travelling

All: God watches over us.

One: Through good and through evil

All: God watches over us.

One: All the days of our lives

**All: God safeguards us with love. Thanks be to God!
Amen.**

+HYMN NCH #4 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You* (vs. 1-3)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**All: Most merciful God,
we confess that we have sinned against you
in thought, word, and deed,
by what we have done,
and by what we have left undone.
We have not loved you with our whole heart;
we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.
For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ,
have mercy on us and forgive us.**

(please take a moment of silent, personal confession)

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S GRACE

One: Welcome now the abundant grace of God: in Jesus, your sins are forgiven. And let God's love comfort and heal your soul. Amen.

ANTHEM *The Risen Christ*
by Krysten and Keith Getty
First Church Choir

SCRIPTURE READING **John 21:1-14**

KIDS MOMENT AND SUNDAY SCHOOL

SERMON “I Can Breathe in a Small Town”

Rev. Susan Thomas

PASTORAL PRAYER

The Lord’s Prayer

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

Everyone is invited to place their Offerings to God in plates that will be collected from the pews during the service, or to send the Offerings by mail to the church office.

Invitation

Anthem

Pie Jesu

by Andrew Lloyd Webber

Emily Kosoff, solo

+Doxology

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

+Prayer of Dedication

All: O God, we come to You blessed by Your abundant life, to offer ourselves as Your faithful followers. We bring our gifts this day, trusting that they will serve Your people. Amen.

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Lift up your hearts.

All: We lift them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

All: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

One: Jesus said: I am the bread of life. You who come to me shall not hunger; you who believe in me will never thirst.

All: In company with all who hunger for spiritual food, we come to this table to know the risen Christ in the sharing of this life-giving meal.

Communion Prayer & Words of Institution

One:With all the prophets, martyrs, and saints, and all the company of heaven, we glorify You:

All: Holy, holy, holy God of love and majesty, the whole universe speaks of your glory, O God Most High.

One: We remember these words and actions of Jesus our Savior on the night of his betrayal and desertion...

Sharing the Bread and the Fruit of the Vine

One: The gifts of God for the people of God. Come, for all things are ready.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

All: Eternal God, we thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to

Your will. Go with us to the streets and to our homes. That whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

+HYMN NCH #173 *You Have Come down to the Lakeshore (English Verses 1-4)*

BENEDICTION

One: Go from here to feed and tend God's people. Do so because you love Jesus, and because Jesus loves and needs you! Amen.

POSTLUDE *Danza Rustica*, by Carson Cooman

†††

STEEPLE LIGHTING

The Steeple Lighting for the next 10 days is given by Calvin Eldredge in honor of J. B. Atkins, Mary Eldredge and Barbara Eldredge

CHANCEL FLOWERS

The chancel flowers are given by Lynn Carver in honor of those musicians who have enriched her life, both in the past and now, including mom, Peg, Iris McKenney, Marcia Hempel, & Tom Jahnke.

PRAYER LIST

We encourage parishioners to call or email our Pastor or Office Administrator in our office by midweek with any new prayers so these can be printed and lifted up at Sunday worship.

Solace & Peace: we bring before our Creator- loved ones, friends, neighbors- known and unknown to us- who have passed away, especially Mary Cox's mother, Vy.

Healing & Comfort: Betty Lou's daughter Celeste; Mary's granddaughter Izzie; Joe's brother-in-law Tom; Danny; Tom S.; children of the Ukraine; children who have lost family members to

Covid; Orin's brother Peter: Sarah Y. newly diagnosed with breast cancer; Edie; Mary Ann; Edie's granddaughter, Heidi; Forester; James S. bravely facing cancer treatment; Bianca's daughter Toni Lynn who has pancreatic cancer; Katie R. who has brain cancer; Noah & his family as he recovers; John L's friend Cynthia; Ava; Nancy's friend Sal; Julie's friend, Jack; DeeDee's relatives; Joe B.'s daughter, daughter-in-law and nephew.

Joys & Celebrations: Happy Birthday to Betty Lou Hindle (May 6)! We give thanks to God for an offering season that bore much fruit! - Scholarship Fund; One Great Hour of Sharing; Ukraine Relief Fund; Easter Flowers donations to benefit "A Baby Center" and Easter Offering. Thank you, First Church, for your abundant generosity!

Community & World: people of the Ukraine and Poland; living through Covid and its variants; poverty; near homeless and homelessness; the hungry; ill; unemployed; school employees and students; those suffering with addictions; anxiety and depression; children & adults living with disabilities; all medical staff; first responders and caregivers; military personnel, victims of racism; immigrants and children; a sustainable earth; and peace and justice in our homes, our communities, this great nation and the world we share.

COMMUNICATIONS

Please visit our website at firstchurchofharwich.org for more information and offerings. For bimonthly updates, sign up for the **Beacon newsletters** at firstchurchharwich@comcast.net. Follow and share us on Facebook @ First Congregational Church of Harwich and subscribe to First Church Harwich's YouTube channel.

THIS WEEK

- Sun: 05/01 – 11:30 am – Coffee Hour – PH
11:30 am – Missions Board – Sanctuary
- Mon: 05/02 – 9:00 am – Nominating – Janick Room
10:00 am – Bell Choir Rehearsal-PH-upstairs
- Tues: 05/03 – 10:00 am – Deacons – PH
1:00 pm – Trustees-PH
- Wed: 05/04 – 10 am – Fellowship – PH
4:45 pm – First Church Choir Rehearsal – Sanctuary
6:30 pm – Sound Dunes Rehearsal – PH

Fri: 05/06 – 10:00 am-2:30 pm – Thrift Shop Open
10:30 am – AA Book Club – PH
4:00 pm – AA Meeting – PH
Sat: 05/07 – 10:00 am-2:30 pm – Thrift Shop Open
Sun: 05/08 – 10:30 am – Worship & Mother’s Day

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- **Coffee Hour today** after worship in the Parish House!
- Celebrate and Honor “Mom” next Sunday by bringing in a picture or memento and placing it on the table in front of the altar.

CHURCH MINISTERS

Rev. Susan Thomas, Pastor
Members of the Congregation, Ministers
Marcia Hempel, Music Director & Organist
Lynn Carver, Bell Choir Director
Lynn Carver, Moderator
Tom Jahnke, Treasurer
Emily Kosoff, Clerk
Betty Lou Hindle, pro-tem, Chair of Christian Education
DeeDee Dyer and Lynn Carver, Co-Chairs of Deacons
Nancy Segall, Chair of Fellowship
Dawn Brooks, Chair of Mission
Jeep Mashoke, Chair of Trustees
Tom Jahnke, Interim Administrative Assistant
Paul Frederickson, Sexton

CHURCH COVENANT

Bound together as a Christian Church and depending upon the continued guidance of the Holy Spirit to lead us, we covenant together to walk in all our ways, according to the rule of the Gospel in mutual love and respect to one another to strive to carry out the teachings of Jesus Christ, and to love the Lord our God with all our hearts and our neighbors as ourselves.

OPEN AND AFFIRMING STATEMENT

We bid unqualified welcome to all who seek to know God and encourage full participation of all members in the life of the First Congregational Church of Harwich, a local congregation of the United Church of Christ. We respect, support, and lovingly encourage people of every race, ethnicity, gender, sexual orientation, age, and physical or mental ability to join us on our journey of faith.



HANDS OF HOPE OUTREACH CENTER FOOD PANTRY
49 RT 28 PO BOX 387 WEST HARWICH 02671 508-432-1312
churcheshoh@comcast.net

**WE THANK YOU SO MUCH FOR ALL YOUR HELP
WITH FOOD DONATIONS!!**

**PLEASE NO MORE: SOUP, CEREAL, AND CHEF-BOY-R-
DEE FOR NOW. WE HAVE PLENTY!!**

**BAKED BEANS
TOMATO OR PASTA SAUCE
PASTA
HAMBURGER HELPER
STOVE TOP CHICKEN STUFFING MIX
CRACKERS
SMALL MAYO OR KETCHUP
MACARONI AND CHEESE
PANCAKE MIX
COFFEE OR TEA**

**Please place your food items in the bins in the Narthex and they
will be delivered to the Food Pantry!**

