



# THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH CANTON CENTER, CT

April 27, 2025 ~ 10:00 a.m.  
Second Sunday of Easter



*They said to each other, Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us? ~Luke 24:32*

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## ~ ORDER OF WORSHIP ~

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*\*Please stand if able. **Bold** denotes unison response.*

### CHIMES

Karen Needham

### WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*Brief announcements from the congregation are welcome. Those wishing to make an announcement are asked to be in the front pews at the start of the announcement period. Prayer request cards may be found on the tables at the back of the church.*

### PRELUDE

*The Emmaus Road*

Joel Nagy & Russell Nagy

*{During the prelude feel God's love and peace surround you}*

### CALL TO WORSHIP

From the shadows of doubt to the light of resurrection,  
we are called together in the name of the living Christ.

**Our hearts yearn for the warmth of His presence.**

Like those who journeyed to Emmaus, we may come with heavy hearts,  
wrestling with questions and loss.

**Yet, we trust that even on our difficult paths, the Lord draws near.**

He reveals himself in the simple act of gathering and in the shared experience of faith.

**Let us open our eyes to recognize Jesus in our midst.**

We gather to worship the risen Christ, where hope is born of His presence  
and despair is refined into the radiant passion of devotion.

**We gather to worship the One who walks with us, now and forever.**

### \*HYMN

*All Hail the Power of Jesus' Name*

Pilgrim (Red) #195

### \*GATHERING PRAYER & \*THE LORD'S PRAYER

**Almighty and ever-loving God, whose Son Jesus Christ walks alongside us, we humbly come before You. Too often, we navigate our days with clouded vision, failing to see Your presence in the midst of our struggles and uncertainties. Grant us, we pray, the grace to recognize Your Presence in the unexpected encounters of our lives, in the wisdom of Your Word, and in the**

fellowship of Your people. Open our hearts to the burning truth of Christ's resurrection, that our own spirits may be ignited with hope and purpose. Transform our sorrow into joy, our weariness into strength, our confusion into clarity, and our silence into bold proclamation of Your Good News. As we proceed with eyes opened, hearts burning, and a renewed commitment to walk in the light of Your resurrection, let us share its transformative power with the world around us.

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.

### **\*Gloria Patri**

*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, Amen.*

*(The youth will collect food donations and be excused for Church school)*

## **OFFERING**

Senior Choir



### **OFFERTORY**



*Shelter Me*

Senior Choir

Michael Jonas

*(A song written during the COVID Pandemic)*

### **\*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**

Loving God, may these gifts be used to extend the outreach of our church to serve others and empower us to be witnesses of Your resurrection, demonstrating through our lives the hope and new life that is possible because You walk with us. In Jesus' name we pray, Amen.

## **SCRIPTURE**



Luke 24:13-35

Pew Bible pg. 860

## **SERMON**

*The Abiding Presence: Christ's Journey with Us*

## **PRAYERS OF THE CHURCH**



*Joys & Concerns  
Moment of Silence  
Pastoral Prayer*

## **\*HYMN**

*He Lives!*

Chalice (Blue) #226

## **\*BENEDICTION**

**\*BENEDICTION RESPONSE**    *Grant Us thy Peace*  
Senior Choir

arr. Floyd Werle

## **\*POSTLUDE**

*Lord, Above All Other Creatures*

Roberta Bitgood

*The Worship is Ended...Our Service Now Begins*