



Easter Sunday April 20, 2025

Prelude *How Great Thou Art*

Nenad Ivović, Organ
Chris Chhoeun, Trumpet; Natasha Rashic, Mezzo-soprano

Welcome and Community Life

Rev. Susan Murtha

***Call to Worship**

Leader: Praise the Lord! Christ is risen!

People: He is risen indeed!

Leader: The stone has been rolled away.

People: Hallelujah! Hallelujah!

Leader: Christ has been raised from death to new life.

People: Christ is risen indeed!

***Gathering Hymn** *Christ the Lord Is Risen Today* #233 Black Hymnal

Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia! Mortal tongues and angels say: Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, glad heavens, and earth reply: Alleluia!

Let the Victor's people sing, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now your sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia! Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!

Love's redeeming work is done, Alleluia! Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia! God has opened paradise, Alleluia!

Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia! Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia! Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!

***Easter Affirmation of Faith** (in unison)

We believe in God – who transforms Good Friday's world into Easter, brings hope in the midst of despair, turns darkness into day, and tenderly calls us by name.

We believe in Jesus Christ – the risen Savior, not locked in a cold-tomb past, but alive and present to us – turning our eyes from death to new life, calling us to look up and out to see the kingdom of God, to follow him in discipleship, to be at His table where all are welcome, where the least, the littlest, the lost and last are honored.

We believe in the Holy Spirit – the presence and power of God at work in our world, the true force for good and justice, bringing courage for faithful living, bringing reconciliation where there is rupture, stirring up the embers of love, igniting hope and joy.

We believe God is at work in the church and in all people, creating a witness to the gospel, a community of compassion, a fellowship of forgiveness, and a gathering of grace.

This we believe. Alleluia! Amen.

***Passing of the Peace**

Children's Message *We'll See – The Farmer's Parable*

Nicole Giannetta

Kids Church Children are welcome to meet in the entrance area of the sanctuary for Kids Church in the Parish House.

Scripture *John 20:1-18* (pg. 944 of your pew Bible)

Sermon *God Has Moved On!*

***Hymn** *Thine is the Glory* #193 Red Hymnal

Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son; endless is the victory thou o'er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away, kept the folded graveclothes where thy body lay.

[Refrain] Thine is the glory, risen conquering Son;
endless the victory thou o'er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets thee, risen from the tomb; lovingly he greets thee, scatters fear and gloom;
let his church with gladness hymns of triumph sing, for her Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

No more we doubt thee, glorious Prince of life! Life is nought with out thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more the conquerors, through thy deathless love; bring us through Jordan to thy home above. [Refrain]
Amen.

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

The Offering of Gifts – One Great Hour of Sharing, Weekly Offerings, and Gifts

Call to Offering

Musical Offering *Lascia Ch'io Pianga* by F. Handel

*Doxology

Praise God, from Whom all blessings flow; (or) Praise God, from Whom All blessings flow;	
Praise Him, all creatures here below;	Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host;	Praise God for all that love has done;
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.	Praise Creator, Christ, and Spirit One.

*Prayer of Dedication

***Closing Hymn** *The Day of Resurrection* #245 Black Hymnal

The day of resurrection! Earth tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness,
the Passover of God. From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ has brought us over with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil, that we may see a right the Christ who reigns
eternal in resurrection light; we listen for the teachings once heard so calm and plain,
for we, too, want to follow and raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful, let earth its song begin, the whole world keep
high triumph, and all that is therein. Let all things seen and unseen their notes
of gladness blend, for Christ again has risen, our joy that has no end.

Benediction

Postlude *Hallelujah Chorus*

Faye Chen & FCCW Choir

** Please rise in body or in spirit*



We are grateful to everyone who contributed Easter Plants for the church.



Given by

Roger B. Calistro & Kathleen M. Foster

The Chicos' Family

Sarah Jane Compton & Bradley Taylor

The Costa Family

Tim & Jeff Cowles

Ethel & Walt Crosby

Constance Ecklund

Richard & Debra Forselius

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Stefany Shulz

Joyce Simpson

Terry Ward & Nancy Dickgiesser

In Loving Memory or in Honor of:

Virginia Butler Calistro and Joyce Foster

Margaret Bucknall

Thomas Ryder

Dylan O'Shea

Raymond and Alice Cowles

The Kovacs and Crosby Families

The Ecklund Family, Cryer Family, Gorham Family & the musicians of our church

Our son, parents and brothers

Our children

Bob and Rachel Conniff, Katie and Win Hubbard

Professor Wilson H. Kinnach

Our beloved mother and grandma

Annemarie Margenau Lindskog, Eric Charles Lindskog, Dr. and Mrs. Gustaf E. Lindskog, Prof. & Mrs. Henry Margenau, Rolf Margenau, Henry Margenau, and in gratitude for the ministry of Pastor Susan; the work of the Board of Trustees; the ministry of music; and the Yamaha C7

Debbie Whitlock Madden

All who serve First Church

Shirley and Bob Piascyk, Audrey and Fred Gray

Our parents

Our parents

Bob (husband, father and grandfather)

My mother, Margaret

Bob and Mable Ward, Bob and Doris Papworth

~ Part of the music offerings this Easter Sunday was funded by a gift from Carl Lindskog
in loving memory of his late wife, Annemarie ~



Kids Church Parent Meeting April 27 @ 11:15 AM

We now have two staff members to lead and support our children & family ministry Nicole & Becca!
With this additional staffing, it's time to gather and talk together about our next steps!

Please join our first Kids Church Parent Meeting on April 27 (after worship in the large room adjacent to the Kids Church room) **to talk together about:**

- What's the best way to create two Kids Church programs, with age-appropriate groups and activities?
- Is it time to pivot our family outreach events from once a month to 4 - 6 / year?
- Understanding the coordination and communication work for all programs
- What are your hopes, ideas, needs, questions, and interest in being a helper?



Friday Night Classical Concert

May 2, 2025 at 7:00 PM

First Church of Christ
5 Meetinghouse Lane, Woodbridge

Pieces by Mozart and Franck



Nenad Ivović
Piano



Xiaoxuan Liu
Violin

For more information,
call 203-389-2119
Free will offering

Farm Petting Zoo for Mother's Day

Sunday, May 11
1:00 - 2:30 p.m

- Baby goats, bunnies, llamas, donkeys, sheep & more
- Lawn games & sidewalk art

5 Meetinghouse Lane
Woodbridge
(on the lawn by
the Parish House)

More information (203) 936-9356

