

**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST  
Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451  
Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor  
Sandy Carter - Organist  
May 3, 2020 - Third Sunday of Easter

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**OPENING FANFARE** - Melissa Griffin on trumpet

## **WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

### **CALL TO WORSHIP:**

Rich: O sing to God a new song for God's marvelous workings!

**Pat: Because of God's steadfast love, all have seen the power of life.**

Rich: For now Christ is Risen from the dead.

**Pat: Make a joyful noise unto God, all ye people!**

Rich: Break forth into joyous songs and praise!

**Pat: For nothing can separate us from the love of God in Jesus our Risen Christ. Amen**

### **HYMN** "I Serve a Risen Savior"

Everyone will be muted except Sandy who will play one verse, so you can sing along while she plays or just listen.

I serve a risen Savior, He's in the world today;  
I know that He is living, whatever men may say;  
I see His hand of mercy, I hear His voice of cheer,  
And just the time I need Him He's always near.  
He lives, He lives, Christ Jesus lives today!  
He walks with me and talks with me along life's narrow way.  
He lives, He lives, salvation to impart!  
You ask me how I know He lives? He lives within my heart.

### **UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION** - Rich

O Risen and Living Christ, we are grateful that you walk among us on earth, bringing new life and hope into human hearts and into the heart of creation itself. Help us to recognize you, not only in our time of worship but also in our everyday encounters with people who are evolving portable tabernacles of your mystery and love. Stretch us to be aware of your presence at all times and in all places. Enable us to stand alongside you in your ministry of healing on the crowded roads and crooked ways of our world, through the gift of the Holy Spirit. Amen

**FIRST SCRIPTURE** - Tina Luke 24: 13-35

## **COMMUNITY MOMENT**

### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

#### **PASTORAL PRAYER AND 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen."

**PRAYER RESPONSE** - Judy "Hear Our Prayer, O Lord"

**OFFERTORY** Please send your checks made payable to the Mary Lyon Church, to Elvira Scott, 282 East Hawley Rd., Hawley, MA 01339. All donations are greatly appreciated and needed!

**SCRIPTURE READING** - Helen Luke 24: 36b-48

**MESSAGE** "Surprises on the Way" – Rich Fournier

### **COMMUNION**

**PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION** - Rich

O Holy One, as the Risen One broke into the conversation on the road to Emmaus, so we ask that our discourse of despair might be interrupted by a conversation of hope, here this morning. In the breaking of bread and sharing of the cup, warmed by the fire of each other's presence, help us to recognize our Companion Host. Help us to know that you are never finished with us: in Christ we are ever emerging, dying, and rising, with Him, in faithful resonance with the strange, intimate presence, causing our hearts to burn with the hope that the best is yet to come.

**"Blest Be the Tie that Binds"** - Doug

**BENEDICTION** - Rich

We go nowhere by accident. Wherever we go, God is sending us. Wherever we are, God has put us there. God has a purpose in our being there. Christ who dwells within us has something he wants to do through us where we are. Believe this, trust this, and go in God's grace and love and power. Amen

### **TIME OF FELLOWSHIP**