

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
Melissa Griffin - Trumpeter
Sixth Sunday of Easter - Ascension
May 17, 2020

"Kind hearts are the garden. Kind thoughts are the roots. Kind words are the flowers. Kind deeds are the fruit!"

By Henry Wadsworth Longfellow. (contributed by Cyndie)

OPENING FANFARE - Melissa Griffin on trumpet

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP:

Anita: Come together expecting great things.

Pat: We wait for the promises of God.

Anita: In God's time the Holy Spirit will come to you.

Pat: We will be empowered as faithful witnesses.

Anita: The Risen Christ has ascended to God,

Pat: yet through the Spirit is available to every heart.

HYMN "Hail the Day That Sees Him Rise"

(Everyone will be muted except for Sandy who will play two verses, so you can sing along or just listen.)

Hail the day that sees Him rise, Al-le-lu-ia!
To His throne above the skies; Al-le-lu-ia!
Christ, the Lamb for sinners giv'n, Al-le-lu-ia!
Enters now the highest heav'n. Al-le-lu-ia!

Lord, beyond our mortal sight, Al-le-lu-ia!
Raise our hearts to reach Thy height, Al-le-lu-ia!
There Thy face unclouded see, Al-le-lu-ia!
Find our heav'n of heav'ns in Thee! Al-le-lu-ia!

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION - Rich

It is spring, dear God, and something stirs in us, reaching, stretching, groping for words, peeking through our defenses, beckoning in our laughter, riding on past our fears, pulsing in our music. And there is mystery and the smile of it. Be with us in our reaching, so that we will touch or be touched, this time, by a grace, a warmth, a light, to unfold our lives to new beginnings, fresh buddings, a spring within us, as well as

around us. Dear God, you are the source of the power of spring in nature and in our lives; be with us in our unfolding. Amen

FIRST SCRIPTURE - Cyndie Luke 24: 44-53

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 - Cyndie "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 - Floyd Acts 1: 1-11

MESSAGE "A Time for Ascending!" – Rich Fournier

MUSICAL SELECTION - Jody Scalise "Hearts Like Jesus"

BENEDICTION

"God Be with You 'til We Meet Again" - Doug

TIME OF FELLOWSHIP