

# FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF BUCKLAND

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Church Phone: 625-9440 Pastor's Phone: (413) 634-5451

Rev. Richard T. Fournier, Pastor

Daphne Bye - Guest Pianist

**May 1, 2022 - Easter 3**

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*"Properly understood, the church is not an institution.  
It is the community of Jesus' followers on earth - men,  
women, and children - filled with God's spirit, living in  
communion with Him, one another, and the world."*

*Skye Jethani*

## PRELUDE

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

**INTROIT** "Alleluia, Alleluia! Give Thanks" - D. Fisher

## CALL TO WORSHIP:

Pastor: God of the past who has mothered and fathered us,

**People: WE ARE HERE TO THANK YOU.**

Pastor: God of the future who is always ahead of us,

**People: WE ARE HERE TO TRUST YOU.**

Pastor: God of the present, here in the midst of us,

**People: WE ARE HERE TO PRAISE YOU.**

Pastor: God of life beyond us and within us,

**People: WE REJOICE IN YOUR GLORIOUS LOVE. Amen**

**\*HYMN** "Come, Ye Faithful, Raise the Strain" No. 164

## \*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

God of power and presence, as we are in midlife (at least), you are the midwife of our lives, always drawing us on to be born again, encouraging, exhorting, calming, containing even death. You pull us kicking into life, breathe Spirit into us. We thank you for the gift in our breath, the love that we make, the hope that we cherish, the grace that encompasses our darkest days. In smallness and splendor, in storm and in serenity, we celebrate your care and

creativity. We rest in you as trustingly as any baby and the promise of new life in the Risen Christ. Amen

**\*GLORIA PATRI** "Glory Be to the Father" No. 575

**FIRST SCRIPTURE** John 21: 1-19 (blk 879-880, red 883-884)

**CHOIR ANTHEM** "Down By the Riverside" - Traditional Spiritual

## 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** "O Lord, Hear My Prayer"

**OFFERTORY** "Love Has Made Us One" - Karen Crane

**\*DOXOLOGY AND PRAYER OF DEDICATION** "Praise God from Whom All Blessings" No. 572

**SECOND SCRIPTURE** Acts 4: 32-37 (blk 884, red 888)

**MESSAGE** "Community and Communion" - Rich Fournier

**\*COMMUNION HYMN** "Let Us Break Bread Together" No. 213

## COMMUNION

## UNISON PRAYER AFTER COMMUNION:

As you have been fed at this table, remember the hungry. As you have been set free, go and set free others who are mired in unhelpful ways. As you have received, give. As you have heard,

proclaim. And the blessing you have received from God, Son, and Holy Spirit be always with you. Amen

**\*FORM A CIRCLE AROUND THE CHURCH**

**\*CONGREGATIONAL SONG** "Blest Be the Tie That Binds" No. 207

**\*PASS THE BLESSING AROUND - BENEDICTION**

**\*POSTLUDE**

\*=All who are able, are invited to stand.

Announcements

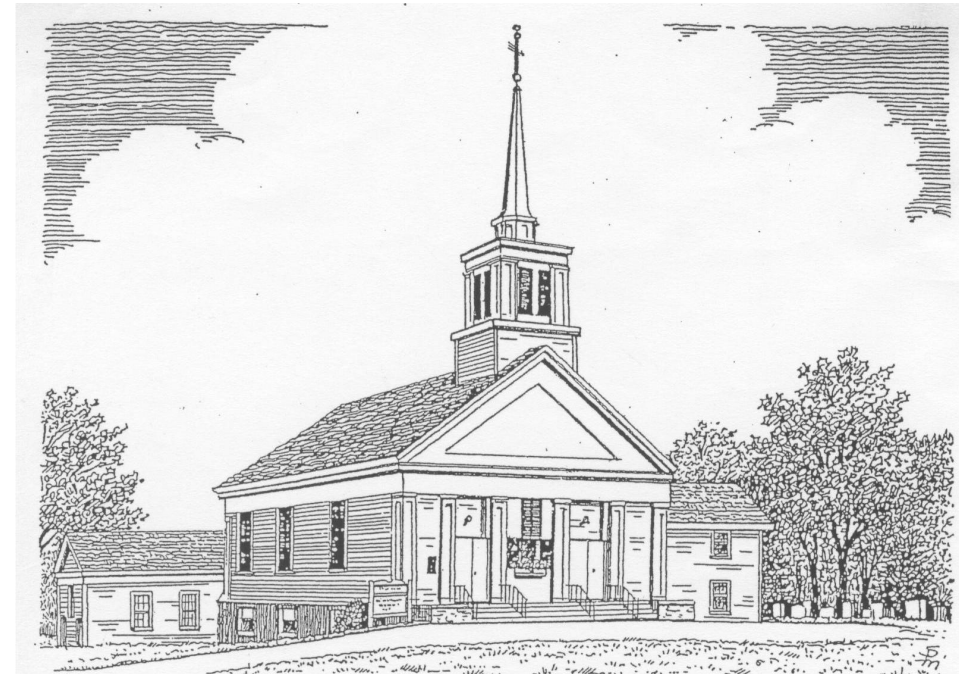
We are very grateful to Daphne Bye for being here with us this morning to accompany the choir and enhance our worship service with her skillful piano playing. Thank you, Daphne, for taking the time to share your musical gifts and talents with us this morning.

Anyone who feels comfortable joining in for a time of fellowship and light refreshments is welcome to come downstairs for coffee hour following the Worship Service this morning.

Next Sunday, May 8th is Blanket Sunday. We will have a special collection to support Church World Services in the effort to help people in need. Money collected will purchase blankets for people in crisis due to natural disasters or homelessness. The blankets can be used as bedding, ponchos, or shelter.

For the month of May we are collecting canned fruits and vegetables for the Hilltown Food Pantry.

Anita Upright is in charge of flowers for Sunday Morning Worship for the month of May. Anyone wishing to contribute flowers any Sunday in May please call Anita at 413-625-6481 or email her at [CandAupright@hotmail.com](mailto:CandAupright@hotmail.com)



# Mary Lyon Church

First Congregational Church of Buckland

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