



Welcome to Worship

**First Congregational
United Church of Christ**
Menomonie, Wisconsin

Third Sunday of Easter
April 14, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude/Candle Lighting

“Musette”
(J.S. Bach)

Oxana Khramova

Ringing of the Bells

Call to Worship

Leader: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

Leader: Come and see the love God has given to us.

All: We come to see what it means to be children of God.

Leader: Come with this hope—that Christ’s presence is real.

All: We come with joy to experience the presence of God.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

God of new life, you raised Jesus—scars and all. When we emerge from the depths, when we come back from great loss, when we heal from grave injuries, our lives are marked by what we have survived. Our scars carry the stories of our wounds and our healing. They testify to our capacity for recovery. They bear witness that survival and renewal are possible. Thank you for the gift of new life, which restores us to connection, nourishment, and possibility. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

“We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”

Hymnal #399

Readings

Leah Langby

Psalm 4

Luke 24:36b-48

from “In the Lectionary: Easter 3B” by Josh Scott

Anthem

“Christ Has No Body Now but You”
(music: David Ogden; text: Teresa of Avila)

Chancel Choir with
Dean Langby, cello

Sermon

The Truth in the Scars

Rev. Kathleen Remund

Transitional Music "Come, Follow Me/Jesus Once of Humble Birth" Oxana Khramova
(S. McBurney and G. Meyerbeer, Arr. A. Conrad)

Prayers of the People

Lord's Prayer

Our Father/Mother/Creator, 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.

Offertory "Tarantella" Levi Freeman
(W.H. Squire)

***Doxology**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God all creatures here below;
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***Prayer of Dedication (in unison)**

Lover of us all, we offer these gifts in gratitude for all we have received. You give us abundant life. You heal and renew us. In gratitude for your gifts, we offer our lives to you. Receive our time, skills, money, and love as our witness to the new life you offer to the world. Amen.

***Closing Hymn** "I've Got Peace Like a River" Hymnal #368

***Benediction**

Leader: In this Easter season, may God raise you from death to life and from brokenness to wholeness; may Christ Jesus cast out your fear and doubt; and may the Holy Spirit give you joy.

All: Amen.

***Sung Benediction (unison)**

**God be with you till we meet again;
By their counsels guide, uphold you;
With their sheep securely fold you;
God be with you till we meet again.**

Postlude "Come, Follow Me/Jesus Once of Humble Birth" Oxana Khramova
(S. McBurney and G. Meyerbeer, arr. A. Conrad)

The flowers today are in celebration of all April birthdays from Susan and Pinckney Hall.

Credits

- The Call to Worship was adapted from one published in *The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009*, © 2008 Abingdon Press, and posted on the *Worship Elements* page of the Ministry Matters website. Re-posted at <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/>.
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This Week:

Today, April 14, 11:30 am: Council meeting & lunch, Fellowship Hall

Tuesday, April 16, 6:00 pm: ONA meeting, Room One

Wednesday, April 17, 12:30 pm : Women's Fellowship, Parlor

Saturday, April 20 1:30 pm: "Conversations" (Rich Nagler presenting), Fellowship Hall

Announcements:

As most of you know by now, our project regarding leasing space to UW Stout is no longer an option. Therefore, the leaders from UW-Stout *will not* be presenting plans on April 21st after worship, as hoped. Instead, our own task force comprised of Barb Flom, Lee Theorin, and Jeanne Rothaupt, will be available for conversation about their process and the problems encountered a couple of weeks ago. Feel free to ask questions and hear from this gracious and hardworking team.

Mission Statement of First Congregational United Church of Christ in Menomonie, WI

We are called together:

To celebrate God's presence.

To help each person to grow in his or her relationship with God;

To create a welcoming and supportive community of all God's people, affirming the diversity of race, gender, age, sexual orientation, gender expression, and identity, social and economic status, and the differently abled;

To observe and share life's passages and our faith traditions;

To reach out in love seeking justice and peace;

And to tell the old story of Jesus and His love.

Land Acknowledgement

Here we congregate on Ojibwe, Dakota, Menominee, Potawatomi, and Ho Chunk land. Generations of Indigenous people occupied and provided careful stewardship of this land long before Europeans arrived on these shores. The traumatic dispossession of this land by European immigrants and the displacement of countless individuals produced collective suffering that has repercussions for our Indigenous neighbors today. The original inhabitants of this land—known to some Indigenous peoples as Turtle Island—took seriously the Creator's call to be stewards of air, land, water, and creatures. With gratitude, we acknowledge the lessons we continue to learn from our Indigenous neighbors as we seek to be good stewards and pray for guidance in learning how to make reparations.

399 We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight

DUNLAP'S CREEK CM

Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

Samuel McFarland, c. 1816
Harm. Richard Proulx, 1986


1. We walk by faith and not by sight; No
2. We may not touch His hands and side, Nor
3. Help then, O Lord, our un - be - lief; And
4. That, when our life of faith is done, In

gra - cious words we hear From Christ, who spoke as
fol - low where He trod; But in His prom - ise
may our faith a - bound To call on You when
realms of clear - er light We may be - hold You

none e'er spoke; But we be - lieve Him near.
we re - joice, And cry, "My Lord and God!"
You are near And seek where You are found:
as You are, With full and end - less sight.

I've Got Peace Like a River

368

African-American spiritual

7.7.11

African-American spiritual

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1
riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in - a my
foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain in - a my
o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in - a my

2
soul. I've got riv - er in - a my soul.
soul. I've got foun-tain in - a my soul.
soul. I've got o - cean in - a my soul.