

***Prayer of Invocation**

God of the resurrection, we gather this morning as a community of believers. We come with joy to greet one another and to tell again and again the amazing news that Christ is risen! Love is victorious over death! You have given us new life in the name of your Son! May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming be a testimony to the power of your love to make us a new creation as a community of faith. We pray in the name of the risen Christ. Amen.

A Prayer for Transformation

Holy Love, in every ending, there is a beginning. In the same way, beginnings signal an end. May the promise of new life enable us to end the things that do not serve us, to end the attitudes that do not honor you, and to end the ways in which we are complacent and complicit in the world. Empower us to leave those things in the tomb and follow your path. Jesus, as you demonstrated this path, keep us on the road of abundant and transformed life as revived participants in your resurrected body. Grant us grace when the realities of life overwhelm, threaten to consume us, and mire us in the past. For the newness of life, we pray, have mercy on us, Holy One. Amen.

Words of Assurance

***Hymn**

“The Day of Resurrection”

PH #192

Children’s Moment

The New Testament Reading

Acts 10:34-43

Steve Brosnihan

Then Peter began to speak to them: “I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in anyone who fears God and practices righteousness is acceptable to our Lord. You know the message God sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. He was put to death by hanging him on a tree, but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name.”

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!

The New Testament Reading

John 20:1-18

Steve Brosnihan

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, “They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.” Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in.

Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus's head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed, for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead.

Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb, and she saw two angels in white sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not touch me, because I have not yet ascended to Abba Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord," and she told them that he had said these things to her.

Reader: For the Word of God in Scripture,
for the Word of God among us,
for the Word of God within us

ALL: THANKS BE TO GOD!

***Hymn**

"Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

PH #188

(Prayer card requests will be collected by the Deacons during this hymn.)

Message

"In Light and Love We Gather"

Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup

Sharing our Joy and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Our 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. And 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

*Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
send us love, send us power, send us grace.*

Offertory Invitation

Offertory

"I Will Serve the Lord All My Days"

N. Price, D. Besig

***The Doxology PH #515**

Old Hundredth

**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**

**God of great gifts, this morning we give you praise, we give you glory, we give you thanks!
With resurrection humming in our hearts, our minds are tuned to your song of peace! We
joyfully present these gifts to you, a tangible chorus of thanksgiving, a harmony of hope for
your kingdom come! Amen.**

***Hymn**

“Morning Has Broken”

PH #38

Holy Communion

All are welcome at Christ’s table. Members, guests, first-timers, long-timers, baptized or not, all who desire to know and share the love of God. We receive communion by intinction, coming forward to take bread and dipping it in the cup before returning to our seats. *Note: There is a gluten-free option for those who desire it. Grape juice is traditionally served as the fruit of the vine.*

Invitation to Communion

Words of Institution

Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

One: O Lord Jesus Christ, you conquered death and rose from the dead and are alive for evermore. Help us never to forget your loving presence with us.

Many: **Help us to remember that you are with us in every time of perplexity to guide and to direct us,**

One: that you are with us in every time of sorrow to comfort and counsel us,

Many: **that you are with us in every time of temptation to strengthen and to inspire us,**

One: that you are with us in every time of loneliness to cheer and befriend us,

Many: **that you are with us even in death to bring us to the glory on the other side.**

All: **We ask this for your love’s sake. Amen.**

***Closing Hymn**

“Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

PH #182

***Benediction**

***Benediction Response**

Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja. Halle, halle, halleluja. Halleluja. Halleluja.

Carrying the Light of Christ into the World

Postlude

“Hungarian Dance”

Brahms

~ Leading Worship today is the Rev. Dr. Nancy Hamlin Soukup ~

~ Our Music Director and Organist is Zabinski ~

~ Our lay liturgist today is Steve Brosnihan ~

~ Our greeters today are Janine Beausoleil, Eleanor Ingraham & Clifford Gustafson ~

Thanks to our Musicians

Horn Players

Bennett Burnham

Paul Temple

Ryan Caromile
J. Brad Hanson
Woodwind
Amy Halt, flute

*Today, our Hospitality team is taking a well-deserved Sunday off.
Thus, we will not have a fellowship time following this service.
Coffee Hour will return next week.*

NCH = New Century Hymnal (black hymnal) and PH = Pilgrim Hymnal (red hymnal)

Sources and Credits: Hymn tune names - as well as composers of the music and authors of the text - are listed in the hymnals with each hymn. CCLI License #1958911 #3066590 CCSD924 and One License.Net #A-728124. CVLI #505517348

Sources for this service were written by or adapted from the following: The Abingdon Worship Annual 2009, © 2008 Abingdon Press, *Worship Elements in Ministry Matters*, <http://www.ministrymatters.com/>; John Birch, <http://www.faihandworship.com/>, [https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Maundy Thursday](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Maundy%20Thursday); Ann Siddall, in *Lent to Easter liturgies: Year C*, <http://stillpoint.unitingchurchsa.org.au/>; Carol Penner, *Leading in Worship*, <http://carolpenner.typepad.com/>, Johnny Baker, <http://jonnybaker.blogs.com/jonnybaker/2013/10/your-grace-is-enough.html>, [https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Maundy Thursday](https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Maundy%20Thursday); *Love is... An Intergenerational Worship Resource for Easter*, Uniting Church SA, <http://mrn.sa.uca.org.au/>, re: *Worship: Easter Prayer*, and Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, *They Left The Tomb: Service Prayers for Resurrection Sunday Year A*, *Worship Ways*, United Church of Christ, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/resurrection-sunday-a-april-5/>.

Easter Flowers

In Loving Memory of

Les Cory
Debbie Wiacek
Mom
Dr. & Mrs. E. Stuart Braden
Mr. & Mrs. George Temple
Mom, Dad & Dirk
Joseph & Rosalie Locastro
James & Alice Ellis
Tim & Alice Pansa
Family & Friends of the Donovans
Susan Ellman
John Satti
My Parents and In-laws
Abner & Mildred Glass
Lester & Margaret Grant
Lucille Angell & Roy Jr. Soukup

Given By

Dyan Vaughan
Ed Wiacek
Matt, Steve & Family
The Temple
The Temple
Maryellen Castro
Tom & Camille Pansa
Tom & Camille Pansa
Tom & Camille Pansa
Susan & Glenn Donovan
Sandra Patterson
Karen Satti
Karen Satti
Ron & Sug Grant
Ron & Sug Grant
Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup

In Loving Memory of

Ronald Blackburn
Rev. Dr. Dcn. Ricky L. Brightman
Ralph McLean Angell, Jr.
Grace Wilson
Dr. Augustine & Ann Ramos
Marina Schmeckebier
Robert & Wilhelmina Fisher
Robert & June Wilson
Betsy Marshall
Herbert & Marjorie Burnham
Sybil Anderson

Given By

Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup
Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup
Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup
Lynne & Chuck Ramos
Lynne & Chuck Ramos
Fisher Family
Fisher Family
Charlotte & Bennett Burnham
Charlotte & Bennett Burnham
Charlotte & Bennett Burnham
Charlotte & Bennett Burnham

In Honor of

Lucy June Denmark
The Congregation

Given By

Rev. Nancy Hamlin Soukup

2026



For those in need of healing on our prayer list:

Pat Cory, who is recovering at rehab from a recent illness and for her family and all who are supporting her

Bob Wilson, who is recovering from a recent illness and for his family and all who are supporting him

Barbara, as she travels

Dana Corbett, healing and happiness as she returns home from cancer treatment

Tara, Steve Aveson's daughter-in-law who has been newly diagnosed with cancer

Charlotte Burnham's brother and for his improved health

Stephen, the nephew of one of our members, and for his recovery

Juan Morales

Tony Morettini

Betty Soukup Blackburn and Patrick McLean Blackburn
 Angel Rose, a local teenager who is in the hospital after neurosurgery and for her family
 Bill Walsh, who is at the VA Hospital
 Tommy, who is dealing with a degenerative muscular disorder
 Sally Evans
 Kathy Conoway, Sug Grant's niece, who has Stage 4 Breast Cancer, which had been
 in remission but has probably reoccurred
 Kathy, Jen Johnson's cousin, and for Jen's Uncle Paul as he tries to care for Kathy
 Kristen, calling on all available angels to gather around Kristen as she undergoes extensive
 chemotherapy treatments with a minimum of pain and discomfort
 Camille Pansa
 Sarah, Celeste's niece, who is nine years old and is waiting for a liver transplant
 Steve, Amanda, and Elliana Wiacek, Ed Wiacek's son and family, who are in Manila, Philippines.
 Nick Chaccone, for recovery
 Ryan Higgins, Lilly Kilvert's son-in-law, who has Leukemia
 A beloved son, who is suffering from Leukemia
 Marty Costianes
 Renee that she may find resolutions to issues pressing in on her
 Claudia and her family, as she enters hospice
 Scott, Brenda, and Cameron, who need divine guidance and strength to follow
 God's path for them
 Max, for healing and freedom, and for his Mom
 Robin Vestal, who has Stage 4 Duodenal Cancer, and her husband Ulysses, who are friends
 of the Grant family
 Rusty, who has Lung Cancer
 Ellie's Dad, who she misses
 Carol, Karen's cousin, who had brain surgery
 Ken Latham in Leicester, MA, who is on chemotherapy for Non-Hodgkins Lymphoma
 Harriet
 Ryan
 Mark E., who has an aggressive form of prostate cancer
 Fred Davis, who has stomach cancer
 Meriel Smith
 Charlotte Griffith
 Kellie and Juan Morales's daughter
 Bruce C., who is in rehab, and Pat P., both friends of Ed Wiacek

Upcoming Birthdays:

Brittany Cordeiro 04/07	Avery Walsh 04/07	Tekla Bailey 04/08
Jennifer Mowbray 04/09	Teddy Brosnihan 04/11	Doug Harrington 04/11
Alan Berry 04/16	Kathryn Anderson 04/18	Lindsey Harrington 04/020
Chuck Ramos 04/23	Caroline Bailey 04/23	Shawn Bailey 04/24
Bowne Drawbridge 04/25	Joanne Rotondo 04/26	Reinhard Battcher 3 rd 04/29
Ellie Donovan 04/29	Leah Dieterich 04/30	

What's on the Church Calendar

April 06, 2026	Monday Juniper Hill Cemetery Board Meeting 7pm (DeWolf Room)
April 07, 2026	Tuesday Prayer Shawl Circle 6:30pm (Guiteras House)
April 08, 2026	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
April 09, 2026	Thursday Deacon Meeting 7pm (Guiteras House)
April 11, 2026	Saturday Stone Church Coffee House 7pm (DeWolf Room)
April 12, 2026	Sunday Worship 10:00am
April 14, 2026	Tuesday Facility Meeting 7pm (DeWolf Room)
April 15, 2026	Partners for Sacred Places and First Congregational Church Community Forum 3:00-6:00pm (DeWolf Room)
April 15, 2026	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
April 17, 2026	Friday Trivia Night 7pm (DeWolf Room)
April 19, 2026	Sunday Worship 10:00am
April 21, 2026	Tuesday Church Council Meeting 6:30pm (DeWolf Room)
April 22, 2026	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)
April 23, 2026	Thursday Christian Education Meeting (Zoom)
April 25, 2026	Saturday Stone Church Coffee House 7:00pm (DeWolf Room)
April 26, 2026	Sunday Worship 10:00am
April 29, 2026	Wednesday FCC Choir Rehearsal 7:00pm (Dimond Room)

Please visit our website for more information about the Church
And Events go to **fccbristol.org**



Church Office Hours are Tuesday – Friday 9:00am – 2:00pm

Office e-mail address: office@FCCBristol.org

Pastoral Office Hours

You may also schedule an appointment by contacting Rev. Nancy.
Church office line 401/253-7288 or e-mail office@FCCbristol.org

“Invitation to Share Time, Talent, and Treasure”

When you give to First Congregational Church, you make possible our ministries that serve all God’s people. Your gifts share the love of Jesus all year long. The act of giving is our personal expression of worship and also keeps our church financially healthy. Stewardship is not payment for services rendered. It is an act of faith and devotion to God. You may go to the following link to give now: <https://fccbristol.org/support-us/>.



KEEP THOSE RECIEPTS COMING

A Community Partners Program with Clements Marketplace



Please save those Clements' receipts and join with us in their Community Partners Program to benefit First Congregational Church! Please.

Where do I drop off my receipts? At First Congregational Church in an envelope marked receipts that is pinned to the bulletin boards in the in the Narthex (the entrance of the church).

Bristol's Stone Church Coffeehouse Presents

The Great Folk-Rock Festival Featuring Gathering Time

Performing songs by The Eagles, Bob Dylan, Simon & Garfunkel, Joni Mitchell, Buffalo Springfield, The Youngbloods, the Grateful Dead, Janice Jau and many more



Gerry McKeown

Christine Sweeney

Stuart Markus

Saturday, April 11, 2026

Doors open at 6:45pm

Music starts at 7:30pm

First Congregational Church

300 High Street

(Corner of Bradford and High St)

Bristol, RI 02809

Tickets are \$25.00; Students are Half Price; Children 5 and Under are Free Seating is Limited and Early Reservations are Recommended. Please Call 401-253-4813 for reservations or ticket information.



Discover the Excitement
BRISTOL'S STONE CHURCH COFFEEHOUSE
Live Acoustic Music Since 2007



First Congregational Church at 300 High St. Bristol, RI

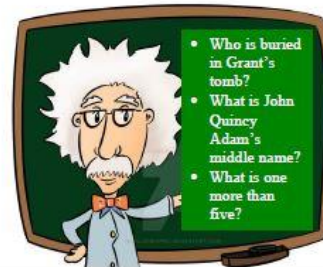
Team Trivia Night

Friday, April 17, 2026 @ 7PM

Ask Friends and Family and Come Join the Fun
Up to 8 Per Team

- Up to 8 per Team
- No Charge
- Bring Snacks and a Beverage
- Light Refreshments and Snacks will be available
- Prizes for the Top Finishers
- Call (401) 253-4813 to pre-register

your team or send an email to dubordrjd@cox.net



- Who is buried in Grant's tomb?
- What is John Quincy Adam's middle name?
- What is one more than five?

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