

Easter Sunday

Congregational responses are in bold,

• means "please rise in body or spirit."

April 20, 2025 | Order of Worship

Prelude

Oren Varess (they/them)

Easter Beings When it is Still Dark

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (she/her)

Call to Worship

One: Christ is risen!

Many: Christ is risen, indeed. Alleluia!

Children: Love wins!

One: They rolled away the tombstone,

Many: the tomb was empty. Alleluia!

Children: Love wins!

One: The angels appeared to the women,

Many: and told them he is not here, he is risen! Alleluia!

Children: Love wins!

One: Light conquers shadows, joy is stronger than fear,

Many: even death cannot dash out love. Alleluia!

All: Love wins!

•Hymn

Christ the Lord is Risen Today

No. 233 in the Black hymnal

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Anthem

Alive! Jesus Christ is Risen Today

Jerry Emerson on trumpet; Wendi Porter Bailey on alto saxophone; First Church Senior Choir

Celebration of Gratitude

"If the only prayer you said was thank you, that would be enough." -Meister Eckhart

As we name the abundant blessings of our lives (anniversaries, birthdays, clean-and-sober milestones, and many more!), we offer a gratitude gift in any amount, so that the blessings we have received from God may be multiplied and shared with all who long to experience God's extravagant welcome in this church and beyond.

We Sound the Bell

A Message for all Children of God

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

Go now in peace, go now in peace
May the love of God surround you!
Everywhere, everywhere you may go

Children in kindergarten and younger are invited to go downstairs with our children’s ministry leaders, Jess and Edna, if they would like. Other children are warmly welcome to remain in the sanctuary as we have no formal Sunday School offered today.

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by Deacon Theresa Hammond (she/her)

Reader: Friends, hear what the Spirit is saying to the church today.

- John 20:1-18

Inclusive Bible Translation

Reader: This is the story of life for the people of God.

All: Thanks be to God

Sermon

The Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (she/her)

•Hymn

Halleluja
No.236 in the Black hymnal

Prayers of the People

The 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 sins as we forgive those who have sinned against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power and the glory forever. Amen.

An Offering of Love and Promise

Deacon Theresa Hammond (she/her)

Offertory Music

Gloria | Antonio Vivaldi
First Church Senior Choir

•Words of Thanksgiving

Praise God, from whom blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God for all that Love has done;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Loving and Holy God, we ask that You would pour out Your blessing on this offering today.
Guide us in Your way and use these gifts to make our church and our world even more:
We call out words like “joyful, kind, just” to bless our church and world

Hallelujah Chorus

*All are invited to join the choir to sing Handel's Hallelujah Chorus! We have extra scores to share with you
and your song will be a gift to all of us this Easter Day*

Benediction

Hallelujah Chorus from "Messiah" | G.F. Handel
First Church Senior Choir

Postlude

Oren Varess (they/them)

Service Credits:

Service written by the Rev. Emily C. Goodnow

First Church Ministry Leaders

Ministers

All of Us

Senior Pastor

Rev. Emily C. Goodnow (*she/her*)

Minister for Intergenerational Innovation

Pastor Spencer Law (*he/him*)

C.E. Coordinator

Sandy Wissmann (*she/her*)

Music Director

Deborah Owen (*she/her*)

Organist & Pianist

Oren Varess (*they/them*)

Youth Choir Director

Cassie Cooper-Ricci (*they/them*)

Office Manager

Kylie Morel (*she/her*)

Co-Moderators

Rosemary Wiser (*she/her*)

Marita Wiser (*she/her*)

Treasurer - Asst. Treasurer

Peter Clark (*he/him*)

Gail McBride (*she/her*)

Trustee of the Week

Dave Welbourn (*he/him*)

Deacon of the Week

Theresa Hammond (*she/her*)

Greeters-Hospitality

Lelise McAllister, Price Hutchins,

Ann Melious

Childcare Leaders

Edna & Jessica Engstrom

Announcements

THANK YOU THANK YOU - Missions

From your generous spirits, missions is able to send almost \$400 to One Great Hour of Sharing. As always, this church is amazing. In peace and with love, your Missions committee.

Save the Date for Vacation Bible Camp! June 16-20

We would like to invite your children and teens to join us for this year's Vacation Bible Camp. We will focus on the amazing life of Moses and conservation of our wetlands.

The days will be fun-filled where the children and staff enjoy games, arts and science, delicious snacks and music. The camp is open to all children ages 3 (as of last September) through the fourth grade. Youth who have finished the 5th grade may apply to be Jr. counselors. Youth sixth grade and above may volunteer as camp counselors. Please register online by June 1.

We need full-time volunteers (Monday through Friday from 8:30 am -12:15 pm), once-a-week volunteers, decoration makers, and actors (to help with a few skits). There will be a VBC staff meeting on June 14th at 9 am. Please contact Sandy if you would love to spend a wonderful week volunteering with our fantastic children, youth, and congregation!

Celebrating our Graduates!

Graduation season is quickly approaching! We are planning to celebrate all our recent graduates on Sunday, June 8th. If you know a recent graduate who you'd like to be celebrated, please send our office manager the following details:

- Name of graduate
- Relation to church members
- Where they are graduating from
- A photo.

Foster Care Info. Session, June 8th

There will be a Foster care information session Sunday, June 8 at 12:30pm for anyone who'd like to learn more about the foster care crisis in Maine. Come if you're considering becoming a foster parent, and come even if you're sure you can't foster just now but might offer support (rides, meals, babysitting) to a family in our church who welcomes a foster child. All are welcome. For more information contact Pastor Emily or visit <https://afamilyformemaine.org/>.

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Mon-Fri
33 S. High St., Bridgton ME 04009 | 647-3936
bridgtonucc.org | office@bridgtonucc.org

Easter flowers given by:

 **Hal & Kathy Bartke**

In memory of Loved Ones

 **Dale Brown**

In memory of husband & grandson

 **A Church Member**

In memory of Karen Calcagno

In memory of Jean Kerr

In memory of Alice Statter

 **Madison Cordwell**

In memory of my best friend Leo Croteau

In memory of my Great Grandmother Pauline Robinson

 **Mary R Davis**

In memory of Lindsay Marie Davis

 **Peg Douglass**

In memory of Phil and Carin

 **Cindy Fontana**

In memory of my mom, Joy Wolff

 **Marcia Harris**

In memory of my parents

 **Dodie Henning**

In memory of Carl Henning and Our Parents

 **Kim Howlett-Phillips**

In memory of our parents

In memory Michael Trenton Phillips

 **Pam King**

In memory of Louise King and Loved Ones

 **Margaret Lindsey**

In memory of Dotti and Andy Sanborn

In memory of Cathy and Bob Lindsey

Easter flowers given by:



Martha Livingston

In memory of Stephen Tracy Livingston, First Church Pastor (1906-1919)



The McBride Family

In honor of Our Families



Marilyn McGoldrick

In memory of Family who have passed



Kylie Morel

In memory of Cindy & Danney Morel



Eleanor Nicholson

In memory of JoAnne Diller



The Oberg Family

In memory of Loved Ones



Judy Ottley

In memory of Linda Dolloff



Keely Smith

In loving memory of my son Mason



Martha Spencer

In memory of Loves Ones



Mary Stinchfield

In memory of Brian Cushing



Marcia Uhl

In memory of Robert and Doris Uhl



Nancy Watson

In memory of Loved Ones



The Wiser Family

In memory of Sig and Judy von Sicard

Save the Date Events at First Church



- **May 11th, Children's Sunday;** Our wonderful children lead worship! The children will participate in every aspect of the worship service
- **May 24th, First Church Yard Sale;** Join us at the Chalmers Barn on Highland Rd for our annual yard sale!
- **May 24th, Music on Main;** Our teens volunteer and face paint during the Music on Main event!
- **May 31st - June 1st, Diving Deep Grant Orientation Weekend;** Learn more about our grant, the various projects related to it, and how all of this connects to our church's history of innovative, intergenerational ministry (or if you're just looking for a couple of free lunches), you're invited to our Diving Deep Grant Orientation Weekend on Saturday, May 31 and Sunday, June 1. Dave Csinos will join us as we dive into these ideas from his book and our grant, make music together, and break bread around the lunch table and communion table.
- **June 8th, Graduate Sunday;** Graduation season is quickly approaching! We are planning to celebrate all our recent graduates on Sunday, June 8th.
- **June 15th, Music Appreciation Sunday & Youth Choir Performance;** We give thanks to our choir, instrumentalists, soloists and Music Director for all the wonderful music throughout the year!
- **June 16th - 20th, Vacation Bible Camp;** Kiddos aged 3-4th grade join us from 9 am - 12 pm for a week full of fun games, learning, and more! This years theme is 'Down by the Bayou'!
- **June 22nd New Members Gathering;** Do you love it here? Are you interested in learning more about our church family? All are welcome to join us for a New Members Gathering after worship on June 22nd!
- **June 29th New Members Join Church;** We welcome our new church members into the church family! We present them with gifts, make promises to each other, and blow bubbles to spread the happiness!