



## Fourth Sunday in Eastertide Children's Sunday

Congregational responses are in bold,  
• means "please rise in body or spirit."  
May 11, 2025 | Order of Worship

**Prelude** *Oren Varess (they/them)*

**Welcome** *Emjae Wilcher (she/her) & Audri Wilcher (she/her)*

**Special Welcome Music** Hello Song | Insert

**Call to Worship** *Written & Led by Sophia Berry (she/her)*

Joyful God sing with us in celebration

**Dance with us in flowers**

Help us treasure every voice

**And proclaim our love to everyone**

Embrace those who are suffering

**Let us be a balm**

Cry out to springtime

**We are ready to listen**

**We are ready to know**

**•Hymn** *Halleluja*

*No.236 in the Black Hymnal*

### Centering Words

The LORD is my shepherd,  
I lack nothing.

He makes me lie down in green pastures,  
he leads me beside quiet waters,  
he refreshes my soul.

He guides me along the right paths for his name's sake.

Even though I walk through the darkest valley, I will fear no evil,  
for you are with me; your rod and your staff, they comfort me.

You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies.

You anoint my head with oil; my cup overflows.

Surely your goodness and love will follow me all the days of my  
life,

and I will dwell in the house of the LORD forever.

**Anthem** *Rise up Early in the Morning | John A. Ray  
First Church Senior Choir*

## CALENDAR OF EVENTS

### ***This Sunday, May 11***

- Mother's Day
- Worship, 10 am, Children's Sunday — service led by our youngest disciples!
- Snack & Chat, 11:30 am
- Youth Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 am
- Confirmation Class, 12 pm

### ***Tuesday, May 13***

- Jeanette's Closet, 9 am to 11 am
- Tiny Tots Music & Fun, 9 am
- Staff Meeting, 10:30 am
- [Prayer Group on zoom](#), 1:30 pm
- CUKES Rehearsal, 2 pm

### ***Wednesday, May 14***

- Bible Study, 10 am

### ***Thursday, May 15***

- Senior Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm

### ***Friday, May 16***

- Bible Study of Paul's letter to the Philippians, 2 pm

### ***Next Sunday, May 18***

- Worship, 10 am, Pastor Spencer Law preaching
- Snack & Chat, 11:30 am
- Youth Choir Practice, 11:15 am in Parlor
- Deacons' Meeting, 11:30 pm in sanctuary
- Trustees' Meeting, 11:30 pm in CE classroom
- Narcan Training, 11:45 pm in Fellowship Hall

**We Pass the Peace of Christ**

**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**

**Sharing Our Sacred Story**

*Read by Hadley Spekke (she/her)*

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

- Jeremiah 1:4-10 Common English Bible Translation

*A skit portraying Jeremiah’s call*

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

**All: Thanks be to God**

**Sermon**

*A reflection on where we see God*

*Teen Group*

**•Hymn**

*Seek Ye First*

*Insert*

**Prayers of the People**

In our families Lord,

**Help us to love**

In our places of work Lord,

**Help us to love**

In our church Lord,

**Help us to love**

In our neighborhoods Lord,

**Help us to love**

In our places of relaxation Lord,

**Help us to love**

Wherever we meet other people Lord,

**Help us to love**

God who is Love, hear us now as we call out the prayers of our own hearts to You:

*We name our prayers to God, aloud or in our hearts*

## **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**

*The CE Committee*

## **Offertory Music**

**Who is Greatest? | Jon Guerra**  
*Cassie Cooper-Ricci (they/them)*

## **•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*

## **Benediction**

## **Postlude**

*Oren Varess (they/them)*

## **Service Credits:**

*The Call to Worship was written by Sophia Berry and our Prayers of the People written by Jane Hulme  
“Hello, Hello, Hello” written by Laszlo Slomovits in 1988. He is the composer and copyright holder*

## 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

Arch Owen (*he/him*)

### Deacon of the Week

Emjae & Audri Wilcher (*she/her*)

### Greeters-Hospitality

Arch Owen, Martha Clark, Lynn  
Welbourn

### Childcare Leaders

Edna & Jessica Engstrom

## Announcements

With gratitude for the gift of Study Leave, Emily is away May 12-19 at the Festival of Homiletics, a preaching conference she attends annually. Our own Rev. Nancy Foran is on call for pastoral needs during this time - if you find yourself in need of pastoral support, please call Nancy at (207) 650-7845.

### Annual Yard Sale! Saturday, May 24th

Our annual in-person yard sale is on Saturday, May 24th, from 8 am to 12 noon at the "Chalmers Barn," located at 426 Highland Road in Bridgton. If you have any items you would like to donate, please email [yardsale@bridgtonucc.org](mailto:yardsale@bridgtonucc.org)

### Now's the time to register for Pilgrim Lodge!

Check out what's being offered and register for sessions on their website!

- If you would like to support our scholarship fund for campers, we welcome your donations! Please remember to put "Pilgrim Lodge Scholarship" in the memo line.
- If you are in need of a scholarship, please follow these steps:
  - When registering for Pilgrim Lodge, select the least expensive tier, then
  - Consider your needs and ask Pilgrim Lodge for a portion of the funds and ask First Church for a portion of the funds using the links in the weekly email

We will do our best to meet the needs of every camper who wants to go to Pilgrim Lodge this summer!

### Bible Study with Debbie Owen

Joy, unity, and perseverance in faith. Do these sound like themes you'd like to explore with a small group of fellow spiritual travelers? Please consider joining us as we explore Paul's very short letter to the Philippians. Fridays at 2 pm on the following dates: May 9 and 16, June 6 and 13.

### 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.

Church office is open 9 am - 12 pm, Mon-Fri  
33 S. High St., Bridgton ME 04009 | 647-3936  
[bridgtonucc.org](http://bridgtonucc.org) | [office@bridgtonucc.org](mailto:office@bridgtonucc.org)

# Hello Song



Chorus:

Hello, hello, hello!

Hi, hi hi!

Hello, hello, hello!

Hi!



Verse 1:

In France, they say 'Bonjour' (*Bonjour!*)

In Mexico, they say 'Buenos Dias' (*Buenos Dias!*)

In China, they say 'Ni Hao' (*Ni Hao!*)

In India, they say 'Namaste' (*Namaste!*)

Chorus:

Hello, hello, hello!

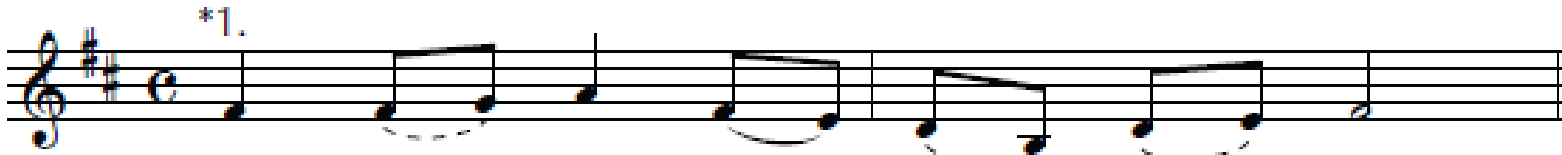
Hi, hi hi!

Hello, hello, hello!

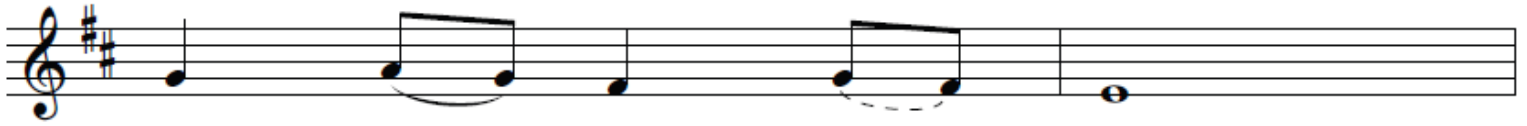
Hi!



# Seek Ye First



1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God  
2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you,



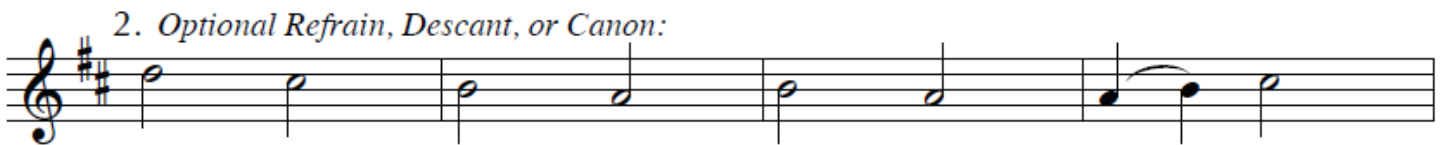
1. and God's right - eous - ness,  
2. seek, and you shall find,



1. and all these things shall be add - ed un - to you  
2. knock, and the door shall be o - pened un - to you



Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia



Al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu - ia



al - le - lu - ia, al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia.