



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield  
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

549 Storrs Rd. P.O. Box 36 Mansfield Center, CT 06250

860.423.9008 + [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)

All the Members, Ministers

Rev. Joseph Blotz, Pastor + Erik Haeger, Organist

Olivia Russell, Worship Circle Coordinator

**THE THIRD SUNDAY OF EASTER + MAY 1, 2022**

**Welcome to Our Guests!**

*We're delighted you have joined us for worship; the members are the ministers of this church...  
if you have any questions, please do not hesitate to ask us!*

**Playing the Chimes and Prelude**

**Greeting and Welcome**

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

**Opening Hymn**

*Alleluia! Sing to Jesus*

CH233

**Confessing our Brokenness and Opening Prayer**

Hear these words from the Acts of the Apostles: Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?" He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

When in this past week have we failed to follow the Way of Jesus?  
When have we failed to hear God's voice?

**God of victory over death, your Son revealed himself again and again, and convinced his followers of his glorious resurrection. Grant that we may know his risen presence, in love obediently feed his sheep, and care for the lambs of his flock, until we join the hosts of heaven in worshiping you and praising him who is worthy of blessing and honor, glory and power, for ever and ever. Amen.**

**Song of Praise**

*Gloria*

Christopher Grundy

Glo - ry to the Cre - a - tor, and the Christ, and the Spir - it so near, as it  
was from the start so it shall be for - ev - er one God, al - ways here.

## Christian Scripture

Revelation 5:11-14

Then I looked, and I heard the voice of many angels surrounding the throne and the living creatures and the elders; they numbered myriads of myriads and thousands of thousands, singing with full voice, "Worthy is the Lamb that was slaughtered to receive power and wealth and wisdom and might and honor and glory and blessing!" Then I heard every creature in heaven and on earth and under the earth and in the sea, and all that is in them, singing, "To the one seated on the throne and to the Lamb be blessing and honor and glory and might forever and ever!" And the four living creatures said, "Amen!" And the elders fell down and worshiped.

## Psalter

Psalm 30

Ron Kenoly

You've turned my mourn - ing in - to dan - cing a - gain, you've lif - ted my sor - row;

5 I can't stay si - lent I must sing, for your joy has come!

I will exalt you, O God, because you have lifted me up

**and have not let my enemies triumph over me.**

O my God, I cried out to you, and you restored me to health.

**You brought me up, O God, from the dead;**

**you restored my life as I was going down to the grave. (response)**

May all your servants sing to you, O God,

and give thanks for the remembrance of your holiness.

**For your wrath endures but the twinkling of an eye, your favor for a lifetime.**

Weeping may spend the night, but joy comes in the morning.

**O God, be my helper."**

You have turned my wailing into dancing;

you have put off my sack-cloth and clothed me with joy.

**Therefore my heart sings to you without ceasing;**

**O my God, I will give you thanks for ever. (response)**

## Gospel

John 21:1-19

After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way. Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples. Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing." They said to him, "We will go with you." They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing. Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to them, "Children, you have no fish, have you?" They answered him, "No." He said to them, "Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish. That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea. But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards off. When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish that you have just caught." So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and

though there were so many, the net was not torn. Jesus said to them, "Come and have breakfast." Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, "Who are you?" because they knew it was the Lord. Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish. This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead. When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my lambs." A second time he said to him, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" He said to him, "Yes, Lord; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Tend my sheep." He said to him the third time, "Simon son of John, do you love me?" Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, "Do you love me?" And he said to him, "Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you." Jesus said to him, "Feed my sheep. Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go." (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, "Follow me."

## Reflection

### Musical Call to Prayer

*Lord Listen to Your Children Praying*

Ken Medema

Lord, li-sten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Lord, send your Spirit in this place.

Lord, lis-ten to your chi - ldren pray - ing. Send us love, send us power, send us grace.

### Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

For the Church: that empowered by the Holy Spirit, we may give convincing witness to the freeing and healing power of the Risen Christ

For our families: that mealtimes spent together may be times of nourishment, healing, reconciliation, and encouragement of one another

For a spirit of openness and acceptance: that we may welcome the stranger and immigrant into our communities and help them to build a new life

For all who earn their living on the seas: that God will protect them from harm and increase the quality and quantity of fish for the good of the human family

For insight and courage: that we may bring the witness of the Gospel to the social and political issues of our day and that the Spirit will give us words to effectively communicate the truth

For Peace: that God will turn hearts from violence, open minds to the pain that it causes, and open new opportunities for dialogue and understanding

*Please pray the Prayer of Jesus in whatever language is most comfortable for you.*

*The following are offered as examples...*

**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/sins/trespasses,  
 as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/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.

**Offering Hymn**

*I Come With Joy*

CH420

*Offerings may be placed in passed plates, mailed to:  
 First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC.*

*Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250, or given online at [www.myfcc.info](http://www.myfcc.info)*

**Doxology**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God all crea - tures here be low; Praise  
 5 God for all that love has done: Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi - rit, One. A - men!

**Prayer of Dedication**

Lord Jesus, you break bread and we recognize you; you are the fire that burns within us. Use us and these gifts to light the world. Amen.

**The Prayer of Great Thanksgiving**

God is with you.  
**And also with you.**  
 Open up your hearts.  
**We open them up to God and one another.**  
 Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
**It is right to give our thanks and praise.**

**Musical Response**

*Santo Santo Santo*

Traditional Argentine

San - to, san - to, san - to. Mi co - ra - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My  
 5 co - ra - zon te sa - be de - cir: San - to eres, Se - nor!  
 heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

## Sharing the Bread and Cup

*All are welcome at Christ's table; we offer non-alcoholic juice and gluten-free bread.*

## Hymn

*Crown Him With Many Crowns*

CH234

## Benediction

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

**Christ in risen indeed! Alleluia!**

May the peace of Christ be with you always!

**And also with you!**

---

## The Week Ahead...

Monday, May 2 10am First Church leads Worship at St Joseph Living Center

Wednesday, May 4 1pm Book Group in Fellowship Hall

Thursday, May 5 9:30am-12noon Sewing and Service in Fellowship Hall

Sunday, May 8 10:15am Worship and Worship Circle