



Fourth Sunday of Lent

Congregational responses are in bold,
• means "please rise in body or spirit."
March 30, 2025 | Order of Worship

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

This Sunday, March 30

- Worship, 10 am, with the Rev. Emily preaching the fourth sermon in our Lent series, *The Stories We Don't Tell*
- Snack & Chat, 11:30 am
- Sermon Talkback, 11:30 am in Sanctuary
- Youth Choir Rehearsal, 11:15 am in Parlor
- Confirmation Class, 12 pm in parlor

Tuesday, April 1

- 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

Wednesday, April 2

- Bible Study, 10 am

Thursday, April 3

- Narcan & AED Training, 10 am
- Missions Meeting, 5:30 pm
- Senior Choir Rehearsal, 7 pm

Friday, April 4

- Bible Study, 2 pm

Next Sunday, April 6

- Back Bay Mission Trip departs!
- Worship, 10 am, with the Rev. Emily preaching the fifth sermon in our Lent series, *The Stories We Don't Tell*
- Snack & Chat Potluck, 11:30 am
- Sermon Talkback, 11:30 am in Sanctuary
- New Members Meeting, 12:30 pm

Prelude

Oren Varess (they/them)

Welcome

Deacon Sharon Libbey (she/her)

Call to Worship

Led by Emjae Wilcher (she/her)

We gather this morning to remember our call:

To do justice, to love kindness, and to walk humbly with God.

We bring with us the events of the week in the world and in our lives,

Trying to know how to be just and loving and humble in the midst of it all.

We gather here, and see those who are doing justice, who are kind beyond measure, who set the example for humility.

With gratitude for living saints, with thankfulness for the purpose of faith, let us worship the God who sees us.

•Hymn

What Does the Lord Require of You | Insert

This week, per request of a church member, we will sing this piece in a round.

Centering Words

Read by Deacon Sharon Libbey (she/her)

from the Iona Abbey Worship Book

God, in whose heart is love and justice,
show us this day whom we must love
and what we should challenge or change
in order that Your will for the earth might be done.

Increase our hope,
dispel our apathy;
inspire our imagination,
and deepen our commitment
until we become the signs of Your kingdom.
Amen.

We Pass the Peace of Christ

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

Anthem

Be Thou My Vision
First Church Senior Choir

Celebration of Gratitude

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

“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

Pastor Spencer Law (he/him)

A Message for all Children of God

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

Sharing Our Sacred Story

Read by JoAnne Kane (she/her)

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

- Genesis 16

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

Praise to the Living God | verses 1, 3, & 4
No.8 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 Sharon Libbey (she/her)

Offertory Music

My Life Flows On in Endless Song | Amanda Udis-Kessler
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

Benediction

Postlude

Oren Varess (they/them)

Service Credits:

Call to worship is written by Beth Merrill Neel on her blog, ‘Hold Fast to What Is Good’. Used with permission. Centering prayer is from the Iona Abbey Worship Book

580 What Does the Lord Require of You?

PART 3

PART 2

PART 1

The musical score is written in 3/4 time with a key signature of two flats (Bb and Eb). It consists of three parts. Part 3 is the highest voice, starting with a rest followed by the lyrics 'To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness'. Part 2 is a middle voice, starting with a half note 'Jus - tice,' followed by a half note 'kind - ness,'. Part 1 is the lowest voice, starting with a half note 'What does the Lord' followed by a half note 're - quire of you?'. Chords are indicated above the staff: Bb, F, Gm, and Dm.

To seek jus - tice and love kind - ness

Jus - tice, kind - ness,

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

The musical score continues with three parts. Part 3 has a half note 'and walk hum - bly' followed by a half note 'with your God.'. Part 2 has a half note 'walk' followed by a half note 'hum - bly with your God.'. Part 1 has a half note 'What does the Lord' followed by a half note 're - quire of you?'. Chords are indicated above the staff: Eb, Bb, Cm, F, and Bb.

and walk hum - bly with your God.

walk hum - bly with your God.

What does the Lord re - quire of you?

Holy Week at First Church



- **April 13th: Palm Sunday;** We wave palms and cry out “Hosanna!” as we turn toward Jerusalem together
- **April 17th: All Ages Soup Meal at 5:30** - more details coming soon. Those who enjoy cooking together are invited to join our teens around 4pm to bake bread for the meal.
- **April 17th: Maundy Thursday Service, 7 pm;** A reflective and contemplative Tenebrae Service of music, readings, and Holy Communion
- **April 18th: Good Friday Service, 12 pm;** a service of scripture, prayer, and music
- **April 20th: Happy Easter!**
 - ***Sunrise Service, 5:40 am;*** We gather at the Knights Hill Beach in the first hours of the day as the sun rises over the water and we proclaim together, “Christ is Risen!”
 - ***All Ages Outdoor Service and Easter Egg Hunt, 9 am;*** Join us on the church lawn (rain or shine!) for a 15 minute child-focused service followed by an Easter Egg Hunt!
 - ***Traditional Easter Service, 10 am in the sanctuary;*** We gather in the sanctuary and online to celebrate resurrection and declare that love wins! Children are warmly welcomed to remain in the sanctuary for the whole worship service (there is no Sunday School at this service, but childcare is available for our youngest disciples age 5 or below)

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

Kevin Murphy (*he/him*)

Deacon of the Week

Sharon Libbey (*she/her*)

Greeters-Hospitality

Glen Jukkola, Peter Oberg, Bob
Wentworth

CE Leaders

Edna & Jessica Engstrom, Logan
Smith, Pastor Spencer Law

Announcements

New Members Gathering April 6th!

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 Sunday, April 6th from 12:30-2:30. Lunch is provided. If you still need some more time, join us at our second New Members Gathering on June 22nd at 2 pm!

Easter Candy Donation Request

We are now accepting candy donations for Easter! All candy needs to be individually wrapped. Candy donations can be left at the church and are needed by April 6.

Interested in Joining our Yard Sale Planning Group?

Over the last several years, our First Church Yard Sale has become more of a "Barn Sale," taking place where we store our items, at the generously-donated Chalmers barn.

We are forming a small group to consider doing an on site yard sale in addition to the barn sale, as a way of bringing the community back to our site for this fundraising event. Are you interested in taking part? Contact Leslie McAllister by April 6th. Thank you!

Supporting One Great Hour of Sharing

Your missions committee is joining with the UCC in supporting this year's One Great Hour of Sharing. The theme of Be the Light Lenten collection is part of our church's 5 for 5 support to the UCC within the Love of Neighbor. This Lenten offering supports the disaster, refugee and development ministries of the UCC. You will find the special collection envelopes in your Sunday bulletin. If writing a check, please put missions and/or OGH in the memo line. You can also donate using the Bridgton UCC online donation site. Our thanks and appreciation to you all. We are an amazing and generous church.

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