

Longswamp United Church of Christ

April 20, 2025 ~ 7:15 am & 10:15 am

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Hospital Code 451

CCLI #2341826

Facebook page: **Longswamp UCC**

Wi-Fi Guest Password: Christ200

Rev. Kimberly Berenotto, Pastor

Ann Mabry Miller, Organist

Ministry Partners: Head Usher, Greeter- Shirley Solt (7:15am), Charlene Rachor (10:15am)

Reader- Willard Miller (7:15am), Theresa Haffner-Stearns (10:15am)

Easter Sunday

**Indicates to rise as you are able in body and spirit.*

MUSIC PREPARES US FOR WORSHIP

"All Now Sing Forth in Praise"

Broughton

"Here He Comes with My Heart"

Phillips

"Easter Song"

Herring

RINGING OF THE CHURCH BELLS

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Leader: We have not seen the risen Christ with our eyes.

People: But we see him in the lives of those transformed by grace.

Leader: We have not seen Jesus face-to-face.

People: But we have seen him in the faces of everyone whose love encourages us.

Leader: We have not touched Jesus' wounds from the cross.

People: But we have been called to bring healing to the scarred of the world.

Leader: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

People: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

*HYMN

Christ the Lord is Risen Today!

#234

CALL TO CONFESSION

CONFESSION

All: Loving God, we confess that at times we do not share in the joy of the resurrection but are caught in the worries of the world. We confess that we do not always live in the spirit of new life but remain discontent, grumbling and

anxious. Forgive us for not sharing in the Good News. Forgive us when we find it more comfortable to worry and complain than to risk the joy and encouragement of new life in Christ. Call us back to Your ways, O God, to seek hope and reconciliation, restoration and peace. In the name of the Risen Christ, we pray. Amen.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Leader: Christ is Risen! The stone is rolled away, the tomb found empty. We are called to new life, a life of forgiveness and reconciliation.

People: We are forgiven and loved by God. We walk forward on this journey of faith knowing we are surrounded by our siblings in Christ. Amen.

*PASSING THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: And also with you.

*HYMN

The Day of Resurrection

#247

RESPONSIVE READING (BASED ON isaiah 65:17-19 & 24-25)

Leader: God is creating a new heaven and a new earth.

People: The former things will not be remembered or come to mind.

Leader: We can rejoice forever in what God will create.

People: For what the Lord creates will be a delight and a joy to the people!

Leader: God will rejoice over Jerusalem and delight in those who worship.

People: The sound of weeping and crying will be heard no more!

Leader: Before we even call out, God will answer us.

People: Our Lord will hear us when we speak.

Leader: The wolf and the lamb will feed together.

People: The lion will eat straw with the ox.

Leader: No being will be able to harm or destroy all on God's holy mountain.

People: This is what the Lord declares about the glory of God's new heaven and earth!

SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-12

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

All children are welcome to come forward for the Children's Message. There is not Children's Church/Sunday School today - we encourage families to worship together on this Easter holiday!

10:15 am
Service
Only

LOFT CHOIR ANTHEM

"Easter Song"

Herring

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Sacrament of Holy Communion

INVITATION TO COMMUNION

COMMUNION PRAYERS

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

People: It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Leader: It is a right, and a good, and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, creator of heaven and earth. You formed us in your image and breathed life into us. When we turned away, your love remained steadfast. You delivered your people from captivity, made a covenant to be our sovereign God, and set before us the way of life. When we continued to turn away from you, Lord, you sent your son Jesus Christ and brought us living hope through his life and resurrection. You are present with us, still today, in the movement of the Holy Spirit. And so, with your people on earth and all the company of heaven we praise your name and join their unending hymn:

SUNG RESPONSE

#2

Holy, holy, holy! Lord God Almighty!

All thy works shall praise thy name, in earth, and sky, and sea.

Holy, holy, holy! Merciful and mighty!

God in three persons, blessed Trinity!

REMEMBERING THE STORY

Leader: On the night before Jesus died, he gathered his friends.....By eating this bread and drinking this cup we participate in the mystery of our faith:

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever, Amen.

SHARING THE MEAL

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

All: Heavenly Lord, we give you thanks for welcoming us at your table. We give you thanks that you refresh and renew us with this meal. Increase our love for one other and for the world you created. Place in us hearts and minds that seek Christ in our midst and live the glory of the resurrection promise our whole lives long. Amen.

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERING & MISSION MOMENT

*DOXOLOGY

#809

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above, you heavenly host: praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen*

*OFFERING PRAYER OF DEDICATION

All: God of resurrection power, we dedicate these offerings in your name. May the gifts given today bless this community, nurture relationships of care and concern for our neighbors, and be used in ways that seek Christ's justice. Increase our generosity and may all our contributions play a part in the resurrection we need to see in the world around us. Amen.

*HYMN

He Lives!

#248

BENEDICTION

CLOSING MUSIC

*“Postlude”**Rasmussen*

Portions of worship adapted from Lectionary Liturgies by Thom M. Shuman, Rev-o-lution by Rev. Mind Welton-Mitchell, and “The Great Thanksgiving for Easter Day or Season” from The Methodist Publishing House.



He is
Risen

WELCOME TO LONGSWAMP UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST!

This is our Weekly Beacon- April 20th-26th, 2025

Altar Flowers and Bulletins are given to the Glory of God and are in loving memory of Kim's Father, Paul Shealer, by the Jenkins Family.

Christ is Risen! Thank you for worshipping with us this Easter Sunday!

If you're worshipping with us for the first time, bathrooms are located in the education building. Just go through the door at the right front of the sanctuary, through the bell room, and into the hallway. The bathrooms will be on your left.

Please join us next Sunday April 27th for Church World Service Blanket Sunday! We will be celebrating our monthly mission "Blanketing the World with Love" as we collect funds to provide blankets for those-in-need across the globe. Additionally, we will have fellowship time after worship. Plus, we encourage you to bring a special blanket to church - perhaps a beloved blankie from childhood or a quilt or afghan passed down through the generations. We'll have an opportunity to share these blankets as a way to deepen our understanding of the mission and get to know one another better.

Sharing Our Faith

We practice an Open Table at Longswamp UCC! Wherever you are on your faith journey, you are welcome to take communion with us. Jesus welcomed everyone at his table and we believe communion is a way for us to be in community with one another.

We have a few youth in our congregation taking communion for the first time today! We allow families to decide the best time for their kids to start taking communion. Part of the discussion with those parents led to a desire for a communion class! Five of the youth in our church came together this month to learn more about the Last Supper and what communion means to our church community. They were eager and curious and displayed what it means to be engaged in your faith. These kids are officially receiving their first communion in the pews with their parents. Please keep in your prayers Willow, Sadie, Easton, Nathan, and Emma as they take this step toward a deeper relationship with Christ! We are so grateful these youth and their families are part of our church.

Teaching What We Believe

We welcome all families at Longswamp UCC! Please do not worry about your child making noise or experiencing worship in the special way kids do. We love giving families the opportunity to worship together on holidays like Easter. If you do feel like you need a moment outside of worship with your child, do not hesitate to bring them over to our Education Building. Not only is there space to play, but if you continue to follow the hall to the Nursery Room you'll find changing tables and rocking chairs.

On regular Sundays, we have Children's Church - which is our Sunday School program. All families begin in worship, and any interested kids follow our teachers out to the Preschool room for Bible stories, crafts, games and more.

Acting on Jesus' Teachings

April 2025 Global Mission - Church World Service (CWS) Blankets- continues until Wednesday, April 30, 2025. Let's continue LUCC's great support in the past of **Church World Service** (hygiene kits, school kits, and welcome backpacks) by helping **CWS** again as they aim to **Blanket the World With Love!** Using our April 2025 mission offerings, we are going to order CWS blankets (2 options - lightweight and heavyweight) for \$10 each. Church World Service will then distribute the blankets to underprivileged people throughout the world who are in need of a warm blanket. Help us meet our goal of providing a minimum of **50 CWS blankets** for people in need! Please use your mission offering envelope (dated April 20, 2025) to contribute to this very worthwhile mission. Make plans to attend our special **Blanket Sunday worship service at 10:15 AM next Sunday, April 27.** Bring your favorite blanket for our display at fellowship after the service. Samples of the lightweight and heavyweight CWS blankets are on display on the round table behind the piano. Let's help CWS to **Blanket the World With Love!**

LUCC and LLC are having a community yard sale and clothing drive in the LUCC parking lot on Saturday, May 17th from 8am-12pm. We are looking for sellers for the yard sale so if you have anything you'd like to swap, sell, or give away, please reserve your spot! Each spot is \$5 and LUCC can supply a table for an extra \$5, both fees benefitting the Hope Rescue Mission. After the sale is over, if there is any unwanted clothing that you have left over, you can leave it at LUCC/LLC to donate to the Hope Rescue Mission, who will be picking up donated clothing on May 19th. ****Only clothing can be donated, all other items will need to be taken back home with you.** Rain date for the Yard Sale is May 18th from 1pm-4pm. Please let Maggie in the office know if you'd like to reserve a spot!

If you sponsored Easter flowers, please make sure you take your flowers after the service today!