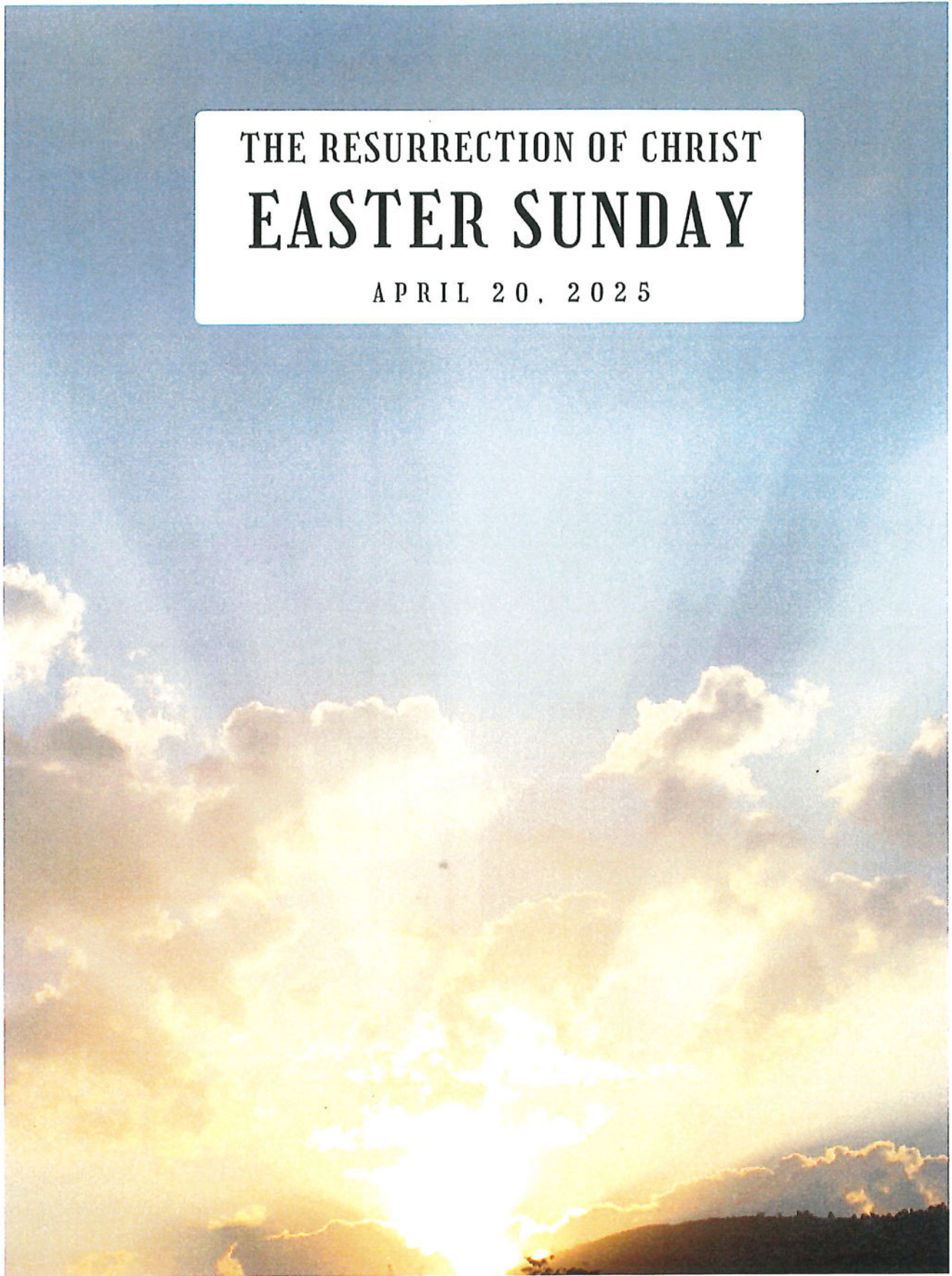


THE RESURRECTION OF CHRIST  
**EASTER SUNDAY**

APRIL 20, 2025



**Welcome!** The mission of First Congregational United Church of Christ is to: **Live by faith, embody love, proclaim hope, and seek justice.** If you are worshipping with us for the first time, we hope that you will find God's presence among us. When the Friendship Folder is passed during the announcements, please sign it, and then pass it back across the pew to the inside aisle.

**All are welcome.** Jesus called us to welcome all into the family of God. We welcome you to our Fellowship Hour after worship in the Community Room where everyone is invited to enjoy conversation and refreshments. A bathroom for all genders is located off the kitchen connected to the Community Room.

**Children are welcome in worship!** Activity bags are available in the narthex. There is an area for parents and children at the front of the nave which allows children to be close to the action in worship. Our staffed nursery (downstairs) is an option as well. Children pre-K to grade 4 will remain with family for worship today to allow teachers to worship with their families for the Resurrection of Easter. If kids are wiggly, they are welcome in the big playroom with the other children in the nursery.



**Please ask an usher** if you would like a large print bulletin, or if you need directions or any other assistance. A Hearing Loop system is available. Turn your hearing device to the "T" setting.

## Serving in Worship Today

|   |                            |
|---|----------------------------|
| Preaching & Leading Worship.....          | Laura Wright               |
| Choir Director, Organist, & Pianist ..... | Nancy Allen                |
| Reading Scripture.....                    | Julie Nelson               |
| Head Usher .....                          | Michael Feuerhelm          |
| Ushers .....                              | Allan Beatty, John Storlie |
| Greeters.....                             | Julie Shelby               |
| Nursery.....                              | Mary Runyon                |
| Fellowship Hour .....                     | Visitation Team            |

\* In the order of service indicates all who are able, please stand.

# Gathering

*in the presence of God*

## Gathering Music

"Christ Is Alive! Let Christians Sing"

Arr. Lani Smith

## Welcome and Announcements

*Thank you for joining us this Sunday when all are welcome in this house of God. You are invited to pass the Friendship Folder throughout your row. Please share your name and contact information and take note of those worshipping around you.*

## Prelude Music

"Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"

Arr. Lani Smith

## \*Easter Proclamation

*One:* Alleluia! Christ is Risen!

*Many:* **Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!**

*One:* Shout joyful praises to God, all the earth!

*Many:* **Sing about the Resurrection of God & our world!**

*One:* We glimpse God's light dawning.

*Many:* **Today, the mystery unfolds.**

*One:* Christ, the Lord, is risen today!

*Many:* **So we sing: Alleluia!**

## \*Hymn 288 *(All join in singing the hymns.)*

"Christ the Lord is Risen Today"\*

*Easter Hymn*

## Moment of Silent Thankfulness for the Resurrection

## \*Sharing the Peace

*One:* The peace of Christ be with you.

*Many:* **And also with you.**

*Please greet those near you with a wave or bow and with words such as:*

*"Peace be with you. / And also with you." Kids are dismissed at this time to go to their classes downstairs.*

# Listening

*for the Still-speaking God*

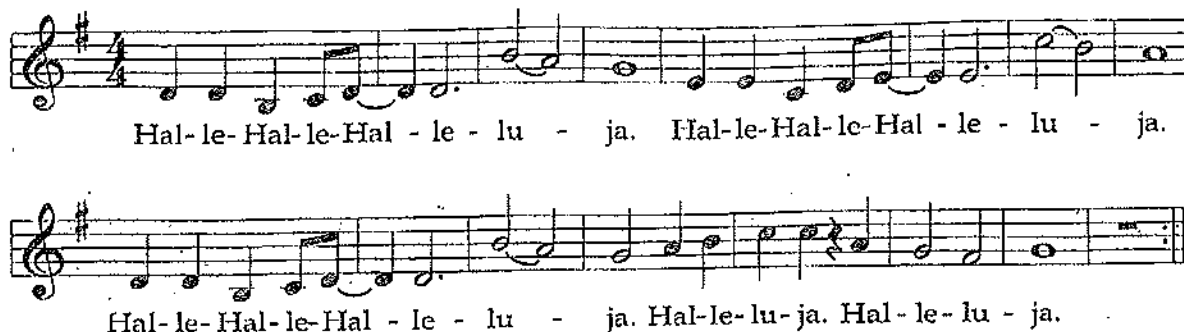
The Word for Children

Laura Wright

Acclamation (*Sung by all.*)

*Halleluja*

*All:*



The First Lesson

Julie Nelson

Acts 10:34-43

The Psalter

**Psalm 118:1-2, 19-24** (*Read Responsively*)

*One:* O give thanks to the LORD, for God is good.

God's faithful love lasts forever!

*Many:* **Let Israel say, "God's faithful love lasts forever."**

*One:* Give thanks to the LORD.

This is God's gate.

*Many:* **The just will go through it.**

*One:* I will thank you

because you answered me.

*Many:* **You are my salvation.**

*One:* The stone that the builders refused

has become the main stone of the foundation.

*Many:* **This is the Lord's doing.**

It is amazing in our eyes.

*One:* This is the day God made.

*Many:* **Let us shout with joy**

and be glad for today.

The Gospel

Luke 24:1-12

Sermon

Pastor Laura Wright

"From Mourning to Morning"

## **☞ Responding**

*with the voice of hope*

Anthem

"Resurrection Joy"

The Sanctuary Choir & Rob Tyser, Trumpet  
Lloyd Larson

## **The Community at Prayer**

Prayers of the Church

*The petitions end with: God, in your love,*

*The people respond: hear our prayers.*

The Prayer of Jesus (*Said by all. Use language that reflects your view of God.*)

Our (Creator / Father / Mother) 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 trespasses,

as we forgive those who 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,  
for ever and ever. Amen.

## **☞ Thanksgiving**

*for the gifts of God*

Offering of Our Gifts

Kristi Koch

\*As the Gifts Are Presented: Sing to the tune of Old 100th (Hymn 34).

*(All who are able are invited to stand and sing.)*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures high and low.  
Praise God, for all that love has done,  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One!





## Prayer of Thanksgiving



*to be messengers of good news*

**\*Hymn 310** (*All join in singing the hymns.*)

**"Thine Is the Glory"**

*Judas Maccabeus*

**\*The Blessing**

**Postlude Music**

**"Christ Arose!"**

Nancy Allen, Piano, & Kristi Koch, Organ

Arr. Lani Smith

**Acknowledgements:** "Christ the Lord is Risen Today," in the public domain. "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah," in the public domain. "Thine Is the Glory," in the public domain. All rights reserved. International copyright secured. Used by permission. Hymns and service music reprinted and streamed with permission under Onelicense.net #A-728014.

### First Congregational UCC Ministry Team

All the Members.....Ministers  
Rev. Dr. Laura Wright.....Senior Pastor  
Rev. Mary Runyon.....Associate Minister of Faith Formation  
Nancy Allen.....Organist & Choir Director  
Sue Retzlaff.....Bell Choir Director  
Michelle Logan.....Office Manager

**Contact Information:** First Congregational UCC, 2503 Main Street, La Crosse, WI 54601, 608-784-8137 or [office@firstcongolax.org](mailto:office@firstcongolax.org), or visit us on the web at [www.firstcongolax.org](http://www.firstcongolax.org).

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What gifts did you give God this week?

Do you mind if we share your gift to God with the congregation? Yes\_\_\_\_\_ No\_\_\_\_\_

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

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### This Week in our Church:

#### Sunday, April 20

##### **EASTER!**

Worship w/Nursery 10:00 am  
Fellowship (CR) 11:00 am

#### Monday, April 21

Office Closed

#### Tuesday, April 22

Coffee Klatch at Havenwood 2:00 pm

#### Wednesday, April 23

Sip & Scripture (Java Vino) 10:00 am  
Visitation (CR) Noon  
Church Council (CR) 7:00 pm

#### Thursday, April 24

Sanctuary Choir Rehearsal 7:00 pm

#### Friday, April 25

##### **Office Closed**

Bell Choir (CR) 10:30 am

#### Saturday, April 26

Habitat for Humanity Neighbors Day 11:00 am  
Earth Day Community Concert 4:00 pm  
Multi-Faith Earth Day Worship 5:00 pm

#### Sunday, April 27

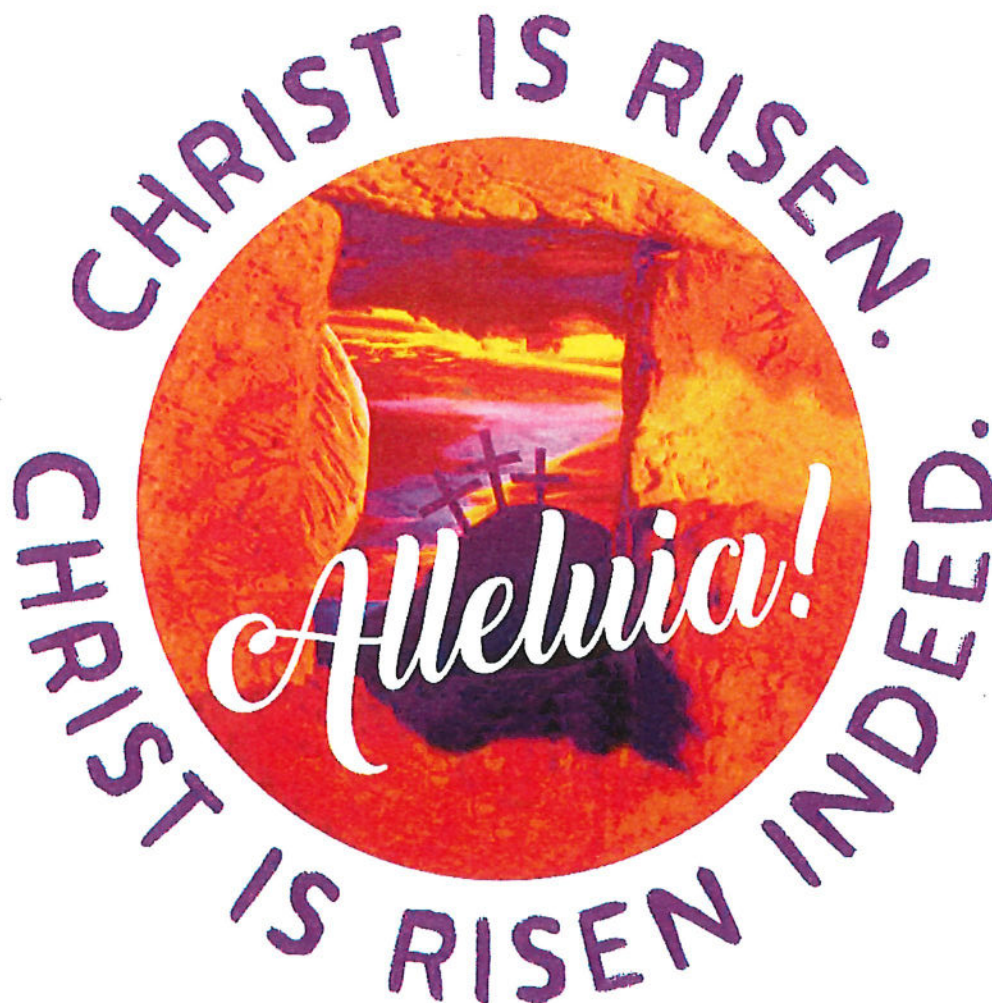
##### **Noisy Offering**

Faith Forum: Eyon Biddle 9:00 am  
JAM Breakfast (CR) 9:00 am  
Worship w/JAM & Nursery 10:00 am  
MS/HS Donuts & discussions (J) 10:40 am  
Fellowship (CR) 11:00 am  
New Member Gathering Noon

### CALENDAR KEY

CR = Community Room, C = Chapel, L = Lounge, N = Narthex, S = Sanctuary, J = JAM Rooms

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## *Easter Flowers*

### **In Memory of:**

*Our Parents & Grandparents*  
*My Parents Ruth Ann & Kenneth Knapp*  
*Tom Larson*  
*Mary & Tony Adams*  
*Loyal & Marian Mieden*  
*Loved ones who have passed*  
*Alex Vap*  
*Bob Jorgensen*  
*Loved Ones*  
*My Mom, Janice Sawle*  
*Dick Biering*  
*Our Parents & Granddaughter*  
*Red, Marion, Beverly & Lee*  
*My Grandparents*  
*William D. & Ann F. Van Atta*  
*Tom & Our Parents*  
*My Mom ~ Mardel Carol Allen*

### **In Honor Of:**

*Our Greatgrand Kids, Natalie,*  
*Liam, Chloe & Ava*  
*Nancy Allen & The Sanctuary Choir*  
*Family*  
*Our Family*  
*Kristi Koch & The Sanctuary Choir*

### **Given By:**

Sue & Fred Heuer  
 Laurie Gabrielson  
 Julie Larson  
 Steve Mieden & Carole McQueen  
 Steve Mieden & Carole McQueen  
 David & Diane Schumacher  
 The Mitchell Family  
 Ornelle Jorgensen  
 Mark & Kristi Koch  
 Sherry Sawle  
 Ruth Biering  
 Jack & Joyce Robinson  
 Carolie Whiteway  
 Shauna Sallmen  
 Ann E. Van Atta  
 Gladys McLenahan  
 Nancy Allen

### **Given By:**

Wayne & Pat Lura  
  
 Kristi Koch  
 Ruth Biering  
 Julie Shelby & Emma Ledbetter  
 Nancy Allen