

# *3rd Sunday of Easter*

## *May 1, 2022*

10:00 A.M.



*(You are invited to a time of quiet preparation for worship during the Prelude.)*

Prelude

*Morning Has Broken*

arr. Gary Lanier

Sarah Whitfield, flute

Ringing of the Bell

Welcome and Informal Moments

*This is the day the Lord has made... Let us rejoice and be glad in it.* Psalm 118:24

Musical Introit      Sacred Etude

James Stevens

Sarah Whitfield, flute

### **Call to Worship**

One: Holy One, Provider, our ever-present help,

Many: **In our emptiness, You remind us of your presence.**

One: In your abundance, You remind us you are here.

Many: **With a love that conquers death, You remind us we are yours.**

One: On all our journeys, we know the risen Christ is in our midst.

Many: **Inside and outside of this sanctuary, the risen Christ is in our midst.**

One: May we lift our alleluias to heaven.

Many: **Praise be to God.**

\*Gathering Hymn

*A Mighty Fortress Is Our God*

No. 469

### **\*Unison Prayer of Invocation**

**God of the visible and invisible, we gaze upon roads ahead knowing that you are ahead of us. We seek your presence when the fog is heavy and our hearts are hurting. In the moments of haze, clear the path before us. In the moments of clarity, show your face to us. Allow us to hear your voice as we call for you. Amen.**

Choral Anthem

*Come to the Table of the Lord*

Jay Althouse

Scripture

Acts 9:1-10; 17-20      page 97

**Morning Message** “Going There”

Rev. Dr. Amy Lignitz Harken

\*Hymn

*Draw Us In The Spirit’s Tether*

No. 318

**Pastoral Prayer** and 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.**

Offering Invitation

Offertory Music

*Meditation from Cornwall*  
Sarah Whitfield, flute

Nigel Hess

\*Doxology

No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.  
Praise God, all creatures here below.  
Praise God for all that Love has done  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

**\*Blessing for the Offering:**

**May these gifts be used to bring life and love and liberation for this world that you, Holy God, so dearly love. Amen.**

## **THE ORDER OF HOLY COMMUNION**

Invitation

Communion Prayer & Consecration

Words of Institution

Sharing of the Bread and the Cup

**Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**As we have partaken of your gifts of the table, we have sensed your presence surrounding us. May we embrace your peace, and be energized to scatter serenity into our world. Amen.**

\*Closing Hymn

*My Faith, It Is An Oaken Staff*

No. 419

\*Benediction

Sung Benediction    *Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.*

Postlude    Toccata in Seven

John Rutter



*\*All who are able may stand.*

**Those serving you today:**

**Bell Ringer:** *Tom Kovarik*

**Ushers:** *Judith Sutter & David Lenz*

**Reader:** *Becky Lenz*

**Flowers:** *Judith Sutter*

**Coffee Hour:** *Nominating Committee*

**Interim Minister:** *Rev. Dr. Amy Lignitz Harken*

**Organist:** *Joel Pierce*

**Office Administrator:** *Angela Richards*

**Sexton:** *Mary McKinney*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from  
One License with license # A-7314.*

### **Coming Up This Week:**

Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>: Sunday School, 11:30 am

Sunday, May 1<sup>st</sup>: Bible Study via Zoom at 4 pm

Monday May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Game night will be held in the evening 6-8:30 pm

Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: Organ Society Meeting, 9:30 am

Wednesday, May 5<sup>th</sup>: Feed our Scholars -packing boxes, 10:30 am

Sunday, May 8th: Worship 10am

Sunday May 8th: Bible Study via Zoom at 4 pm

### **Announcements**

#### **Supporting the Ministry of our Church**

Thank you for your continued support in sustaining our ministries! Offerings can be mailed to the church at: First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 350, Wiscasset, ME 04578. Thank you!

#### **Sign-Up Online to Support our Worship Experience!**

Please sign up to usher, read scripture, or provide flowers for our worship. You can sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48aea82aa3f8ce9-church> or by calling the church office at 207-882-7544. Please sign up by 10:00 am Wednesday.

#### **Current In-Person Worship Protocol: Masks are optional, no longer required.**

#### **Up-Coming Events:**

-St. Philip's is Hosting an Open House on Sunday May 15<sup>th</sup> from 2pm to 4pm

-Habitat for Humanity Walk Day: Sunday, May 15<sup>th</sup> Check-In: 1p-2p,

Walk Time: 2pm, Route Length: 2 miles

-Oscar Wallace will be presenting a 2-part End of Life presentation in May, with the Organ Society.



## Acts 9:1-10

**1** Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest

**2** 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.

**3** Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him.

**4** He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?"

**5** He asked, "Who are you, Lord?" The reply came, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting.

**6** But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do."

**7** The men who were traveling with him stood speechless because they heard the voice but saw no one.

**8** Saul got up from the ground, and though his eyes were open, he could see nothing; so they led him by the hand and brought him into Damascus.

**9** For three days he was without sight, and neither ate nor drank.

**10** Now there was a disciple in Damascus named Ananias. The Lord said to him in a vision, "Ananias." He answered, "Here I am, Lord."

**17** So Ananias went and entered the house. He laid his hands on Saul and said, "Brother Saul, the Lord Jesus, who appeared to you on your way here, has sent me so that you may regain your sight and be filled with the Holy Spirit."

**18** And immediately something like scales fell from his eyes, and his sight was restored. Then he got up and was baptized,

**19** and after taking some food, he regained his strength. For several days he was with the disciples in Damascus,

**20** and immediately he began to proclaim Jesus in the synagogues, saying, "He is the Son of God."

# A Mighty Fortress Is Our God

469

1. A might-y for - tress is our God, a bul-wark nev - er fail - ing;  
 2. Did we in our own strength con - fide, our striv - ing would be los - ing,  
 3. And though this world, with dev - ils filled, should threat - en to un - do us,  
 4. That word a - bove all earth - ly powers, no thanks to them, a - bid - eth;

our help - er strong a - mid the flood of mor - tal ills pre - vail - ing.  
 were not the right man on our side, the man of God's own choos - ing.  
 we will not fear, for God hath willed the truth to tri - umph through us.  
 the Spir - it and the gifts are ours through Christ who with us sid - eth.

For still our an - cient foe doth seek to work us woe; with craft and pow - er  
 Dost ask who that may be? Christ Je - sus, it is he; Lord Sab - a - oth his  
 The powers of e - vil grim, we trem - ble not for them; their rage we can en -  
 Let goods and kin - dred go, this mor - tal life al - so; the bod - y they may

great, and armed with cru - el hate, on earth is not an e - qual.  
 name. From age to age the same, and he must win the bat - tle.  
 dure, for lo, their doom is sure: one lit - tle word shall fell them.  
 kill; God's truth a - bid - eth still, God's king - dom is for - ev - er.

WORDS: Martin Luther, c. 1529; tr. Frederick H. Hedge, 1852, alt.; st. 3 alt. Ruth Duck, 1981 EIN' FESTE BURG  
 MUSIC: Melody Martin Luther, c. 1529 87.87.66.667

Based on Psalm 46, this hymn by Martin Luther was probably inspired  
 by the 1529 meeting that gave birth to the word 'Protestant.' Luther  
 wrote or edited thirty-seven hymns and many hymn tunes.

St. 3 alt. © 1981, 1990 Ruth C. Duck

PILGRIMAGE AND PERSEVERANCE

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## Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

1. Draw us in the Spir-it's te - ther, for when hum - bly,  
 2. As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
 3. All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name, two or three are met to - geth - er, you are  
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er break the  
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing, we may

in the midst of them; Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -  
 be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le -

lu - ia! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
 lu - ia! So now bind our friend - ship up.  
 lu - ia! We will serve with faith a - new.

WORDS: Percy Dearmer, *Enlarged Songs of Praise*, 1931, alt.  
 MUSIC: Harold Friedell, 1957; adapt. Jet Turner, 1967, alt.

British hymnal editor Dearmer provides the words about the  
 "community" of communion. The tune is named for Union  
 Seminary, New York City, a training ground for clergy of  
 many Protestant denominations, including the UCC.

UNION SEMINARY  
 87.87.44.7

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COMMUNION

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## My Faith, It Is an Oaken Staff

1. My faith, it is an oak - en staff, the trav - eler's well - loved aid;  
 2. I have a guide, and in his steps when trav - elers e'er have trod,  
 3. My faith, it is an oak - en staff, O let me on it lean!

my faith, it is a weap - on stout, the sol - dier's trust - y blade.  
 wheth - er be - neath was flint - y rock or yield - ing grass - y sod,  
 My faith, it is a trust - y sword, may false - hood find it keen!

I'll trav - el on, and still be stirred by si - lent thought or so - cial word,  
 they cared not, but with force un - spent, un - moved by pain, they on - ward went,  
 Thy spir - it, Lord, to me im - part; O make me what thou ev - er art,

by all my per - ils un - de - terred, a pil - grim un - a - fraid.  
 un - stayed by pleas - ures, still they bent their zeal - ous course to God.  
 of pa - tient and cou - ra - geous heart, as all true saints have been.

WORDS: Thomas T. Lynch, 1855, alt.  
 MUSIC: Swiss folk melody, *Fellowship Hymn Book*, 1910

THE STAFF OF FAITH  
 86.86.88.86

Overlooked until its appearance in a British Congregational hymnbook in 1951,  
 this hymn by a Congregational minister has been joined with a Swiss folk tune,  
 first introduced into English usage in the *Fellowship Hymn Book*, 1910.

FAITH AND HOPE