†HYMN 218 Thine is the Glory MACCABEUS

BENEDICTION AND RESPONSE Hallelujah Chorus G. F. Handel

The First Church Choir, Brass, and congregation

POSTLUDE Toccata from the Fifth Organ Symphony C. M. Widor

We are pleased to have the following individuals play for our service this morning:

Donald Townswick, Trumpet

Damon Coachman, Trumpet

Matthew Carley, Horn

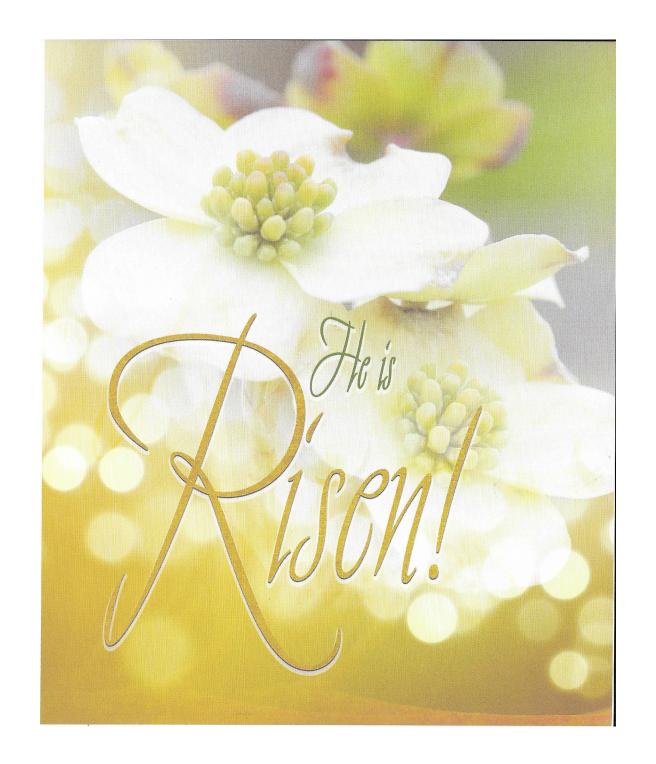
Chris Schrock, Trombone

David Winer, Tuba

Please consider making a donation to Music and Fine Arts to cover the costs of special musicians for our services.

First Church of Christ Congregational 12 South Main Street West Hartford, CT 06107 (860) 233-9605 www.whfirstchurch.org

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FIRST CHURCH WEST HARTFORD

APRIL 20, 2025

PRELUDE

And the Glory of the Lord
Performed by the First Church Brass Quintet

G. F. Handel SCRIPTURE READING

Luke 24:1-24(NT p. 109-110)

The Day of Resurrection

HENRY T. SMART ARR. BY PATRICIA COTA

The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director

WELCOME

†CALL TO WORSHIP Liz Oman-Wilfred

One: This is the day that the Lord has made.

All: Let us rejoice and be glad in it! One: This is the day of resurrection.

All: Let us come together and celebrate!
One: See the tomb is empty where Jesus lay.

All: He is not here! He is risen!

One: This is Easter Sunday.

All: Alleluia! Alleluia!

†HYMN #216 <u>Christ the Lord is Risen Today</u> EASTER HYMN

†OPENING PRAYER

God of life and love, we are eager to hear the good news of new life. Enter our lives and allow us to cast aside our fears. Lead us on a journey from grief and despair to hope and joy. We are ready to celebrate and give thanks for your transforming love. Give us Easter attitudes and hopeful hearts to rejoice in the glory of this day! Amen.

MESSAGE FOR ALL AGES

Amanda Bethune

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ is Risen Today LLANFAIR arr. Lloyd Larson
The Whitechapel Handbell Choir, Jessica Berube-Sengupta, director
Lisa Abel, piano

CKII TOKE KEADING <u>LUKE 24.1</u>

†RESPONSE (HYMN 264)

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

Where the Spirit of the Lord Is

ADAMS

Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is peace. Where the Spirit of the Lord is, there is love. There is comfort in life's darkest hour, there is light and life, there is help and power in the Spirit, in the Spirit of the Lord.

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SERMON

He Is Not Here!

Rev. Fredd Ward

HYMN 234

Crown Him with Many Crowns

DIADEMATA

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.

CALL TO OFFERING

God's faithful love endures forever! Let us give thanks through our gifts! Let us rejoice in returning to God what we have already received!

OFFERTORY

He Is Not Here!

Russell Nagy

The First Church Choir, Brass Quintet

†DOXOLOGY

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;

Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

†OFFERTORY PRAYER

God of life and love, we are grateful for your promise of resurrection and new life. Your love is stronger than the powers of darkness and injustice. With joy, we offer our gifts to you. Use them and use our lives to proclaim Christ's triumph over death. Amen.