

Christ Congregational United Church of Christ
14920 S. W. 67 Avenue, Palmetto Bay, FL 33158
305-235-9381, Fax 305-238-4801
E-mail: christch@bellsouth.net

Web site: www.christcongregationalucc.org
The Rev. Candace Thomas, Interim Minister
Jay Harragin, Director of Music

Our Vision: A church that listens, praises God, inspires, and serves others.

April 12, 2020 – 10:30 a.m.

Video Service

EASTER

Preparation for Worship: "How often does Love have to tell us, 'Why do you look for the living among the dead?' Our daily problems and worries can wrap us up in ourselves, in sadness and bitterness...and that is where death is. That is not the place to look for the One who is alive." Pope Francis, The Church of Mercy, 21st century



PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIGHTING THE CHRIST CANDLE WE REMEMBER GOD IS WITH US

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come to this place,
seeking Jesus in the familiar story of our faith.

**People: Do not meet us only here, O Living Christ,
but surprise us with Resurrection power
in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We gather together to sing and pray the story we know by heart,
a story of loving triumph and powerful grace.

**People: This story of “Alleluia!” means great joy
for the One who lives and the ones who witness to this new life
in all the places of our lives!**

Leader: We rejoice and thank you for the life of your son,
resurrected by the power of your loving, vibrant Spirit.

**People: Let this same Spirit fill all the places of our lives,
that we may know the truth
of resurrection for the rest of our lives!**

Leader: We join our hearts in song and sing
“ Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”
for Christ is living and so are we!

People: Alleluia indeed!

OPENING HYMN: “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today” (NCH, No. 233)

**Christ the Lord is risen today, Alleluia!
Mortal tongues and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia!
Sing, glad heavens, and earth, reply, Alleluia!**

**Let the Victor’s people sing, Alleluia!
Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Dying once, Christ lives to save, Alleluia!
Where your victory, O grave? Alleluia!**

**Love’s redeeming work is done, Alleluia!
Fought the fight, the battle won, Alleluia!
Death in vain forbids Christ rise, Alleluia!
God has opened paradise, Alleluia!**

**Soar we now where Christ has led, Alleluia!
Following our exalted Head, Alleluia!
Made like Christ, like Christ we rise, Alleluia!
Ours the cross, the grave, the skies, Alleluia!**

**THE COMMANDMENT OF JESUS (John 15:5, 12)
I am the vine, you are the branches. Those who abide in me and I in them bear much
fruit, because apart from me you can do nothing. "This is my commandment, that you
love one another as I have loved you.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)

**Good News God,
your angels appeared to the faithful women of Jesus' company,
bringing them news more wonderful and awe-inspiring than they could imagine –
Christ is Risen!
Surely your angels can interrupt our lives, too,
breaking into our losses and sorrows
and offering a message of tremendous joy to change our lives!
Come this Easter morning, we pray,
and fill us with the joy of the women disciples,
the first witnesses to your resurrection,
that our lives may also be renewed in hope and glory.
Let us roll back the stone of the grave
and sing Alleluia once again!
In Christ we pray, Amen.**

SPECIAL MUSIC: “The Holy City” Graham Bryan & Jay Harragin

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 20:1-18 NRSV

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, ‘They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him.’ Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went towards the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus’ head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes. But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping?’ She said to them, ‘They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him.’ When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, ‘Woman, why are you weeping? For whom are you looking?’ Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, ‘Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away.’ Jesus said to her, ‘Mary!’ She turned and said to him in Hebrew, ‘Rabbouni!’ (which means

Teacher). Jesus said to her, 'Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, "I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God." ' Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, 'I have seen the Lord'; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYER SONG: "I Need You Every Hour" (NCH, No, 517)

I need you every hour, O God of grace;

The peace your voice affords, I now embrace.

I need you, how I need you! Every hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Savior; I come to you.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE PRAYER OF JESUS (*Unison*)

We join our hearts together as we pray:

Our Father in heaven, hallowed be your name, your kingdom come, your will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. Forgive us our trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For the kingdom, the power, and the glory are yours now and forever. Amen

OFFERING THOUGHTS -Pastor

**O God, you have become our light and our salvation –
let these gifts open the gates of joy
to all who hunger and thirst for your holy presence
on this and every day.**

**May they bear the gifts of Alleluia which we hold so dear,
and give away with great joy.**

We pray in the name of our Risen Savior, Jesus the Christ! Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

MESSAGE: “Ordinary Resurrections” Pastor Candy Thomas

Communion Hymn: “Let Us Break Bread Together On Our Knees”

The Sacrament of Holy Communion

Invitation

Pastor: For Holy Communion this morning, I invite you to lend Christ your table...

Prayer of Consecration

Words of Remembering

Sharing of the elements

Pastor: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the bread we share.

Pastor: Let us in our many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

Unison: We are one in Christ in the cup we share.

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Gracious and Loving God, you have made us one in the Body of Christ, and nourished us at your table with holy food and drink. Thank you for feeding our hunger and relieving our thirst. Now send us into the world to do the work you have given us to do; to find the lost and the lonely, to heal broken souls, to free prisoners, and make the powerful care. Grant us the strength to persevere in resisting evil, and to proclaim in all we say and do your good news in Christ Jesus, our Savior. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN: The Day of Resurrection (NCH, No. 245)

The day of resurrection!

Earth, tell it out abroad; the Passover of gladness, the Passover of God.
From death to life eternal, from earth unto the sky,
our Christ hath brought us over, with hymns of victory.

Our hearts be pure from evil that we may see aright
the Lord in rays eternal of resurrection light;
and listening to his accents, may hear so calm and plain
his own "All hail!" and, hearing, may raise the victor strain.

Now let the heavens be joyful! Let earth her song begin!

The whole world keep high triumph, and all that is therein!

Let all things seen and unseen their notes in gladness blend,
for Christ the Lord hath risen, our joy that hath no end.

COMMISSION:

Leader: Do not look for the risen Jesus only
in the confines a church building.

**People: We will seek the risen Jesus on the roads and in the streets, in all the
pathways and byways of our lives.**

L: Do not seek comfort in the familiar, but dare to risk the unfamiliar –

P: We know that Resurrection makes all things new!

L: Do not cling to all the old, expected ideas about God, Jesus, Spirit, but go forth and
celebrate this truly new Good News:

P: Because Christ lives, new possibilities are ever before us!

L: Christ is Risen Indeed!

All: Alleluia and amen!

BENEDICTION



Welcome to Everyone!

*Whoever or whatever brought you to our on-line worship service this morning, we believe that the Spirit of God had a hand in you joining us. I hope that you feel the Holy Spirit in our service of prayer and praise. At Christ Congregational Church we strive to love one another as God has loved us and welcome one another as Christ has welcomed us. Therefore, we are an **Open and Affirming** church, loving and welcoming all people in all of God's variety; including racial, ethnic, and economic diversity, gender diversity and expression, sexual orientation, and physical and mental abilities.*

Dear Church,

During this time of pandemic while the governor's "Stay at Home" order is in effect; I am live-streaming worship from my living room on our Facebook page Christ Congregational United Church of Christ @christcongregationalchurch. Our web page offers a link to our Facebook page. I hope you'll join me! *We want to stay connected with each other. You will continue to receive the weekly*

e-newsletter and our web page is also a source of information. Please let me know if you need help with anything. I am only a phone call, text, or email away.

God Bless You!

Pastor Candy

JOYS AND CONCERNS – Please let me know of any joys or concerns you'd like lifted up in worship by notifying me by Sunday morning at 10:00 a.m. via phone, text or email.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Just a reminder that there is a green link at the bottom of our newsletter called "Give Online Today". Please be sure to use it if you are able or send your check to the office. In this pandemic time, it is preferable that you use the online method.

COMBINED Church Council/Trustees ZOOM meeting at 7 p.m. on Thursday, April 16th.

Supporting Southridge HS's 90 Homeless Students

David Williams' Rotary club is trying to provide a hot dinner Mon-Wed-Fri for the 90 students while school is out. Even though the schools are offering breakfast/lunch, the school buses aren't running to bring the students to campus, so many are going without hot meals. The Rotary group is organizing, cooking and delivering meals to coordinated sites. During this time of Shelter at Home, we can support their efforts through donations to their Go Fund Me page. The link is: gf.me/u/wpxyct. The account deposits directly into Rotary's Foundation bank account.

In the future, we can potentially help in cooking the identified meals, but for now consider supporting their efforts including Wednesday's Pizza Night. They will need 30 pizzas to cover everyone, approximately \$8-9 per pizza, thus \$250-\$275 total. Thank you for your ongoing community support. Outreach

The CCC Women are celebrating our CCC sisters in Christ by sending cards, texts, and calls to those who are celebrating, recuperating, mourning, or struggling. If you would like us to send a card or message to a lady in your life who is celebrating an occasion, mourning a loved one, or needs an uplift, send an email to: **Joan Chandler at bingo123@bellsouth.net and let us know the occasion.**

Prayer List: All medical professionals and first responders, Jessica Shuflitowski, Suzanne Wood, The family of Lucas Alvarez, Westminster Christian School staff and students, Jim Ketzle, Philip and Natalie Thompson, Javier Pantoja, Kathy Radkiewicz, Shai & Cedric Murphy, Jennifer Best Vickers, Bennie Wiley, The family of Mark Krumich, The family of Dr. Carey Green, Caleb Elkins, Anita Smith, Travis Smith, Bill & Maggie McDowell, Gloria Fuller, Amelia Canali, Wendy Olson, Georgina Mori, Deena and Herbert Chamberlin, Sarah Miller, Connor Thomas, Caprice Di Lielloc, and Margarita Padilla.

Please let Michelle, our Administrative Assistant, know if there are names, you'd like to have added to the Prayer List. She may be e-mailed at or call her at 305-235-9381. Thanks be to God for prayers answered and for comfort given!

For **Pastoral Care Needs**, please call *Pastor Candy* at **925-640-9289** or you may call or leave a message at the **Church Office, 305-235-9381, Monday-Friday, from 9:30 a.m – 2:30 p.m.** and our Office Administrative Assistant, *Michelle Simone*, will assist you in reaching *Pastor Candy*. **When the office is closed** you may call the **Board of Deacons** Chairperson, *Jim Ketzle*, at **305-495-4452** and he will be able to help you. For **Use of Property Needs** or if you identify a Maintenance Concern call the **Board of Trustees** Chairperson, *Julio Balcells*, **305-282-7882**. For **Other General Questions** or Needs call the Church President/Moderator, *Lorrie LeGrand*, **305-978-3801**.

CALENDAR April 12, 2020 to April 19, 2020

Sun. 12	10:30 a.m.	Video Worship Service
Thu. 16	7:00 p.m.	Council/Trustees ZOOM Meeting
Sun. 19	10:30 a.m.	Video Worship Service

