

The Kingston Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
May 7, 2023, 2023

Fifth Sunday of Easter

We are so glad you are here!
Masks are optional and available at the doors.

There are LARGE PRINT bulletins and listening aides available; please see the ushers.
To not interfere with the wireless livestream of our service, **please power off your phones.**
The green cards in the pews are for sharing prayer requests; place in offering plates and they will be read as part of the “Prayers of the People.”

GATHERING MUSIC *Carillon* - A. Herbert Brewer

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS - Michelle Davis

INTROIT *Lord, Your Word Is a Lamp to My Feet* - Timothy Brace

CALL TO WORSHIP - Pastor

* OPENING HYMN #459 *Come, O Fount of Every Blessing*

* PRAYER OF INVOCATION & THE LORD’S PRAYER: - Katelyn Davis

**On this journey of life,
where daily choices can feel mundane and fateful all at the same time,
help us to listen even more deeply to your wise and kind voice, O God.
When we don’t know where we going, grab our hands.
When we feel afraid, hold our hearts.
When we resist faith and ask for “certainty,” be patient with us—again.
We pray with Jesus to live right now, right here in your realm of love:**

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

WORD FOR ALL AGES - Ms. Cindy

* Indicates you are invited to stand; **Bold** type indicates all speak/sing together.

SPECIAL MUSIC *Bind Us Together* - Bob Gillman
**Bind us together, Lord, bind us together with cords that cannot be broken.
Bind us together, Lord, bind us together, bind us together in love.
There is only one God, there is only one King;
There is only one body, that is why we sing.**

[Children are welcome to join Ms. Cindy and helpers downstairs for Church School]

SCRIPTURE READING John 14:1-14 - Katelyn Davis

‘Do not let your hearts be troubled. Believe in God, believe also in me. In my Father’s house there are many dwelling-places. If it were not so, would I have told you that I go to prepare a place for you? And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again and will take you to myself, so that where I am, there you may be also. And you know the way to the place where I am going.’ Thomas said to him, ‘Lord, we do not know where you are going. How can we know the way?’ Jesus said to him, ‘I am the way, and the truth, and the life. No one comes to the Father except through me. If you know me, you will know my Father also. From now on you do know him and have seen him.’

Philip said to him, ‘Lord, show us the Father, and we will be satisfied.’ Jesus said to him, ‘Have I been with you all this time, Philip, and you still do not know me? Whoever has seen me has seen the Father. How can you say, “Show us the Father”? Do you not believe that I am in the Father and the Father is in me? The words that I say to you I do not speak on my own; but the Father who dwells in me does his works. Believe me that I am in the Father and the Father is in me; but if you do not, then believe me because of the works themselves. Very truly, I tell you, the one who believes in me will also do the works that I do and, in fact, will do greater works than these, because I am going to the Father. I will do whatever you ask in my name, so that the Father may be glorified in the Son. If in my name you ask me for anything, I will do it.

SERMON The Way, Truth and Life - Rev. Dr. Jan Gregory-Charpentier

HYMN OF RESPONSE #331 *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life*

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Lead Me, Lord* - John D. Becker

* SUNG DOXOLOGY

***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.***

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION TO THE TABLE

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

SANCTUS

**Holy, holy, holy, God of power and love.
The whole earth is full of your glory, O God Most High and Most Near.
Blessed is the One who comes in the name of the Lord,
Hosanna in the highest!**

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE & BLESSING

SHARING THE MEAL

*We celebrate “an open table;” all who wish to partake are most heartily welcome.
Please eat the bread when served, to symbolize your personal relationship with
God and hold the cup until all have been served, and we will drink together to
symbolize our unity and wholeness in Christ.*

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

ORDER OF FAREWELL: Katie Howe

GREETING AND REMEMBRANCE

GIVING AND SHARING SYMBOLS

PRAYER

* CLOSING HYMN #611 *O Day of God Draw Near*

* BENEDICTION

* CONGREGATIONAL SUNG RESPONSE:

**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 God 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 is right here on earth as above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.**

* POSTLUDE *Fanfare for a Festive Occasion* - Lani Smith



We thank Diana Norton Jackson for her musical contribution to this morning’s worship service.

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The flowers today are given by Amy Monahan in loving memory of her aunt, Leonor Lavedan Cunningham.

**Witness Stones Project Three-Part Learning Community
Mondays, May 8, 15, 22, 7-9 pm, Fellowship Hall**

- May 8:** Learning the Lenses (through which to view the history of slavery)
May 15: Piecing Together the Story of Cuffe Torrey (from primary sources)
May 22: Retelling and Responding to the Story (in preparation for June 5th ceremony)

Women's Fellowship News

Kingston Fair is Saturday, May 13 and we will have a **bake sale!!** Please contact Michelle or Helen if you can help be a cashier and sell that day. Cakes and pies sell the best! – also, some muffins, cookies, etc. Let Michelle or Helen know what you are making and plan to bring it over that morning. Fellowship will be serving chowder and we can provide dessert or goodies to take home for Mother's Day on Sunday.



Messy Church May 21st from 4-6pm

We will be celebrating Pentecost by honoring the role of the Holy Spirit in our lives and the birth of the church. If you would like to help with this event, or for more information, please contact Ms. Cindy: dirce@kingconchurch.org.

All you need is a warm friendly welcoming smile as the rest is all prepared for us.

The Nominating Task Force is preparing the Church Ballot for terms beginning in July for the various Board positions. The slate of officers will be voted on at the May 21 Annual Meeting. If you are interested in participating on a Board, or if you are seeking more information about a Board, please speak with one of the Board Chairs during Fellowship or by phone/email. You can get their contact information from the Church Directory or by calling the Church Office.

Board of Christian Education - Dave Remington

We believe everyone should grow in their faith. The Board of CE works with the Director of Christian Education and the Pastor to develop and lead faith formation activities for all ages, from Church School, to Messy Church, to Adult Christian Ed and Spirituality (ACES).

Board of Deacons - Frank Lenox

“Deacon” means servant, and the ministry of the Deacons is to serve the congregation through supporting the spiritual well-being of all and is primarily focused on the worship life of our church. Deacons work with the Pastor and other staff to support the worship services and other spiritual life needs of the church.

Board of Fellowship - Ann Lenox

“Fellowship”, or *koinonia* in Greek, is the heart of being a community of faith. We build loving, caring, joyful relationships with each other, in part through spending time and breaking bread together. The Board of Fellowship helps make those times and opportunities happen.

Board of Finance - Doug Kraus

Every budget is a mirror of mission. Where and how we use our money reflects who and what we feel God has called us to be. Our budget and our stewardship of our resources are key tools to living out God’s work in the world. More than “bean counting,” faithful use of our money and investments is ministry.

Board of Membership – Lori Ann Hiener

The church is its members. Welcoming new members and caring for existing members are both key aspects of what this Board does. This includes practical and personal help, tending to details and tending relationships.

Board of Missions and Social Justice - Lisa Bowe

Jesus said, “Go into all the world...” The Board of M&SJ helps us keep our vision and energy focused on the world around us as well as our community. Through money we donate, outreach activities we engage in, social service we offer, this board keeps us active in the world that “God so loves.”

Board of Music – Matt Simeone, Margaret Bradley

“Make a joyful noise to the Lord all the earth,” (Ps. 100) is the goal and mission of this board. Guiding and supporting the ministry of music in the church, the Board of Music enriches the worship and creative life of our church. This Board works with the Director of Music, the Pastor and the musical groups and individuals to help keep us singing, playing our instruments and making joyful noise.

Board of Trustees – Wayne Lee

Trustees help us steward the physical resources of our church (primarily our building, grounds, equipment) so that the mission of the church can be fulfilled. In order to offer worship, fellowship, faith formation, music, outreach, caring hospitality and welcome, we need functional and comfortable spaces.

**The Annual Meeting
of
The Kingston Congregational Church
United Church of Christ**

Will be Held in the Sanctuary & via Zoom
Following the Worship Service

Sunday, May 21, 2023
10:45 a.m.

-CALENDAR-

- SUNDAY, MAY 7
9:30 am Service of Worship
- MONDAY, MAY 8
7:00 – 9:00 pm Witness Stones Project (Hall)
- TUESDAY, MAY 9
6:00 pm Membership Board (FPR)
- WEDNESDAY, MAY 10
7:00 pm Deacons Meeting (Zoom)
7:00 pm BS Troops 1 & 2 (Hall)
- THURSDAY, MAY 11
12:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)
7:00 pm Choir
- SATURDAY, MAY 13, KINGSTON FAIR
10:00a – 1:00p Women’s Fellowship Bake Sale
11:00a – 1:00p Fellowship Board Luncheon
- SUNDAY, MAY 14
9:30 am Service of Worship

Mission Statement of the Kingston Congregational Church:

We are a Christian Church that supports each person's spiritual journey through the communal pursuit of worship, learning, and service.
(Voted on and approved by the Congregation on April 27, 2008)

We welcome into our community persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure; and we invite all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our congregation. (Voted on and approved by the Congregation on May 17, 2015)

Greeter: Cheryl Wilga; Lay Reader: Katelyn Davis

Deacon of the Month – Michelle I. Davis (michelle.l.davis817@gmail.com)

Coffee Hour – Carol MacKenzie and Sue Snow

Church Council:

President – Sharon Davis

Moderator – Joyce Stevos

Chair of the Board of Deacons – Frank Lenox

Chair of the Board of Trustees – K. Wayne Lee

Chair of the Board of Missions – Lisa Bowe

Co-Chairs of the Board of Music – Margaret Bradley and Matt Simeone

Chair of the Board of Christian Education – Dave Remington

Chair of the Board of Stewardship – Open

Chair of the Board of Finance – David Coleman

Chair of the Board of Membership – Lori Ann Hiener

Co-Chairs of the Board of Fellowship – Maria Burdett and Ann Lenox

President Women's Fellowship – Michelle Girasole

Treasurer – Doug Kraus

Senior Pastor – Rev. Dr. Jan Gregory-Charpentier

Pastoral Intern – Katie Howe

Ministers – All Members

Interim Director of Music – Eden Casteel

Director of Christian Education – Cindy Dowgiallo

Communications Director – Tony Jones

Office Administrator – Shirley M. Schock

Sexton – Andy Cournoyer

Kingston Congregational Church, UCC
2610 Kingstown Road, Kingston, RI 02881
Tel. 401-783-5330
Email: office@kingconchurch.org;
Website: www.kingconchurch.org

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