**Worship from Home**

**First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC**

**Easter Sunday, April 20, 2025**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit *“The Strife is O’er”*

Call to Worship

**One:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

**One:**  Christ is risen! Alleluia!

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

**One:** Alleluia! Celebrate God in this sacred space!Celebrate God in all places under heaven!

**Many: Give praise for God’s mighty deeds! Give praise for God’s resurrecting power!**

**One:** Praise God with a fanfare of trumpets.

**Many: Praise God with the harp and the cello!**

**One:** Praise God with tambourines and dancing!

**Many: Praise God with flutes and guitars!**

**One:** Praise God with cymbals and drums!

**All: Let everything with life and breath praise God!**

*\**Hymn #182 PH *“Christ the Lord is Risen Today”*

Christ the Lord is ris’n today, Alleluia! Sons of men and angels say, Alleluia!
Raise your joys and triumphs high, Alleluia! Sing, ye heav’ns, and earth, reply, Alleluia!

Lives again our glorious King, Alleluia! Where, O death, is now thy sting? Alleluia!
Once He died our souls to save, Alleluia! Where thy victory, O grave? Alleluia!

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

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

Hail the Lord of earth and heaven, Alleluia! Praise to Thee by both be given, Alleluia!
Thee we greet triumphant now, Alleluia! Hail the Resurrection, thou, Alleluia!

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**God of endless life, in the light of this new day we see the dawning of your new creation. Give us wonder and delight to enjoy this day that you have made. Through Jesus Christ, our living Lord. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Psalm 118, NCH p. 700 Psalm 118:1-2; 14-24

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Isaiah 65:17-25

Anthem *“Crown Him with Many Crowns”*  Pilgrim Hymnal #199

Verse 1 - All; Choir verse; Verse 2 -  All women; Verse 3 – Choir; Verse 4 – All

Crown him with many crowns, the Lamb upon his throne.
Hark! how the heavenly anthem drowns all music but its own.
Awake, my soul, and sing of him who died for thee,
and hail him as thy matchless king through all eternity.

Crown him the Lord of life, who triumphed o'er the grave,
and rose victorious in the strife for those he came to save;
his glories now we sing who died and rose on high,
who died eternal life to bring, and lives that death may die.

Crown him the Lord of love; behold his hands and side,
rich wounds, yet visible above, in beauty glorified;
no angels in the sky can fully bear that sight,
but downward bends their burning eye at mysteries so bright.

Crown him the Lord of years, the potentate of time,
creator of the rolling spheres, ineffably sublime.
All hail, Redeemer, hail! for thou hast died for me;
thy praise shall never, never fail throughout eternity.

A Reading from the Gospels Luke 24:1-12

Message *“He Is Not Here, And So He Is”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#238 NCH *“Now the Green Blade Rises”*

Now the green blade rises, from the buried grain; wheat that in dark earth many days has lain;
Love lives again, that with the dead has been: Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

In the grave they laid their Love whom hate had slain,
Thinking that their Love would never wake again,
Laid in the earth like grain that sleeps unseen: Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Christ came forth at Easter, like the risen grain, Jesus who for three days in the grave had lain;
Quick from the dead the risen One is seen: Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

When our hearts are wintry, grieving, or in pain,
Christ's warm touch can call us back to life again,
Fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:

Love is come again like wheat that rises green.

Prayers of the People *(sharing of joys and concerns)*

The Lord's Prayer *(debts and debtors)*

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, you heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

**We praise you, O God, and give you thanks that you have given us such joy, such grace, and such hope, in the resurrection of Jesus Christ our Lord. Let our lives be proof of that good news. Let all our words and actions, our love and service bear witness to your resurrection power, for the sake of our living Lord, Jesus Christ. Amen.**

*\**Hymn #193 PH *“Thine Is the Glory”*

Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son; endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast won.
Angels in bright raiment rolled the stone away,

kept the folded grave-clothes where Thy body lay.

Refrain: Thine be the glory, risen, conquering Son

endless is the victory Thou o’er death hast won.

Lo! Jesus meets us, risen from the tomb. Lovingly He greets us, scatters fear and gloom;
Let His church with gladness hymns of triumph sing,
for the Lord now liveth; death hath lost its sting. [Refrain]

No more we doubt Thee, glorious Prince of life!Life is nought without Thee; aid us in our strife;
make us more than conquerors, through Thy deathless love;
bring us safe through Jordan to Thy home above. [Refrain]

Benediction

Postlude

Guest Musicians:  Bill Schubeck & Lisa Durkee, trumpets; Doug McMillan, trombone;

Paul Dreisbach, bassoon;  George Emlen, organ