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## A Message From Pastor Jay

### SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM

Nursery and Sunday school at the 10:30am service

**MASK WEARING IS NOW OPTIONAL AS WE FOLLOW THE LATEST CDC UPDATED GUIDELINES. REFRESHMENTS AND FINGER FOODS ARE BACK NOW AFTER WORSHIP IN PERKINS HALL**

### SUNDAY TOPIC:

**Easter is almost here! Join us Sunday and invite your neighbors and friends. I will be preaching one of my favorite sermons: "3 F's On Our Report Card." Alter-Notes provides music; Henry is liturgist; and JJ & Ziggy share my annual caterpillar - butterfly example of resurrection / new life.**

#### **Good Friday Service - Noon in the Sanctuary**

#### **Good Friday Recorded Service - 4.2.21**

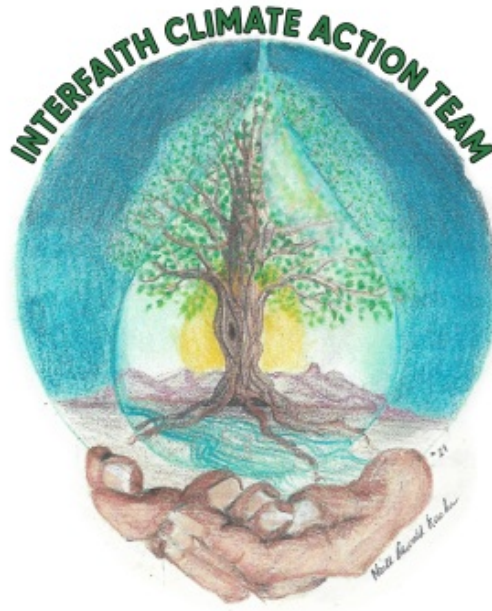
(Thanks to Micki Shelton, playwright, and Jim Logsdon, videographer, you can find on our past worship service tab a Good Friday service from last year. Micki wrote a play and asked actors to perform it. Check it out!

Our past worship services are now on the website! Click on the "past worship services" link on the opening page of the website and you will find all the services back to January of 2020! Thanks to Jim for letting us use his YouTube channel for easy access.

#### **ZOOM FAITH FORUM SATURDAY 10AM**

Let us know if you want to be added to the Zoom invitation

**ZOOM SUNDAY FELLOWSHIP HAS BEEN DISCONTINUED**



## Interfaith Service – Earth Care amidst Climate Change

The Prescott area *Interfaith Climate Action Team (ICAT)* invites you to come together to pray and praise the love of our Earth, the importance of the Environment, recognizing that Climate Change is happening and must be addressed locally and beyond. This is done in the spirit and unity of all faiths.

Where: First Congregational Church  
216 E Gurley St (E Gurley St at N Alarcon St)  
Prescott

When: Thursday April 28, 2022  
5pm

Program: Several pastoral leaders representing different faith traditions will each give a brief message. The service will include Song and Prayer, Peace and Reflection. We humans do not live in a vacuum. Our planet is fragile. We need to honor and protect the Earth for a more just and sustainable future.

For more information on Earth Day and Earth Week visit - <https://prescottearthday.org>

[Watch Worship Services Here](#)

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**NEW! SPECIAL OFFERING:** The UCC national headquarters has established a special fund to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Those donating should

write "Ukraine Relief" on their check memo line. Our Mission Outreach Committee will accept donations for a time period still TBD, and soon after deliver a check for the total amount given by the congregation to our Southwest Conference office.

### **“HOLY HUMOR SUNDAY”**

Next Sunday we observe “Holy Humor Sunday.” Many American churches are resurrecting an old Easter custom begun by the Greeks in the early centuries of Christianity-"Holy Humor Sunday" celebrations of Jesus' resurrection on the Sunday after Easter. For centuries in Eastern Orthodox, Catholic and Protestant countries, the week following Easter Sunday, including "Bright Sunday" (the Sunday after Easter), was observed by the faithful as "days of joy and laughter" with parties and picnics to celebrate Jesus' resurrection. The custom was rooted in the musings of early church theologians (like Augustine, Gregory of Nyssa, and John Chrysostom) that God played a practical joke on the devil by raising Jesus from the dead. "Risus paschalis - the Easter laugh," the early theologians called it.

## **CARING FOR CREATION**

### **ACTION ALERT from the Interfaith Climate Action Team(ICAT)**

ICAT, affiliated with the Northern Arizona Climate Change Alliance, is a grassroots, non-partisan team, representing different faith traditions and communities in the Prescott area. Its purpose is to amplify the voice of the faith community and encourage proactive civic engagement on the climate crisis. ICAT pursues this mission through networking, sharing and education within the faith community of our region. We currently have 14 members, representing 8 different faith communities. This April 24 is Earth Care Sunday in the Quad Cities area. We encourage you to raise awareness within your faith community of the moral and spiritual response for care of the Earth in your worship services on that Sunday. It's all about stewardship of the Earth - its peoples, creatures and resources. We need to protect and restore the Earth for future generations NOW. We at ICAT are available with specific resources that your faith community may find useful. We invite you to learn more about the Interfaith Climate Action Team and consider

appointing a representative to serve on ICAT. We stand ready to provide you more information on this important initiative. Let's use our faith traditions as a common bond to engage in this conversation and work. ICAT meets on the second Wednesday at 3:30 pm via ZOOM. For further assistance on Earth Care Sunday on April 24, please contact Mary Steenhoek at [marysteenhoek@gmail.com](mailto:marysteenhoek@gmail.com) For additional information on joining the Interfaith Climate Team, please ccontact Patrick Grady at [patrickgrady70@gmail.com](mailto:patrickgrady70@gmail.com)

### **Musical Guests Sunday - Alter-Notes**

Office Open by Appointment - Call Pastor Jay 928-899-9066

Outside groups are still not able to meet in the church as we come out of COVID spread and seek to adjust.

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## **APRIL MISSION NEWS**

**SPECIAL OFFERING:** The UCC national headquarters has established a special fund to provide humanitarian aid to Ukraine. Those donating should write "Ukraine Relief" on their check memo line. Our Mission Outreach Committee will accept donations for a time period still TBD, and soon after deliver a check for the total amount given by the congregation to our Southwest Conference office.

**MONTHLY FOCUS:** Each month we highlight a different mission outreach project/program. For the month of April, our highlighted program is One Great Hour of Sharing (OGHS).

One Great Hour of Sharing is one of four annual special mission offerings of the United Church of Christ. Donations support denominational programs of Health, Education, Agriculture, Disaster Relief, and Refugee Camp ministries. The theme for 2022 is Love Remains, based on 1 Corinthians 13.

In the theme scripture, the Apostle Paul helped newly converted Christians at Corinth embrace the virtue of love. Love is an active decision to think of others before self; to work on behalf of others; and to care for others with acts of kindness and advocacy. Paul taught that community is less about "me" and more about "us."

This ministry of compassion is a result of the love Paul called the church to, and the love we will continue to witness through your generosity and gifts given through the One Great Hour of Sharing offering. If you have the

means to provide a donation, checks may be made payable to the church with the memo: OGHS.

As always, thank you for remembering that we are blessed to be a blessing (Genesis 12:2).

*Mission Outreach Committee members are Gary & Patty Gard, Carolyn Christians, and Becky Bryant, chairperson. If you would like to serve with us, or have any other outreach matters to discuss, please contact Becky at (928) 910-2820 or [beckybryant2255@gmail.com](mailto:beckybryant2255@gmail.com).*

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## STUDY OPPORTUNITY

### ZOOM FAITH FORUM

The new faith forum will allow a variety of faith issues to be explored. Call or email the church office to be added to the weekly Zoom invitation: 928-445-4555; [fccprescott@gmail.com](mailto:fccprescott@gmail.com).

April 9 Yale Bible Study - Passover in the New Testament  
April 16: Yale Bible Study - The Beginnings of Easter  
April 23: Yale Bible Study – Resurrection in Luke’s Gospel  
April 30: Yale Bible Study – Resurrection in 1 Corinthians 15

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## SUNDAY BULLETIN

### EASTER SUNDAY

April 17, 2022

10:30 a.m.

*\*Those who are able may stand*

#### GATHERING TO WORSHIP GOD

##### Silent Prayer

*Gracious God, we bow in gratitude for all the ways we have met you in the week that is past. We pause in this quiet moment to remember with gratitude: a word of encouragement, an insight of truth, an answer to prayer, calm in the midst of stress, the people you have sent to us who support or challenge us; the work you have given us to do; moments of rest and relaxation. Thank you loving God for all these signs that you love us, understand us and come to us.*

Prelude: "Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day"

Brian Moore

Words of Welcome – Announcements - \*Passing of the Peace

A Time for Children of All Ages – JJ & Ziggy

(Children are welcome to go downstairs for Sunday school after the children’s

time)

**The Sacrament of Holy Baptism – Wyatt Clark and Winona Grace Greenwald**

**Welcome of New Members – Andrew & Morgan Greenwald; Helen Barnard**

**Gathering Music: "You Are Welcome Here"**

**Alter-Notes**

**Prayer of Invocation**

**Henry Dahlberg**

**Good News God, your angels appeared to the faithful women of Jesus' company, bringing the 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 offerin a message of tremendous joy to change our lives! Come this Easter morning, we pray, and fill u with joy, that our lives may be renewed in hope and glory. Let us roll back the stone of fear an doubt and experience the resurrected Christ once again! In Christ we pray, Amen.**

**Easter Acclamation L: Christ is risen! Alleluia!**

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

**\*Hymn: "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today"**

**New Century Hymnal #233**

### **PROCLAIMING GOD'S WORD**

**Gospel Reading: Luke 24:1-12 Henry Dahlberg**

**\*Hymn: "The Day of Resurrection"**

**New Century Hymnal #245**

**Sermon: "3 F's On Our Report Card"**

**Pastor Jay**

**Anthem: "Celebrate This Glorious Day" by Cristi Miller**

**Alter-Notes**

### **RESPONDING TO GOD'S GRACE**

**Prayers of the People & The Lord's Prayer (use trespasses)**

**Offering of Ourselves and our Gifts**

**Offertory: "A Joyful Alleluia"**

**\*Easter Doxology (tune: Old Hundredth)**

**Brian Moore**

**Let trumpets sound and voices sing! Let all on earth their praises bring!  
For Christ has conquered sin and death and given life eternal breath.**

**\*Prayer of Dedication**

**Henry Dahlberg**

**God of seekers and doubters, bless these gifts so that the world may know that you are always appearing. Bless our lives so that your love might appear in the work we share. Amen.**

\*Benediction

Pastor Jay

Go forth to live boldly, as if death has no power over you. Live as if your lives count for something--because they do. God calls us in abundant love to serve something greater than our own finite lives, a greater cause for which we would even lay down our lives, as Jesus did. For just as death on a tree could not stop the Christ, so our lives in service to God become larger than ourselves, part of the ever in-breaking realm of God. Go in peace, to love, to serve, and to proclaim:

One: Christ is risen! Alleluia!

Many: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

\*Postlude: "Honduras Alleluia" by Rob Glover

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## TREASURER REPORT

Income for the first quarter of 2022 is at \$44,471. This is 29% of the income budget. Expenses to-date are \$39,332. This is 25% of the expense budget. Income exceeds expenses by \$5,139.

Julie McCurdy, treasurer

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## CHURCH CALENDAR

Sunday Worship 10:30am

Nursery & Sunday School 10:30am

April 24 - Holy Humor Sunday

April 25 - Church Cabinet Meeting 5:30pm

April 28 - Interfaith Caring for Creation service 5:00pm

### The Church of Firsts

Since 1957, the United Church of Christ has been the [church of firsts](#), weaving God's message of hope and extravagant welcome with action for justice and peace. Together, we live out our faith in ways that effect change in our communities. The UCC's many "firsts" mean that we have inherited a tradition of acting upon the demands of our faith. When we read in Galatians: "There is no longer Jew or Greek, there is no longer slave or free, there is no longer male and female; for all of you are one in Christ Jesus"—a demand is made upon us. And so we were the first historically white denomination to ordain an African-American, the first to ordain a woman, the first to ordain an openly gay man, and the first Christian church to affirm the right of same-gender couples to marry. We were in

the forefront of the anti-slavery movement and the Civil Rights movement. Our response to the demands of our faith is woven into the history of our country.

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## SUPPORT THE CHURCH

Online – go to our website: [www.fccprescott.org](http://www.fccprescott.org) and look for the tab on the front page You can set up regular, ongoing giving or one-time giving.

Use your credit card and get some points!

Your bank may have free online bill pay. You find the tab on your online account, fill in the details of the check as you would a regular check, and the bank will mail it for you! You can set up a one-time check or recurring scheduled check amount.

Make a check out to the church and mail it to: 216 East Gurley Street, Prescott, AZ 86301

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United  
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Christ

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