

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER  
ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN  
**May 3, 2026 10am**  
5th Sunday of Easter

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PRELUDE                      MEDITATION\*                      CHURCH BELL

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WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS:     Ruth Frost, Moderator

INTROIT: Choir

\* OPENING HYMN: #50 The King of Love My Shepherd ( 1-3)

\*THE CALL TO WORSHIP: (responsive)

One: Easter people, in the midst of our questions and doubts, Jesus answers:

**ALL: I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

One: In the midst of our worry and distress, Jesus assures us:

**All: I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

One: In the midst of misinformation, confusion, and distrust, Jesus reminds us:

**All: I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

One: In the midst of dead ends and impossible challenges, Jesus shows us:

**All: I am the way, the truth, and the life.**

One: Come, let us worship as we learn to follow Christ, our way, our truth, and our life.

**All: Come, let us worship! Thanks be to God! Amen.**

\* GLORIA PATRI #558

\*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (unison)

**God of all journeys, the road we travel is stony,  
and often we struggle to hold fast to hope.**

**But in you, we find new courage,  
new purpose, and new life.**

**By your grace, teach us to live as your Easter people,  
with mercy, compassion, and justice.**

**Guide us with your light,  
that in your all-sufficient presence,  
we might raise our voices in endless praise. Amen.**

The Lord's Prayer ( debts/debtors)

HYMN OF PREPARATION: #349 Take My Life and Let It Be

SCRIPTURE: New Testament Acts 7:55-60  
Gospel : John 14:1-14

MESSAGE: Rev. Joe Hackett

SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir

SHARING OUR LIVES TOGETHER:

Thanksgivings  
Concerns of the Community

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE:

Silent Reflection and Prayers  
Pastoral Prayer

Community Prayer by and for the People

**Loving God, we gather as one, seeking your blessing for our community.  
Grant us peace, hope, and strength. Help us support each other  
with kindness and compassion, especially those in need. Guide us to build a  
caring and united future. Amen.**

SHARING OUR GIFTS:

Call to Giving  
Doxology

Offering Prayer

**Gracious God, we offer these gifts to you with thankful hearts. Bless them  
and use them to bring hope and love to those in need. Amen.**

\*CLOSING HYMN: #579 Lord, Dismiss Us with Thy Blessing

\*BENEDICTION:

May God bless you as you leave this place to follow the Way, to seek after the Truth, and to rejoice in the Life of the Triune God who draws us together and sends us out to be agents of Resurrection life in a hurting world. Amen  
POSTLUDE:

\*Denotes that all who are able, please stand

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*Welcome to the*  
**FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
**OF ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN**

**Looking ahead May 2026 calendar**

Sunday May 3  
10am Worship  
11am Spring Congregational Meeting

Tuesday May 5  
9am Tai Chi

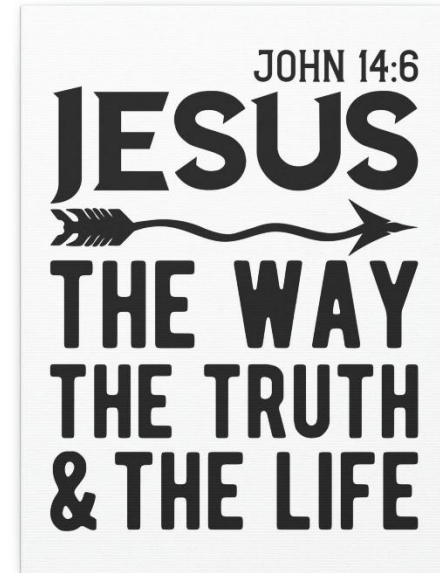
Thursday May 7  
5:30pm Choir Practice

Sunday May 10  
10am Worship ( Communion will be on May 24<sup>th</sup> Pentecost)

**Prayer Concerns**

Agneta Ray and Family  
Cindy Ovokaitys  
World Peace  
Nancy Kocejka

Reminder you can start bringing rummage sale items starting today.  
Please take items downstairs.  
No clothing, please. Questions contact Sue Beach.



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First Congregational Church of Rochester is a voluntary supporting member of the National Association of Congregational Christian Churches and the Wisconsin Congregational Association.







