FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF ROCHESTER ROCHESTER, WISCONSIN April 21, 2024 Fourth Sunday of Eastertide

PRELUDE	MEDITATION	CHURCH BELL
WELCOME AND A	NNOUNCEMENTS:	Ruth Frost, Moderator
WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS. Kuu		Rum 110st, Woderator
INTROIT: Choir		
*OPENING HYMN	# 194 "Easter Hymn"	
*THE CALL TO WO	ORSHIP: (responsive)	
Leader: The stone i	s rolled away, the tomb is en	npty, only linens remain.
People: Guards ha	ve left, so the 'stoney' obsta	acles hinder us no more.
Leader: Let faith, h	ope and joy flourish, for deat	h is now in full retreat.
People: Grim despair - begone! Jesus proved He is the resurrection.		
Leader: Let love be	our watchword, and let it be	inclusive and forgiving.

All: We come pardoned from sins, amazed by grace, singing for joy, united by love, energized by faith, and confident that Christ is alive - and preparing an eternal abode for us all.

*THE GLORIA PATRI: #558

*THE PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (unison)

Heavenly Father, Your obedient and beloved Son is our Lord and Savior. He - Incarnate Love - lived in human body of flesh, bones, and blood, Though innocent - He was bruised, bloodied, and battered, on a cruel Cross. Though dead, and three days entombed, He obliterated death and became the resurrection and life. May we be given resurrection power along with a deeper faith in things eternal, good, and of God's great grace. Come among us, O Lord! Amen.

HYMN OF PREPARATION: # 210 "Now the Green Blade Riseth"

SCRIPTURE LESSON: John 21:

SERMON: "Peter – Will it Be Fishing or Feeding?" Pastor, Paul Ray SPECIAL MUSIC: Choir

SHARING OUR LIVES TOGETHER: Thanksgivings Concerns of the Community

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE: Silent Prayer Prayers of Adoration, Confession, Thanksgiving, Supplication The Lord's Prayer (debts)

SHARING OUR GIFTS:

Call to Giving (offering trays will not be passed) *Doxology

*CLOSING HYMN: # 212 "At the Name of Jesus"

***BENEDICTION:**

POSTLUDE:

* Denotes that all who are able should stand

Calvary and Easter

A song of sunshine through the rain, Of spring across the snow; A balm to heal the hurts of pain, A peace surpassing woe. Lift up your heads, ye sorrowing ones, And be ye glad of heart, For Calvary and Easter day, Earth's saddest day and gladdest day, Were just three days apart! Susan Coolidge

LOOKING AHEAD AT OUR CALENDAR: <u>April:</u>

- Today Sunday, Apr. 21st Worship is a 10:00 am. Special music is by our Choir.
 - Church Council follows in the Parlor area.
- Saturday, Apr. 27th Wisc. Congregational Assoc. Annual Mtg. is at Faith Community Church in Franklin, WI.
- Sunday, Apr. 28th Worship is a 10:00 am. Special music is by Steve Dolphin.

May:

- Sunday, May 5th Worship is at 10:00 am. Special music is by our Choir.
 - **Spring Business meeting** of the Congregation will follow the in the downstairs dining hall.
- <u>Sunday, May 12th</u> Worship is at 10:00 am. Special music is by our Choir. Happy Mother's Day!
- Sunday, May 19th Worship is at 10:00 am. Special music is by Cindy Ovokaitys and Friends. Church
 - Council meets following the service .
- Sunday, May 26th Worship is at 10:00 am. Special music is by Jubilee Band.

Prayer Concerns:

Jill Haubrich – cancer	Lori Haley - hospice		
Audrey Koeper – cancer	Oscar - Brain tumor		
Daniel Hays	Rev. Stu Merkel - cancer		
Torin – autism	The lost and wandering souls		
Elizabeth Joseph	Peace and Good Will on Earth		
Morgan Haley	Those dealing with loss and grief.		
Tom Eckert - Lung cancer	God's Providence for Israel and Middle East		
Viveca Persson	Pastor Paul		
Ruth Frost	Morton		
Rev. Paul Ray. Pastor - Cell Phone: 508.837.4611			

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Emails: <u>rsvprayy@yahoo.com</u> <u>Church—pastor@fccrochesterwis.org</u>