

Chris Rose (he/him) is a teaching artist exploring embodiment in music education. A passionate improviser and Dalcroze Eurhythmics instructor, Chris plays trumpet, organ, guitar, and piano. He resides in North Bennington, VT and teaches at Bennington College.

***Worship has ended, let service begin.
Please join us after today's service for coffee hour and
fellowship here in Community Hall.***

Rev. Deanna schedules individual meetings by appointment. Please contact her by e-mail, pastor@firstchurchwilliamstown.org or the office phone, 413-458-4273

Deacon at the Door: Deborah Brown and Penny Bucky
Reader: Michael Payne
Greeters: Deborah Brown and Gail Oberst
Flowers: Pat Phillips



Fifth Sunday in Lent

March 17, 2024



Welcome and Announcements

Prelude: “Blessed Assurance” Phoebe Palmer Knap, 1839–1908 –Arr. for piano by Thomas W. Jefferson (b. 1963)
Chris Rose, piano

Call to Worship (Psalm 92: 1 – 4 para.)

Leader: It is good to praise the LORD and make music to your name, O Most High,

People: to proclaim your love in the morning and your faithfulness at night.

Leader: to the music of the lute and the harp, to the melody of the lyre.

People: For you, O God, have made me glad by your work; at the works of your hands I sing for joy.

All: Let us worship God, through song and word.

Introductory Remarks –Chris Rose

Hymn: “I woke up this morning” –African American
Traditional

Opening Prayer

Silence

(It is one of our traditions to sit in silence praying for our hearts to awaken to God’s presence, or taking time to clear our minds. We welcome the sounds of children.)

Assurance of God’s Love: Give Me a Clean Heart

All: Give me a clean heart so I may serve you.

God, fix my heart so that I may be used by you.

For I’m not worthy of all these blessings,

Give me a clean heart and I’ll follow you.

Psalm 51:1–12, Margaret J. Douroux

Passing of the Peace

Scripture: Deuteronomy 10: 12 –16 –Michael Payne

Hymn: “Lord, I want to be a Christian” –African American
Spiritual

Invitation to Giving (In Unison)

All: We offer back to God what God has first given us...our gifts, our time, and our talent. May each be of use to God’s church and people near and far.

– – Amen.

Offertory Anthem: “Down to the River to Pray” American Folk
Song

First Church Choir and Chris Rose

Doxology

All: Great God of grace and righteousness

We worship you in humbleness

Singing praises, alleluia!

May Christ abide in every heart

Within us reign and never part

Come, O Spirit, gentle Spirit

Loving Spirit, Holy Spirit

Alleluia! Amen

Prayer of Dedication (*Inspired by 1906 Book of Common
Worship of the Presbyterian Church U.S.A.*)

All: Merciful and gracious God, from whose open hand we all have received much:

We ask you to accept this offering of your people.

Remember in your love those who have brought it.

Remember also the people and purposes for which it is given. Bless this offering that it may promote peace and good will, and advance your kingdom in this realm. –Amen

Pastoral Prayer & **The Lord’s Prayer** (In unison)

Hymn: “Steal Away” –African American Spiritual

Benediction (*based on Ephesians 3:20–21*)

All: Now to the One who is able to do far more abundantly than all that we ask or think, according to the power at work within us, to God be glory in the church and in Christ Jesus throughout all generations, forever and ever. Amen.

Postlude: “Just a Closer Walk with Thee” Traditional Folk
Song

Chris Rose, Piano