

Hymn: #253 Yours is the Glory, Resurrected One!

Benediction

**Postlude: Prelude on *Gelobt sei Gott Flor Peters*
Edwin Lawrence, organ
c. 1966 C. F. Peters Corporation**

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

Ways to Connect With Rev. Deanna:

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

Second Sunday of Easter Service of the Word and Sacrament

April 7, 2024

**Deacon at the Door: Gail Oberst
Scripture Reader: Susan Clarke
Greeters: Bruce Grinnell, Cesar Silva**



**FIRST
CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH, UCC
WILLIAMSTOWN, MA**

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude The Warmth of Blood, the Chill of Steel, Prelude on Distress - Edwin Lawrence
Edwin Lawrence, organ

Deacon: Call to Worship (*based on 1 John 1:5-7*)

Leader: This is the good news which we proclaim to you,

People: Jesus Christ is raised from the dead!

Leader: Walk in the light of his love.

People: Live in the light of his teachings and healing mercies.

Leader: Come, let us worship the One Who overcame death.

People: Let us celebrate the triumph of our Lord. Amen.

Hymn: # 254 These Things Did Thomas Count

Confession/Private Prayer

Pastor: Please join me in introducing our time for private prayer

...

Everyone: The act of confessing can be an opportunity to receive God's mercy and share to acknowledge God's abundant grace in our lives. Confident of God's love for us, let us offer our prayers, in silence.

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: (we sing in unison)

Now the Green Blade Rises

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

Passing of the Peace

Scripture: John 20: 19-31

Susan Clarke

Reflection

-Rev. Deanna Shorb

Hymn: #337 Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

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.**

Anthem: **Rejoice together ev'ry one**

(Gesangbuch der Brüder, 1544) - Barrie Caben

First Church Choir

c. 2008 by E. C. Schirmer Music Company

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

Pastor and Congregation:

Loving God, we have so many reasons to say "thank You" to You. Your generosity, grace, and mercy are astounding and we pray that the gifts we offer in worship and throughout the week might be used in Your name. Help us to be generous with our financial resources, but also with our talents and time. Strengthen us to recognize Your blessings, to be grateful, and to respond accordingly. Amen.

Pastor: Pastoral Prayer & The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

