



FIRST  
CONGREGATIONAL  
CHURCH *of Essex Junction*  
*Love. Serve. Grow.*

*A Welcoming Community, Accepting  
and Serving All in the Spirit of Christ*

*Open & Affirming*

## **Order of Worship**

**April 5, 2020: Palm Sunday**

**Live Streaming at 9:30 am**

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### **SPECIAL PALM SUNDAY NOTES**

#### **PALMS**

If you would like to come and get your palm so you have them for worship this week [Laurie will be folding them into crosses for the Children's Message], they will be all ready for you to pick up beginning on Friday noon by the Church Street entrance in a big colored tub. Please do not congregate as you pick them up and take one per person for each member of your family. Naturally, try to only touch the ones you will be taking.

#### **COMMUNION**

We will continue to have communion on the first Sunday of each month but will do so differently due to our service being live streamed. Instead of having the bread and juice provided, we ask that **EVERYONE BRING THEIR OWN** bread and juice or its equivalent. Some might bring crackers and water, others oreos and cokes.....it is not the substance that matters but the way in which you use the substance to remember Jesus, the Last Supper and God's love for you.

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### **Order of Worship**

#### **Introductory Music**

- Begins ten minutes before the hour and a few minutes into the service time
- As worship begins: Light a candle at home, Sit in a comfortable spot, Center yourself w/ breathing
- And go to the kitchen and get the elements for communion [see above]

#### **Service Input Preparation: Text NOW to make the service run more smoothly.**

1. Thankfulness: Text Rev. Mark one thought of gratitude [802 922-1773]
2. Kid's Names: Text Rev. Mark your child's name for Children's Message
3. Prayer Requests: Text Rev. Mark your Prayer Requests [802 922-1773]

#### **Welcome**

**No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey  
you are welcome in this place.**

**An Opening Reading on Gratitude** [Sharing some items of gratitude from the congregation]

**A few key announcements** [most will be at the end of the service]

**Hymn**

**All Glory, Laud and Honor**

**All glory, laud and honor, to you, O Christ, we sing  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosanna's ring!  
The people of the Hebrews with palms adorned your way,  
Our praise and prayer and anthems we offer you this day.**

**As you received their praises, receive our prayers today,  
whose justice and whose mercy and sovereignty hold sway.**

**All glory, laud and honor to you, O Christ, we sing,  
To whom the lips of children made sweet hosanna's ring!**

**Children's Message**

**Making our Crosses**

**Laurie Chipman**

**Pastoral Prayer**

Text the prayers you want the minister to include: Rev. Mark 802 922-1773  
Will end with the Lord's Prayer

**Anthem**

**Scripture Psalm 18:1-3  
Ephesians 2:1-10  
Matthew 2:1-11**

People watching are encouraged to get your bibles and read along.

**Sermon**

**What Salvation Means for Your Life Today**

**Rev. Mendes**

**Communion**

**Obviously, we will observe Holy Communion a little differently today. Reverends Mark and Josh will offer an invitation to communion, then say the words of institution, then they will ask all of you to hold up the elements, which they will then consecrate. After consecration, they will ask you to eat the bread and then drink the cup, ending with a Prayer of Thanksgiving. Absolutely everyone is welcome at Christ's table.**

**Closing Hymn**

**Amazing Grace**

**Amazing grace, how sweet the sound that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost but now am found, was blind but now I see**

**Through many dangers, toils and snares I have already come  
Tis grace has brought me safe thus far and grace will lead me home.**

**Benediction and blowing out our candles**

**Announcements and Zoom Fellowship Hour: meeting ID # 980 588 369**

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**The altar flowers are given by Joanne Irwin  
In loving memory of Alan Irwin**

# ANNOUNCEMENTS

## Holy Week Services

**Facebook Live Link:** <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>

### **Palm Sunday - April 5 @ 9:30 am**

- via Facebook Live & Broadcasting on FM 104.1 - to listen, park in church parking lot
- Virtual Communion – have simple crackers/bread and juice/water ready at home

### **Maundy Thursday - April 9 @ 6 pm**

- via Facebook Live
- Join us to remember Jesus' last supper
- Pastors Mark and Josh will host Maundy Thursday dinner discussion. Bring your phone or computer to the table while you eat dinner at home.
- Virtual Communion – have simple crackers/bread and juice/water ready at home

### **Good Friday - April 10<sup>th</sup> @ 7 pm**

- via Facebook Live
- Tenebrae Service of Light and Shadows -- a traditional service where we read the passion of Jesus' last hours on earth and extinguish candles as slowly his life comes to an end.

### **Saturday Interactive Worship - April 11<sup>th</sup> @ 4:30 pm**

- via Zoom (audio and video): <https://zoom.us/j/403773331>
- For audio only: Call 646-558-8656 / Meeting ID number: 403 773 331
- What does resurrection mean for us? How does the resurrection of Jesus apply to our lives? We'll discuss these questions at this interactive worship service.

### **Easter Sunday – April 12 @ 6:00 am (sunrise service) & 9:30 am**

- via Facebook Live
- 9:30 am Only: Broadcasting on FM 104.1 - to listen, park in church parking lot
- Join us to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus the Christ!

**Fellowship Time/Coffee Hour on Zoom @ 10:30 After Sunday Morning Services**  
<https://zoom.us/j/980588369> Meeting ID: 980 588 369.

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## Regular Teleworship & Fellowship Services

- Sunday Worship at 9:30am @ <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>
- Fellowship Hour, after Sunday Service ~ 10:30am @ <https://zoom.us/j/980588369>
- Saturday Worship at 4:30pm @ <http://zoom.us/j/403773331>
- Daily Devotionals, Weekdays 8am and 8pm @ <https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/>

- Daily Lunch Break, Weekdays at Noon @ <https://zoom.us/j/954072355>
  - Yoga with Jonah, Mondays and Thursdays at 5:30pm @ <https://smcvt.zoom.us/j/9484805110>
  - Solidarity Group with Rev. Josh Simon, Mondays at 7pm @ <http://zoom.us/j/910565449>
  - Sermon Talk Back, Tuesday at 8:30am @ <http://zoom.us/j/740803865>
  - **\*\*\*UPDATE: Storytime with Laurie now has a password. Contact her at [lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org).\*\*\***  
Storytime with Laurie, Thursdays at 10:30am @ <https://zoom.us/j/461548603>
  - Church Committees utilize Zoom as needed. Please, contact the relevant committee chair for details.
  - Don't have a web camera? No problem! Visit our Facebook Events page and click your desired event for a list of phone numbers that you can call to join by telephone/cellphone. (There are numbers for people living nationally and internationally):  
<https://www.facebook.com/firstcongregationalej/events/>
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## Our Prayer Ministry

Heather (Catherine Lapiere's niece)	Richard Ansell (Carol Spradling's Father)	Graham Sicalowski (Lauren Starkey's son)
Robert & Claire Deal	Christine Sinkewicz & Family	Denise Keating & Family
Barb Blanchette	Rev. Patricia & Rev. Fred	Judy Janwich
George Jackson	The Schneider Family	Fletch & Peg Coolidge and Family
Betty Adams & Family	John A & Family	Russ Schneider
Diane & Sara	Those defending us or harmed by the Coronavirus	

## Easter Lilies

Thank you all for ordering Easter Lilies. Those who placed their orders will have their bouquets displayed during our Easter Teleworship on Sunday, April 12<sup>th</sup>. If it is a possibility, staff will hatch a plan to deliver your lilies to those who bought them. Keep an eye on your emails or ear open to hear the phone ringing should we try to contact you.

## **Hannaford Gift Cards are still available!**

The church receives \$5 for each \$100 Gift Card we sell, and we appreciate this fundraising now more than ever! *Want to get started?* Contact Pat Seaver at [vttri2@aol.com](mailto:vttri2@aol.com) and she will mail a card to you. Let her know how much you would like to add to the card and send a check to the church. Be sure to put "Hannaford Card" on the reference line of your payment. *Need a refill?* Contact Pat Seaver at [vttri2@aol.com](mailto:vttri2@aol.com) and give her your name, the amount of money to be applied, and the last four digits of the gift card. Note: if you bought your card somewhere other than the church, you would need to provide the full length of digits. You will receive an email when funds have been added to your card. Please allow 1- 2 weeks for processing as the cards are done in batches. Questions? Please call Doug Ovitt in the Church Office at 802-878-5745 extension 100. Please mail checks payable to FCCEJ (or use online Bill Pay): First Congregational Church of Essex Junction 1 Church Street Essex Junction, VT 05452 Please include "Hannaford Reload" and the date on the subject line.

## **JUMP Adapts to Online Services**

NOW AVAILABLE -- the Joint Urban Ministry Project Flex Assistance Support (FAS) online application. FAS delivers by mail aid to the home of eligible clients designed to provide a safe and efficient means to purchase groceries or transportation gas assistance.

Although limited, JUMP has adapted operations to remain open ONLY online to ensure service continuity and well-being. We can only do what we can within those limitations. Everyone is making adaptations, whether non-profits or the business world. As such, currently, JUMP is only able to help clients with proof of residency.

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To learn more about FAS and how you can apply online, please visit JUMP webpage, click here:

<http://www.jumpvt.org/flexassistancesupport.html>

## **Looking for Easter Egg Suncatchers**

Families - our Faith Formation at Home email had instructions for our Hands-on Mission project to work on at home for March 22nd. We are still looking for more to go in our Called to Care Easter baskets. Please message, email Laurie Chipman ([lchipman@fcej.org](mailto:lchipman@fcej.org)) or give me a call so I know ... who is still working on this fun craft and how many you have .... when/how you got them to the church. Staff are still watching for more of them to arrive. Thank you all!

# Ministry Directory

## Church Staff

**Senior Pastor:** Rev. Mark Mendes [[mmendes@fccej.org](mailto:mmendes@fccej.org)]

**Associate Pastor:** Rev. Josh Simon [[jsimon@fccej.org](mailto:jsimon@fccej.org)]

**Music Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto:cspradling@fccej.org)]

**Christian Education Director:** Laurie Chipman [[lchipman@fccej.org](mailto:lchipman@fccej.org)]

**Church Administrator:** Doug Ovitt [[welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org)]

## Music Ministry

**Cherub Music:** Jenny Bourn [[jennybourn4@gmail.com](mailto:jennybourn4@gmail.com)], Laura Marthaler [[Laura.marthaler@gmail.com](mailto:Laura.marthaler@gmail.com)]

**Currier Bell Choir Director:** Carolyn Harris [899-6759]

**Finally @ First Director:** Rick Dooley [[rickdooley5@gmail.com](mailto:rickdooley5@gmail.com)]

**Joyful Noise:** Jessica Moos [[jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com](mailto:jessicamoosvermont@gmail.com)]

**Men At First Director:** Bill Bickford, Jr. [[bill.bickford@aol.com](mailto:bill.bickford@aol.com)]

**Sanctuary Choir/Heavenly Harmony Director:** Carol Spradling [[cspradling@fccej.org](mailto:cspradling@fccej.org)]

## Committee / Church Officer Contacts

**President, Chair Human Resources Committee:** Maureen Evans [233-6127]

**Vice President, Chair Finance & Pastoral Relations:** Cathy Shearer [878-6023]

**Treasurer & Historian:** Ann Gray [878-4088]

**Asst. Treasurer:** Dan Petherbridge [879-0261]

**Financial Secretary:** Pat Seaver [879-4445]

**Clerk:** Christine Sinkewicz [878-4470]

**Christian Education:** Lisa Clark [872-5849]

**Communications:** Andrea Sharp [879-0580], Judy McCullen [878-9794]

**Deacons:** Judy Larrabee-Pomainville [802-236-0604]

**Hospitality:** Jim Glatz [503-5076]

**Missions:** Joanne Irwin [878-2528], Ed Steele [871-5897]

**Music:** Denise Keating [345-8900]

**Nominating:** Barb Smith [310-2491]

**Stewardship:** Jessica Moos [399-8068], Shannon McCullen [922-8792]

**Trustees:** Kaki McGeary [879-2062]

**Ushering:** Justin King [238-6273], Jessica Moos [399-8068]

Recognized Groups at First Church

**Heavenly Cents Thrift Shop** Sue Wood [879-6552] OR [woodsusanjane@gmail.com](mailto:woodsusanjane@gmail.com)

**Heavenly Food Pantry Contact:** Valerie Gabert [879-0109]

1 Church Street Essex Junction, VT 05452 • Phone: 802-878-5745 Fax: 802-872-8236

Website: [www.fccej.org](http://www.fccej.org) • E-mail: [welcome@fccej.org](mailto:welcome@fccej.org)