

# First Congregational Church of Pelham

United Church of Christ

**An Open and Affirming Church**

*"Sharing What God's Love Looks Like"*

*+Please rise in body or spirit.*

MUSIC FOR CENTERING

WELCOME

INTROIT "Easter Introit" Steve Kloser

*"Lift up your hearts! Let voices ring! Christ now is risen.  
Rejoice and sing. Alleluia. Amen."*

CALL TO WORSHIP

Open us, O God, like tombs giving way to your light.

**Open us, O God . . .**

**to your possibilities,**

**to your word,**

**to your surprises,**

**to your love,**

**to your grace,**

**to your risen presence.**

+HYMN "Christ the Lord Is Risen Today" #196

WHAT'S IN THE BAG?

+SINGING PRAISES TO GOD "Halle, Halle, Hallelujah" #571

***Halle, halle, hallelujah! Halle, halle, hallelujah!***

***Halle, halle, hallelujah! Hallelujah! Hallelujah!***

PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

**Risen One, with Mary Magdalene, help us recognize you this day as we hear your word and feast together. You are "Rabboni," our Teacher, our Guide. Come speak to us, that we might be messengers of your love and doers of your word. Amen.**

PROCLAIMING THE WORD John 20:1-18

CHORAL ANTHEM "Hail The Day That Sees Him Rise!"

arr Dan Forrest

(with congregation)

REFLECTION

Now What?

+HYMN "Lift High the Cross" #537

SUNG CALL TO PRAYER "In The Garden" #205 vs1

SILENCE

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (SUNG) #412

A TIME OF OFFERING OURSELVES

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

\*SUNG RESPONSE "Easter Doxology" tune #563

Text: John H. Danner

***Let trumpets sound and voices sing!***

***Let all on earth their praises bring!***

***For Christ has conquered sin and death***

***And given life eternal breath. Amen.***

+PRAYER OF DEDICATION

**Generous God, we offer these gifts as our testimony to your glory and as our commitment as your disciples. Bless our gifts to your work in the world and to your reign here on earth. Through your blessing of our gifts, may death be destroyed and hope fill all of creation. Amen.**

+HYMN "Because He Lives" #204

+BLESSING FOR THE JOURNEY

We have seen the Lord this day!

We now go into the world to spread this good news.

God is good! **All the time!**

And all the time! **God is good!**

**May we be blessed and may we be a blessing, in the name of the Creator, Redeemer, and Sustainer. Amen.**

SUNG BENEDICTION "Hallelujah"

from *Messiah*, G.F. Handel

Ministers: All Members of the Church

Pastor: Rev. Carlos Jauhola-Straight

Director of Music: Tom Seniow

Organist: Carolyn (Sue) Howard

Bell Choir Director: Sharon Hone

Deacons: Joe Calabro, Paula Fowlie, David Wilkerson

Special Thanks to Our Guest Musicians

Gary Tepolt, flute and clarinet

Matthew Gellar, clarinet