

A close-up photograph of several white lilies with yellow centers, set against a soft, teal background. The lilies are in sharp focus, with some petals showing delicate veining and slight shadows.

I SERVE A *Risen* SAVIOR

Why seek ye the living among the dead?
He is not here, but is risen.

Luke 24:5-6



THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

United Church of Christ
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EASTER DAY
THE FESTIVAL OF THE RESURRECTION
MARCH 27, 2016

*For parents that wish to remain with their children
the church Library has a live audio feed of the worship service.*

*To ensure the sanctity and safety of our Easter celebration, parents are asked to keep their
children from reaching for the balloons - until the completion of our worship service!*

**Those who are able are invited to stand.*

PRELUDE

Mr. John Hanulik (Oboe) and Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

WELCOME

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger

ANNOUNCEMENTS

MOMENT OF SILENCE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

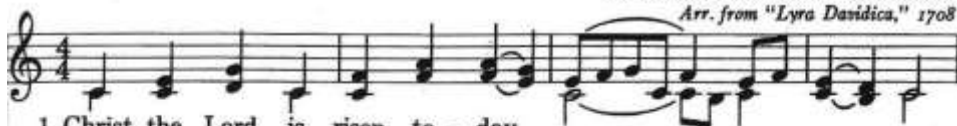
***HYMN # 182**

“CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY”

(next page)

CHRIST THE LORD IS RISEN TODAY

EASTER HYMN 7.7.7.7. with *Alleluias*
Arr. from "Lyra Davidica," 1708



1 Christ the Lord is risen to - day,
 2 Lives a - gain our glo - rious King,
 3 Love's re - deem - ing work is done, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 4 Soar we now where Christ has led,
 5 Hail the Lord of earth and heaven!



Sons of men and an - gels say:
 Where, O death, is now thy sting?
 Fought the fight, the bat - tle won, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Fol - lowing our ex - alt - ed Head,
 Praise to thee by both be given,



Raise your joys and tri - umphs high,
 Dy - ing once, he all doth save,
 Death in vain for - bids him rise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Made like him, like him we rise,
 Thee we greet tri - um - phant now,



Sing, ye heavens, and earth re - ply:
 Where thy vic - to - ry, O grave?
 Christ has o - pened Par - a - dise, Al - - le - lu - ia!
 Ours the cross, the grave, the skies,
 Hail, the Res - ur - rec - tion thou!

A-men.



***CALL TO WORSHIP** (*responsively*)

Rev. Rosenberger

When death devastated us in every way,
we awoke prepared for grief and sorrow.

**But new hope dawned long ago--
the morning of the new creation!**

The women, bearing myrrh, prepared for mourning,
were awakened instead to joy. How can this be?

**This is the third day.
the tomb is empty,
the cherished dream is fulfilled!**

Christ is risen!

**He is risen indeed!
Thanks be to God!**

***LORD'S PRAYER** (debts...debtors)

Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE AND DISMISSAL

(Childcare in the Circle Room, for children 3rd grade and younger.)

***LITANY OF THE EMPTY TOMB**

Rev. Rosenberger

Lord, Jesus Christ, we come to the lonely cross:

**And we see you stripped,
we see you murdered,
we see you deserted.**

Lord, Jesus Christ, we come to the empty tomb:

**And we imagine our death,
we see our own tomb,
we perceive our own emptiness.**

(continued)

Lord, Jesus Christ, when we enter the empty tomb:

**We are first confused and afraid,
we are bewildered and breathless,
we are unsure what transpires--for good or ill?**

Lord, Jesus Christ, when we enter the empty tomb:

**We stand silently as our hearts race within us,
as though you never predicted your vindication,
as though your power was unreal because it wasn't a show,
as though God couldn't reverse all things dark and forbidding.**

Lord, Jesus Christ, when we exit the empty tomb:

**We simply must tell someone or we shall burst,
we bolt toward those who will celebrate with us,
we ponder how to say what words cannot express,
then we wonder why they are so reluctant to believe.**

Lord, Jesus Christ, when we remember the empty tomb:

**We realize that you have done for us,
what we could not do for ourselves,
what is not within our power to change,
what shall stand eternally as your gracious gift.**

Lord, Jesus Christ, as we celebrate the empty tomb:

**We glorify your holy name,
the Lord over Life,
the Conqueror of Death,
the Source of all hope and salvation. Amen.**

*GLORIA

(all respond, singing...)

Tune: Hyfrydol

**"Praise the Lord! for he is glorious; never shall God's promise fail;
God hath made his saints victorious, Sin and death shall not prevail.
Praise the God of our salvation! Hosts on high, his power proclaim.
Heaven, and earth, and all creation, Laud and magnify God's name. Amen"**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

EPISTLE LESSON

I CORINTHIANS 15:19-26

(page 176)

Gary Holmes, Deacon (9:00)

Dave Miller, Deacon (11:00)

Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia!

1 The strife is o'er, the bat - tle done; The vic - to - ry of
 2 The powers of death have done their worst, But Christ their le - gions
 3 The three sad days are quick - ly sped, He ris - es glo - rious
 4 Lord, by the stripes which wound - ed thee, From death's dread sting thy

life is won; The song of tri - umph has be - gun:
 hath dis - persed; Let shouts of ho - ly joy out - burst:
 from the dead; All glo - ry to our ris - en Head!
 serv - ants free, That we may live and sing to thee:

Al - le - lu - ia! A - men.

GOSPEL LESSON

JOHN 20:1-18
(page 114)

Rev. Rosenberger

SERMON

“WHY ARE WE WEeping?”

Rev. Rosenberger

OFFERTORY

“EASTER FESTIVAL ALLELUIA”
Senior Choir

Cesar Franck

***DOXOLOGY**

Praise God from whom all bless - ings flow; Praise God, all crea - tures here be - low; Praise
God a - bove, ye heav'n - ly host; Praise Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. A - men.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** (*all uniting*)

Thank you, God, for the gift and miracle of resurrection. We rejoice in Jesus Christ as the first fruits of your promises. As you offered Christ to the world, so we would offer ourselves. Let his rising embolden our attempts to live anew lives of love. May we, along with our gifts, testify to the gospel of forgiveness and reconciliation. Amen.

***CONGREGATIONAL SINGING OF THE HALLELUJAH CHORUS FROM “MESSIAH”**

After the service, kindly leave copies of the “Hallelujah Chorus” score in the pews

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Mr. John Hanulik and Mr. Maxim Pakhomov

* * *

TODAY’S GREETERS are:

(9:00 a.m.) The Almy Family – Missy, Rich, Richie and Paulina

(11:00 a.m.) Doug and Sue Robbins

TODAY’S USHERS are:

(9:00 a.m.) Lou Converse, Gary Holmes and Steve Weeden

(11:00 a.m.) April Barker, Kristin Desautelle and Dave Miller



EASTER FLOWER DEDICATIONS

In Memory of Bill and Gloria Abbotts
Jim Abbotts

In Celebration and in Memory of my wife Jackie, dearly departed
Robert D. Alston

In Memory Mr. and Mrs. Harrison Fawcett
Jackie Fawcett

In Memory of Loved Ones
The Grune Family

In Celebration of Our Parents
Elaine and Tucker Scott

In Gratitude for Liz Sheed & Mary Nancy Todd
The Sheed Family

In Memory of Alexander "Sandy" Sheed and John Saltsman
The Sheed Family

In Memory of Rev. Alfred Schmalz and Kathryn Schmalz
The Schmalz-Nelson Family

In Memory of Jean Miller
The Schmalz-Nelson Family

In Memory of William Theodore Stewart and Florence Muriel Stewart
Theodora S. Osgood

In Honor of Our Parents and In Gratitude for Dan, Max and our beautiful Choir
The Wetmore Family

CHURCH ANNOUNCEMENTS

Board of Christian Outreach

Cook and Serve at the Open Door Shelter!

Please keep in mind, volunteers must be 16 years of age or older.

If you are interested in either cooking or serving, please contact Heather Raker at HRaker@me.com

The Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart

Planning is now underway for the second *Darien House Tour: Homes with Heart*, which will take place on June 2nd with a celebratory after party on June 3rd. Proceeds will benefit *Darien's Thriving Youth Initiative*, the Community Fund of Darien's new program that seeks to address the issues of youth mental health in our community, as well as approximately 20 other local non-profit organizations. Our next meeting will be Wednesday, March 30 at 9:30, at FCCD.

NEEDED - SILENT AUCTION ITEMS – Anyone with connections to events (sporting, theatre, television) or restaurants, Services (interior Design, Art, landscaping) please contact Anna Denoyer at anna.denoyer@gmail.com.

The Hymnal Committee

Is in the process of calculating the total number of hymnals to be ordered. If you are interested in purchasing a hymnal to have in your home or to give as a gift (\$25 per copy), please email Kristin Desautelle (kristindesautelle@gmail.com) so we can add you to the total. Also, in just a few weeks, the committee will be taking orders from those who want to dedicate a meetinghouse hymnal to a loved one with an inscribed bookplate (\$25 per copy). Look for the display in the Parish Hall.

TODAY'S EASTER OFFERING
will be shared to support the ministries of our congregation and
At Home In Darien.

At Home In Darien helps Darien seniors live independently, comfortably, and with dignity in their own homes and the community as long as possible. The organization began in our church and then moved into the community and eventually merged with Gallivant to provide senior transportation, handyman services, and links to vetted service providers.
www.AtHomeInDarien.org

CHURCH CALENDAR

MONDAY, MARCH 28

Bell Choir, 4:30 p.m. in the Morehouse Room

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 30

Darien House Tour Meeting, 9:30 a.m. in the Morehouse Room

SUNDAY, APRIL 3 – THIRD GRADE COMMUNION

Worship Services at 8:30 a.m. and 10:00 a.m.

WELCOME TO THE FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF DARIEN

We are an accepting community where faith in Christ makes a difference. We welcome you to worship with us wherever you are on your journey. As a spiritual home, our hallmarks are education, fellowship and pastoral care. Children have a special place in our church family, and are embraced with love, guidance and opportunities for spiritual growth. We are a church of conscience, unafraid of the issues of today and serving as a reconciling force among different faiths.



Ministers: Every member of the congregation.

Clergy and Staff:

The Rev. Dale Rosenberger, *Pastor (emergency pager)* 1-(203) 368-7789
Mr. Gary Morello, *Associate Minister (emergency pager)* 1-(203) 368-7789

The Rev. Ronald T. Evans, *Pastor Emeritus*

Sally Bassler, *Lay Minister for Pastoral Care* (cell) (203) 554-1724

Mary Jo Colman, *Church School Director*

Daniel Hague, *Music Director* Maxim Pakhomov, *Organist*

Teri Manning, *Nursery School Director* Karen Hansen, *Treasurer*

Dennis Hanlon, *Church Administrator*

Carlos Maya, *Weekday Sexton* Ruth Salazar, *Sunday Sexton*

Find "First Congregational Church of Darien"
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