

CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF EAST SUMNER
National Association of Christian Congregational Churches (NACCC)
Second Sunday in Easter
April 7, 2024

Welcome and Announcements

Prelude

The Call to Worship

Psalm 133

How very good and pleasant it is when kindred live together in unity!

It is like the precious oil on the head, running down upon the beard, on the beard of Aaron, running down over the collar of his robes. It is like the dew of Hermon, which falls on the mountains of Zion. For there the LORD ordained his blessing, life forevermore.

* Hymn "Now the Green Blade Rises" Hymnal # 311

* The Gathering Prayer of Confession

* The Invitation

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor. Let us pray.

* The Prayer of Confession

Gracious God, in this Eastertide we remember what You have done for us, Your very fallen people. We know that we are not worthy of You or the provision that You have made for us that we celebrate during this season. Lead us to live our lives in You in humility.

On this day when we share at Your table and remember that sacrifice You made for our redemption and salvation, give us grounding in You that we do not stray and become so caught up in the busyness of our lives that we forget Your call.

We hold up to You also not only our own individual sins, but also the corporate sins which we are embroiled in, both consciously and sometimes because we simply choose to ignore the injustice around us, thinking that it does not belong to us.

A moment of silent prayer

Jesus Christ lived, died and rose again for us and the world. We are thankful for God's forgiveness, through Jesus Christ, and earnestly pray that each of us individually and collectively will be guided to walk in the path of light, the path trod before us by Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

* The Assurance of Pardon

The promise of our risen Lord is that if we confess our mistakes sincerely, with intent to change, we are forgiven, and a new day has begun. Let us praise the Lord!

* The Gloria Patri

Hymnal #734

Scripture

Acts 4:32-35

1 John 1:1-2:2

John 20:19-31

p 969/LP 1476

p 1081/LP 1645

p 962/LP 1467

Sermon

Bill Glass

Prayers of the Church - Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(in unison)*

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, for ever. Amen.

* Doxology

Hymnal #34

* The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

Insert

* Benediction

* Response "*Blest be the Tie That Binds* (1st verse only) Hymnal #393

*Blest be the tie that binds
our hearts in Christian love;
the fellowship of kindred minds
is like to that above.*

* Postlude

* *All who are able, please stand.*

For church or pastoral matters, feel free to contact Bill Glass (388-2263) or one of the deacons. If you wish to ask for a visit or call, you may place signed notes (comments, etc.) in the offering plate.

The offering is being taken as a retiring offering, with the offering plates at the back of the sanctuary.

By custom, during worship we share in Communion on the first Sunday of each month. If you wish to participate in Communion on another Sunday, just mention that to the deacon or Bill. Communion is always available after the worship service.

Annual Spring Sale (May 18). The sale includes plants, raffle baskets, beanhole bean lunches, bake sale goods and local vendors. It's time to start planning. The 1st organizational meeting will be **TODAY** after Coffee Hour. The 2nd meeting to go over details will be **April 28** and the final check-list meeting will be **May 12**. We try to keep meetings under 90 minutes. All ideas and suggestions to make this a better event are encouraged. Cyndy

Norton is the contact for vendors--207-388-2667 or norton@megalink.net.
Let's plan some fun.

Work Days. Please mark your calendars for the work days on April 20th and May 4th. There's a lot to do in order to clean up the grounds and the church. There's a chore for everyone, whether you can work outside cleaning up behind the church, or restoring the gravel to the parking lot or doing one of the inside projects. Plan on 8:30am-noon each of those days.

Church calendar-

Today	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. Communion. Deacons Fund Offering
	10:45am	Spring Sale organizational meeting
Wednesday, Apr. 10	6:30pm	Council meeting
Saturday, Apr. 13	1-4pm	Woodcarvers
Sunday, Apr. 14	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. The Pipes.
	10:45am	Deacons meeting.
	10:45am	Search committee meeting.
Monday, Apr. 15	9am-Noon	Food Bank
Thursday, Apr. 18	11am-2pm	Soup & sandwiches
Saturday, Apr. 20	8:30am-Noon	Work Day!
Sunday, Apr. 21	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. Nicene Creed.
Sunday, Apr. 28	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following.
Saturday, May 4	8:30am-Noon	Work Day!
Sunday, May 5	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. Communion.
Sunday, May 12	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. The Pipes.
Saturday, May 18	9am-1pm	Spring Sale!
Sunday, May 19	9:00am	Worship with coffee hour following. The Apostles Creed

This Week's Lectionary.

Mon. Apr. 8	Psalm 135	Daniel 3:1-30	1 John 2:3-11
Tues., Apr. 9	Psalm 135	Daniel 6:1-28	1 John 2:12-17
Wed., Apr. 10	Psalm 135	Isaiah 26:1-15	Mark 12:18-27
Thurs., Apr. 11	Psalm 4	Daniel 9:1-19	1 John 2:18-25
Fri., Apr. 12	Psalm 4	Daniel 10:2-19	1 John 2:26-28
Sat., Apr. 13	Psalm 4	Acts 3:1-10	Luke 22:24-30



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
OF
EAST SUMNER, MAINE

“We are a welcoming family of faith
who proclaims God’s love and grace in words and deeds,
in covenant with each other and in service to the community.”

Worshipping and Serving since 1802

50 Main Street, Sumner, ME 04292
207-388-2610 esummercc@gmail.com
<http://eastsumnercongregationalchurch.weebly.com>
Ministers: The Gathered Community of Faith

Insert Page 1

The Sacrament of the Lord's Supper

The Invitation

The Hymn of Preparation

“O Sons and Daughters” Hymnal #313

Lift up your hearts!

We lift them up to the Lord!

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give God thanks and praise.

The Great Thanksgiving

It is right, O Lord our God, to give you thanks in all times, places and circumstances, for all your many gifts and blessings to us. But most of all we praise you for the glorious resurrection of your Son, Jesus Christ our Lord. He lived among us as a man, demonstrated your love to our broken and fractured world, died for us, the undeserved death of a criminal, that our sins might be forgiven. Dying, he destroyed death, and by his resurrection won eternal life for us, and for all that dwell in him. Therefore, we join with angels, and archangels, and all the company of heaven, who forever proclaim your glory, saying:

Holy, Holy, Holy Lord, God of power and might

Heaven and earth are full of your glory,

Hosanna in the highest!

Blessed is he, who comes in the name of the Lord,

Hosanna in the highest, Hosanna to the Lord!

The Commemoration

On the night in which our Lord was betrayed, he sat at the table with his friends. Breaking bread, he said: “Take and eat. This is my body which is broken for you. As often as you share it together, do it in remembrance of me.”

When the meal was finished, he poured a cup, blessed it and said: “Drink this all of you. This is my blood which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sin. As often as you share it, do so in remembrance of me.”

The Consecration

Bless now these gifts of bread and wine, elements chosen from our common life. Pour out your Holy Spirit upon them, and upon us removing them from all common and ordinary use, letting them be, when received in faith, the body and blood of Christ, food for the journey on which he is both guide and goal. By that same Spirit, fill our minds and hearts with

Insert Page 2

desire to offer our lives in service to you. Amen.

Thus we proclaim the core of our faith: Christ has died; Christ is risen; Christ will come again. These are the gifts of God. Receive them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

The Communion

We invite to the Table all who recognize Christ as Lord, regardless of denominational affiliation or lack thereof. Today we will receive the elements seated in our pews. Please wait until each element is distributed. We will consume the bread and the cup together. The cup is grape juice. Please keep silence until the prayer.

The Closing Thanksgiving

Thank you, O God, for feeding us with spiritual food in this sacrament of life. Send us now into the world with strength, hope, courage and love to serve you with gladness of heart through Jesus Christ: our Lord, our Savior and our Brother. Amen

***The Closing** “Hallelujah, What a Savior!” Hymnal #301

April Budgeted Mission - A Christian Ministry in the National Parks

ACMNP is a grassroots, student-led ministry that began in Yellowstone National Park in 1951 with the dream of providing Christian community for the people working in, living in, and visiting the first national park in the world.

Since then — for more than 70 years — ACMNP has given a Christian interpretation to the awe and grandeur of God's creation in the nation's national parks. ACMNP has always been a ministry in, rather than to, the national parks, serving employees, residents, and visitors through interdenominational worship services on Sundays.

Today, ACMNP lives its mission by sending roughly 150-200 ministry team members into 75 locations in 45 national parks from Alaska to the Virgin Islands. Over 30,000 people worship together in ACMNP services every year, experiencing the glory of God by seeing it first-hand — nothing compares to the inspiration that comes from worshipping God the Creator in the beautiful outdoors!