

**OLD SOUTH CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
WINDSOR, VERMONT**

**The Rev. Karen Lipinczyk
Laura Compton
Josh Compton**

**Bridge Pastor
Director of Music
Accompanist**

April 15, 2018

Third Sunday of Easter

Welcome to Old South Church. If you are visiting today, we are glad that you're here. Please take a minute to sign your name and address in the guest book outside the Sanctuary. Our service is responsive; the Worship leader reads what is written in regular print and the Congregation is invited to respond with what is written in **bold**. The "*" indicates that all who are able may stand, but feel free to sit if it is more comfortable. We use two hymnals: *The Chalice Hymnal* (blue) and *The Faith We Sing Hymnal* (black, soft cover). The hymnal is indicated with the hymn selections.

We respectfully ask that all cell phones be turned off during the service as they interfere with our wireless sound system.

PRELUDE

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

AN HISTORIC MOMENT

The 1890s

INTROIT

LIGHTING OF THE PEACE CANDLE

(Lao Tzu - 6th century bce, ABLF)

If there is to be peace in the world,	there must be peace in the nations.
If there is to be peace in the nations,	there must be peace in the cities.
If there is to be peace in the cities,	there must be peace between neighbors.
If there is to be peace between neighbors,	there must be peace in the home.
If there is to be peace in the home,	there must be peace in the heart.

Holy God, we long for peace. Fill our hearts with the spirit of Your Son, Jesus Christ, the Prince of Peace, who calls us to this high and holy aspiration. May we establish peace in all that we do, in Your name we pray. Amen.

2.

GATHERING AROUND THE WORD OF GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

(Lectionary Liturgies)

When fear and doubts stroll through our doors:

God stands beside us, whispering of peace.

When we toss and turn late at night:

God sits by our beds, singing lullabies of love.

When we stumble through the shadows of sin:

God illuminates the paths of goodness and joy.

PRAYER OF THE DAY

(Lectionary Liturgies)

When we are blinded by anger,

You pour out Your love for all to see.

When we wonder what tomorrow will bring,

You call us to trust in You.

When sadness fills our hearts,

You plant gladness in our hearts.

God of Easter: touch us with Your grace.

You show us Your hands,

so we may reach out to mend the broken;

You show us Your feet,

so we may walk with those the world passes by;

You show us Your face,

so we may know who our sisters and brothers look like.

Risen Christ: touch us with Your compassion.

You open our eyes,

so we may see God's love;

You open our minds,

so we may welcome God's Word;

You open our lips,

so we may be God's witnesses.

Spirit of Hope: touch us with Your peace.

God of Easter, Risen Christ, Spirit of Hope

We have responded to Your invitation to be here this morning.

Open us even right now to Your grace, compassion, and deep peace

so that our time spent with You will change us as we go to change the world. Amen.

***HYMN OF PRAISE #110**

You Servants of God

(Chalice)

3.

CALL TO RECONCILIATION

(Lectionary Liturgies)

If our actions mirrored our words, if our hands were mentored by our hearts, if we walked the talk - we would be God's children. But too often, it is our silence, our doubts, our fears which tell others who we truly are. Let us confess to God how we have not been as faithful as we hope, as we pray, saying,

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(Lectionary Liturgies)

God of empty tombs: Peter speaks with power and clarity of his faith, while we remain silent. The psalmist speaks of trusting in You, while our doubts overwhelm us. Jesus is ready to come and grace us with peace, but our fears keep our hearts shuttered and locked. God of full hearts: Your love can change us from scared people to children of grace. You can weed doubts from our hearts and plant seeds of joy in their place. You can silence the panic of our souls with the peace Jesus offers to each of us. Transform us into Easter people, through the power of Jesus Christ, our risen Lord and Savior.

MOMENT OF SILENCE

ASSURANCE OF GOD'S LOVE & FORGIVENESS

(Lectionary Liturgies)

What marvelous love, what wondrous grace, what abundant mercy God offers - to us! We really are God's people - that is exactly who we are!

We are God's children - those whose lives have been changed by the One who loves us and forgives us. Thanks be to God! Amen.

***GLORIA PATRI #35**

(Chalice)

**Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost:
as it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,
world without end. Amen, Amen.**

4.

PROCLAIMING THE WORD OF GOD

ANTHEM *Pass It On* (Kaiser)

SIMPLY SPEAKING

(There is Nursery care downstairs for infants and children through Pre-K age.
For older children, there are activity packets at the back of the church – help yourselves!)

NEW TESTAMENT **Acts 3:12-19** (Karen Gritzke)
(Pages 832-833 in the Pew Bible)

GOSPEL **Luke 24:36b-48** (Karen Gritzke)
(Pages 808-809 in the Pew Bible)

SERMON *Hmm...We Are Witnesses?!*

RESPONDING TO THE WORD OF GOD

***HYMN RESPONSE #2243** **We All Are One in Mission** (*Faith We Sing*)

INVITATION TO GIVING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY #46** (*Chalice*)

**Praise God from Whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him, all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly host:
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

JOYS AND CONCERNS

Sharing of the Community

Prayers of the People and The Lord's Prayer

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.

BENEDICTION

***HYMN OF PARTING #2241 The Spirit Sends Us Forth to Serve** (*Faith We Sing*)

POSTLUDE

5.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

**Sun., Apr. 15 Worship Service, 10:00am, Followed by Coffee Hour
Historical Presentation, 1:00pm**

In celebration of the 250th Anniversary of the founding of the Congregation of Old South Church, join us for the slide-illustrated lecture, ***The Architectural Legacy of Asher Benjamin and Old South Church.*** Free; open to all; and refreshments will be served.

Wed., Apr. 18 OSC Hosts Community Supper at Amer. Legion, 5:00pm

If you are interested helping, please contact Mary McNaughton or call/email the church office. Bring a friend and enjoy your meal while listening to live music by **Carl Goulet!**

Thu., Apr. 19 PASTORAL SEARCH INFORMATIONAL FORUM! 6:00pm

Pam Lucas from the VT Conference, UCC, will be leading an informational forum for our OSC Family regarding the Pastoral Search process. Bring your questions and concerns; come to listen and be heard. Please arrive early! Meeting starts promptly at 6:00pm and ends promptly at 7:30pm.

Sat., Apr. 21 Open Mic Coffeehouse (last one of the season)! 7:00pm

Join us for the last Open Mic Coffee house of the season! Come and bring something to sing, play, read... or just come to listen. Family-friendly and all are welcome!



Dress Forms?

Betsy Burghardt will be our guest speaker on April 29th. She's hoping to borrow dress forms or other items to help display dresses during the service. If you have some she can borrow for the weekend (to set up on Saturday and pick up after worship on Sunday), she'd be ever grateful! Please speak with her about the details, if you can help!



Office Hours

The church is often locked during office hours. Please call ahead, so we don't miss your visit!

Thursday, April 19th, 1-5pm

Friday, April 20th, 1-5pm