



**April 13, 2025**

*"The Dream is to remember who we are and what matters most to us in the midst of chaos and conflict, to hold ourselves to a higher standard of engagement than the culture in which we live, and to love in ways that mystify our neighbors on the chance it will do a little good."* Barbara Brown Taylor

**Prelude**

Evan O'Donovan

**Welcome**

Reverend Ed Hoener

**Call To Worship:**

This week is holy, even though the crowd's praise changed to scorn with the ease of those who "know not what they do." **Yet, O Lord, you never turn away. You continually seek to gather us to yourself; to help us change and grow.** It is hard for us to think about the days that are coming for Jesus. **Yet the only way to Easter morning is through this "valley of the shadow of death."** But we will fear no evil – for you are holding our hands in that darkness. Your Spirit comforts us, and the message of the cross, contains both the power and the love of God. **So help us, God, to remember to kneel, and pray our way through these, and all our days until "the stone is rolled away."**

**\*Hymn of Praise #196**

***All Glory, Laud, and Honor***

**Call to Reconciliation**

**Prayer of Reconciliation :**

**O God, we thank you for all the ways you move to set us free. We are here to be relieved of all our burdens. We are here to be healed to the depths of our souls. Your mercy, gives us new strength to face life's demands. So, let our lives produce fruit that is beautiful and good, for God's and the kingdom's sake. Amen.**

***Silent Prayers***

**Assurance of Grace:**

**God gives us all we need to walk steadfastly in the way Christ has shown us. Every step of the journey, nothing can keep us from the love of our Lord.**

**\*Response of Praise #814**

***In God Alone***

**Sharing the Peace of Christ:**

**The risen Christ has promised a peace like no other. It is a peace which upholds and strengthens our souls! Peace be with you! And also with you!**

**Scripture Reading**

*Luke 19:29-40*

**Ministry of Music**

Evan O'Donovan

**Scripture Reading**

*Isaiah 50:4-9*

**Message**

Pastor Ed

**\*Hymn of Faith #750**

***Goodness Is Stronger Than Evil***

*\*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.*

## **Celebrating Passion Enterprises**

*Hearing about what God has done in each other's lives is a source of encouragement, and affirms the reality of faith, and prayer and grace. Please come to the lectern and share your testimony so that everyone may see and hear.*

## **Prayers of the People**

### **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.

## **Call to Offering**

### **\*Offering Song #710**

### ***We are an Offering***

We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering. Lord, use our voices, Lord, use our hands, Lord, use our lives, they are Yours, we are an offering. All that we have, all that we are, all that we hope to be, we give to You, we give to You. We lift our voices, we lift our hands, we lift our lives up to You, we are an offering, we are an offering.

### **\*Prayer of Dedication**

## **Announcements (pg. 4)**

### **\*Hymn of Response #775**

### ***I Want Jesus to Walk with Me***

## **Charge and Blessing**

## **Postlude**

Evan O'Donovan

*\*If you can stand comfortably, please do so.*

## **Announcements**

**Thank you to Cheryl Anne Cammann & William Siocha for running the projector & camera!**

*Join our Worship Support Team! For more information; ask the pastor or the technicians or call the church office.*

### **Maundy Thursday Service on April 17<sup>th</sup> @ 7:30 pm**

We will commemorate the last supper, Jesus had with his disciples. We will explore the messages Jesus was so careful to convey to them, and we will celebrate Holy Communion in remembrance of him. All are invited to join us!

### **Easter Sunday Breakfast on April 20<sup>th</sup> @ 9:30 pm / Easter Service @ 10:30 am**

There will be an Easter morning breakfast served before worship, featuring fresh hot bagels, beverages, and more. (There will not be a coffee hour after the Easter service.) Come to break bread together as we gather to celebrate the resurrection of Christ!

### **Deacons: Easter Flowers**

*BECAUSE EASTER ARRIVES LATER IN APRIL, AND PROVIDING THERE ARE PLANTS THAT HAVE NOT ALREADY LOST THEIR BLOOMS*, the deacons will be decorating the altar with a mix of tulips, daffodils, and perhaps a few other varieties for Easter Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup>. After the service, the flowers will be available for purchase @ \$5 per plant. If you are interested in a plant, be sure to see Gail after the Easter service so you can choose a plant to take home. Any plants that are not purchased will be planted on church grounds.

### **Spring Sale on Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>, from 9 am – 2 pm**

Our spring sale is being held on the first weekend in May. As always, there are opportunities to help price, set up, clean up, etc. Whatever time you can spare is always greatly appreciated, especially the day of the sale. If interested, please contact the church office, or you can ask about it at coffee hour. Please share our FB post if you're a Facebook user.

**Next Town Hall meeting will be on Sunday, April 27<sup>th</sup>.**

**Next Manse Fireside Chat @ 7 pm is in April on Friday, the 25<sup>th</sup>.**



***Online Donations***

#### ***PRAYER PERSON OF THE WEEK***

***Ernest Awutey***

#### **PRAYER REQUESTS**

Jarod B., Michael P., Savannah B., Cameron, Nicole, Allison, Zia L., Mary R., Carole H., Alyne's family, Jane B., Carlos Browne & family, Mary Ann R., Pat & family, Lauris & Cindy, Michele P., Barbara O. & family, Major A. & family, LJ & Corinne, Helen, Logan, Harper, Helene & Diane, Dorothy R., Amy, Avril Muller & family

**The First Presbyterian Church of Rahway  
1731 Church Street**

April 13, 2025  
Rev. Ed Hoener  
Ukoha Kalu  
Carol Ann Bregman  
Evan O'Donovan

10:30 A.M.  
Pastor  
Worship Leader  
Administrator  
Music Director