



April 21, 2024

Third Sunday of Easter

9:30 a.m.

PRELUDE

Keith Ciccone, Organ

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Dr. Karen Bailey-Francois

INTROIT 556 *Surely the Presence of the Lord is in This Place*

CALL TO WORSHIP (Responsive)

Christ comes to us as he came to the first disciples.

**He comes in his risen glory to comfort and to bless; to counsel
and to guide.**

He leads us in the way the of Truth and calls us to love and serve.

**May we know him as his followers did and offer him honor
and praise.**

HYMN 47

Great is Thy Faithfulness

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

**Ever present God, you know our hesitance. We want to believe with
our whole heart and mind that the Risen Christ is with us. And yet,
if we did, we would walk more serenely and confidently through our
days. Help us to recognize your Son's sustaining presence -- in the
love of family, in the caring of a friend, in the support of a stranger.
May Jesus meet us, yet again, on the road that leads to you. Amen.**

** Indicates all who are able may stand*

Please silence your cell phones

***GLORIA PATRI**

*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.*

SCRIPTURE READING 1 John 3:16-24 Denise Keaney

SERMON “ **New Song**” Pastor Karen

MUSIC RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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 for ever. Amen.**

HYMN 399 *He Touched Me*

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***DOXOLOGY**

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures, here, below.
Praise God, above, ye heav’nly hosts.
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**God of Abundance, Provision and Care, bless these gifts and
bless these givers, that we might be your hands and heart in a
world that longs for your touch. Guide us in the building up of
your kingdom, for your purpose and your glory, in Jesus’ name.
Amen.**

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



The Rev. Dr. Karen Bailey-Francois earned a BS and MBA from University of Vermont; an M.Div. from Andover Newton Theological School and a D.Min from Hartford Seminary. She was ordained in 1995. She has served many organizations and churches including: Second Congregational Church, Cohasset, MA; Ellington Congregational Church, Ellington, CT; Storrs Congregational Church, Storrs, CT; First Church of Christ in Hartford, CT; Union Congregational Church in Rockville, CT; Cohasset Safe Harbor Coalition; Hartford Seminary Trustee; and Hands on Hartford, Inc. She is a Board member of the Pilgrim Association. Karen is originally from Rochester, NY and has a son, Jonathan, who works as a project designer for an architectural firm in Boston.

FIRST CHURCH BRAINTREE ANNOUNCEMENTS

Upcoming Meetings

Leadership Team & Deacons - TODAY Sunday, 4/21 following worship (Chapel)
Prudential Team - Thursday, May 2 @ 10am (office)

The next Drive & Drop Food Drive is Wednesday, May 1 5:00-6:30pm

**FIRST
WEDNESDAY
FOOD DRIVE**

5:00-6:30pm

**Drive &
Drop**  **Contact
Free**

781-843-3616

Donations for the
MARGE CRISPIN CENTER FOOD PANTRY

Thank you to all who have contributed. Please let your friends know about it...
Our monthly food drive is making a big difference in our community!



Welcome! *Thank you for joining us this morning!*

The First Congregational Church of Braintree is an Open & Affirming Congregation working in partnership with all churches of the United Church of Christ. We welcome all God's children into Christian faith regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity, or gender expression, political stance or theological perspective, national origin, mental health status, physical and cognitive abilities, and the many diverse forms of family configurations.

We proclaim and affirm that full and equal participation in the life and leadership of our church is open to all. We seek to continue learning and growing together as the inclusive Body of Christ. We are committed to spreading the light and love of Christ into the world through worship and service. Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.



About Today's Service: We are live-streaming today's service.

Subscribe to the First Church YouTube channel:

<https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCTaGrBGnYzfM66pS7Bd4PvA>

Prayer Lists are available at the back of the sanctuary.

Non-perishable Food Pantry donations are collected for The Marge Crispin Center on the first Wednesday of the Month in front of the church. Contact free! Just drive by and drop. Or place your donations in the basket in LPH or the Narthex. Thank you!

Televised Worship Services are broadcast on BCAM: Verizon Channel 28, Comcast Channel 9, on Saturday at 8:00 AM and Sunday at 10:00 AM.

First Church Office Hours are Monday through Friday, 9:00am—1:00pm.



Keith Ciccone, Director of Music ❖ kecicon@aol.com

Mattie Gietman, Children & Youth Ministry ❖ mattie@firstchurchbraintree.com

Deb McMartin, Administrator ❖ office@firstchurchbraintree.com

Valerie Fink, Bookkeeper ❖ finance@firstchurchbraintree.com

