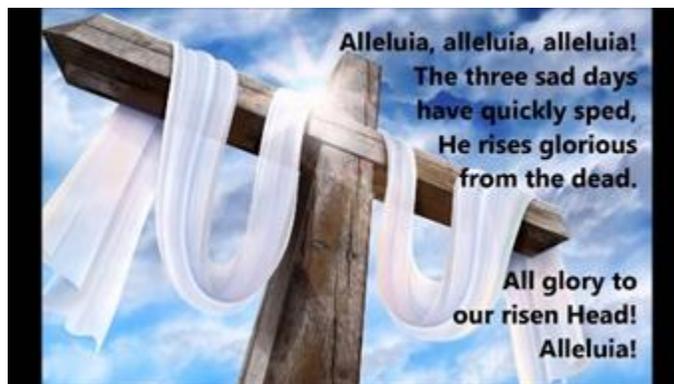


ROXBURY UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C.
NEWSLETTER – March April 2022



HOLY WEEK SERVICES

PALM SUNDAY – April 10: worship at 11:00 AM

MAUNDY THURSDAY – April 14 – 6:00 PM.

We will gather around the table for a brief worship service with communion.

EASTER SUNDAY – April 17

Continental breakfast at 10:30AM followed by worship at 11:00AM.



EASTER FLOWERS

If you would like to donate flowers for Easter in memory or in honor of someone, please contact Claire at 485-7779. Donations are \$15 per plant. We will honor your loved one in the Easter Sunday bulletin.

LIGHTING THE CHURCH

If you would like to light the church, please contact Claire Chomentowski at 485-7779.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO RECEIVE THIS NEWSLETTER BY EMAIL, PLEASE SEND YOUR EMAIL ADDRESS TO PASTOR SUE AT sue.church43@gmail.com.

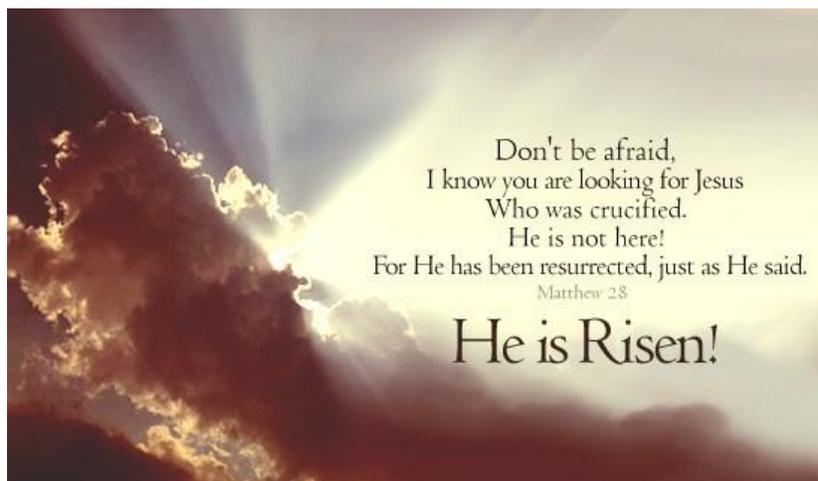
SUNDAY WORSHIP

ROXBURY UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, U.C.C.
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We are worshipping face-to-face every Sunday morning at 11:00. Masks are not required, but you may choose to wear one. Coffee and goodies are served while we worship around the table.

WEDNESDAY VIDEO SERIES

Our video group continues to meet on the first and third Wednesdays of the month. No masks required. Please contact Rich Smith if you have recommendations for movies and/or documentaries.



PASTOR'S MESSAGE

For the past six months, I have been copying and pasting pictures and messages that I find online or read in books and saving them so that I can reread them from time to time. Today I want to share a couple of them with you.

This is from Rabbit and Bear which appears on Facebook regularly. The author is Tara Shannon:

“When we die,” asked Rabbit, “where do we go?”

“Into the hearts of those who have loved us most.” said Bear. “That way we’re together forever.”

And this lovely piece of wisdom from Henri Nouwen:

What I appreciate as I read Scripture is that Jesus saw death, and his own death in particular, as more than a way of getting from one place to another. He saw his death as potentially fruitful in itself, and of enormous benefit to his disciples. Death was not an ending for him but a passage to something much greater.

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When Jesus was anticipating his own death, he kept repeating the same theme to his disciples:

“My death is good for you, because my death will bear many fruits beyond my death. When I die, I will not leave you alone, but I will send you my Spirit, the Paraclete, the Counselor. And my Spirit will reveal to you who I am, what I am teaching you. My Spirit will lead you into the truth and will allow you to have a relationship with me that was not possible before my death. My Spirit will help you to form community and grow in strength.” Jesus sees that the real fruits of his life will mature after his death. That is why he adds, “It is good for you that I go.”

If that is true, then the real question for me as I consider my own death is not: how much can I still accomplish before I die, or will I be a burden to others? No, the real question is: how can I live so that my death will be fruitful for others? In other words, how can my death be a gift for my loved ones so that they can reap the fruits of my life after I have died? This question can be answered only if I am first willing to admit Jesus’ vision of death, as a valid possibility for me.

