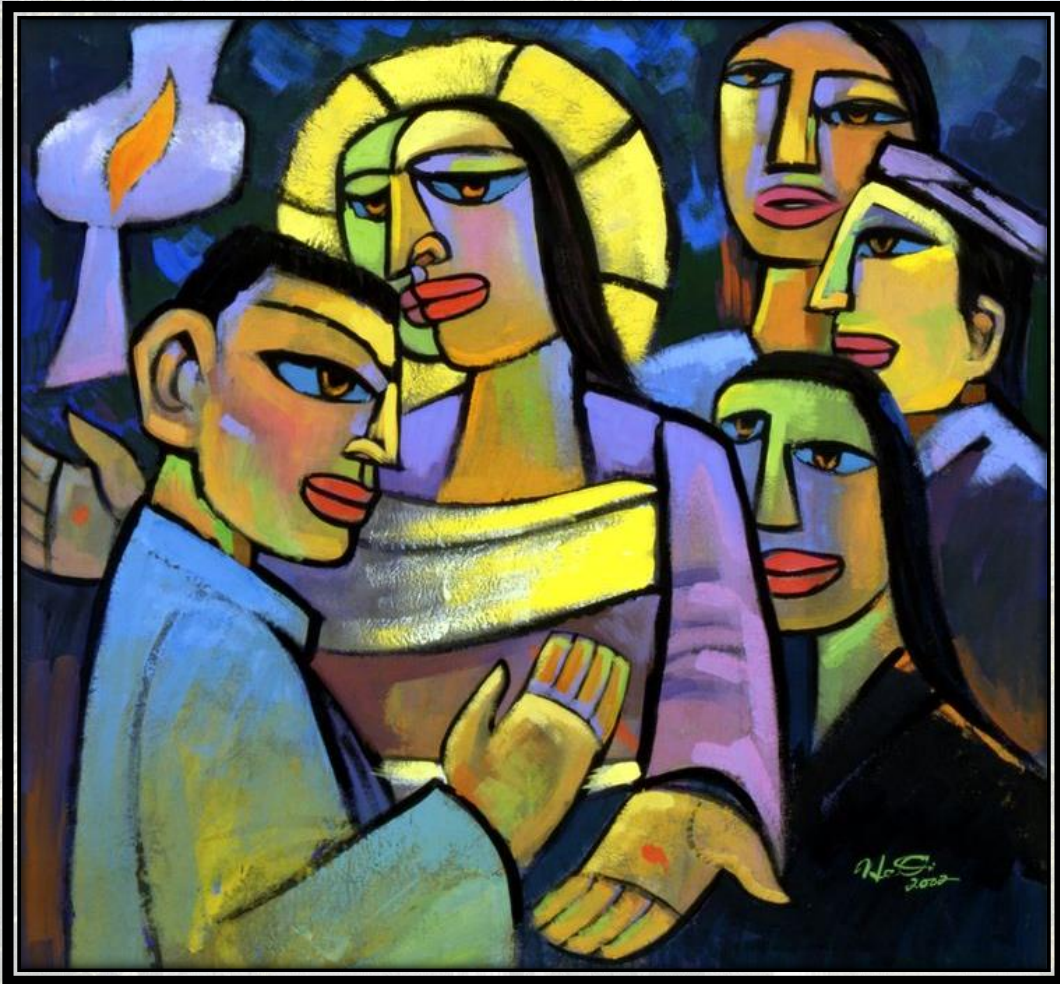


# The Mount Carmel Congregational Church

*A United Church of Christ*



*The Doubt of St. Thomas, James He Qi (Chinese)*

**Second Sunday of Easter**  
**April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

**Prelude**                    “We Walk by Faith and Not by Sight”  
*Arr. James Biery*

## **Greeting and Announcements**

## **Passing of the Peace of Christ**

## **Call to Worship**

**One:**            We gather this morning as a community of faith.

**All:**            **We come with joy to greet one another and to tell again and again the amazing news—Christ is risen!**

**One:**            Christ is risen indeed! God has given us new life.

**All:**            **May our singing, praying, listening, and proclaiming be a testimony to the power of God’s love to make us a new creation.**

**One:**            Come, let us worship together.

**\*Hymn**                    “The Day of Resurrection”                    NCH #245

## **Unison Prayer**

**God of life and death and life again, hear our prayer: for the mending of our hearts, torn apart by our unkindness; for the healing of our souls, wasting away from the despair around us; for the forgiveness we seek for the sin we have allowed to persist; for the reconciliation of the world, whose division condemns us; for the courage to admit our fault, the strength to amend our actions, and the hope that your grace awaits us, through Christ we pray. Amen.**

**Scripture Reading:**            John 20: 19-31                    Heidi Grantz

It was still the first day of the week. That evening, while the disciples were behind closed doors because they were afraid of the Jewish authorities, Jesus came and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” After he said this, he showed them his hands and his side. When the disciples saw the Lord, they were filled with joy.

Jesus said to them again, “Peace be with you. As the Father sent me, so I am sending you.” Then he breathed on them and said, “Receive the Holy Spirit. If you forgive anyone’s sins, they are forgiven; if you don’t forgive them, they aren’t forgiven.”

Thomas, the one called Didymus, one of the Twelve, wasn’t with the disciples when Jesus came. The other disciples told him, “We’ve seen the Lord!”

But he replied, “Unless I see the nail marks in his hands, put my finger in the wounds left by the nails, and put my hand into his side, I won’t believe.”

After eight days his disciples were again in a house and Thomas was with them. Even though the doors were locked, Jesus entered and stood among them. He said, “Peace be with you.” Then he said to Thomas, “Put your finger here. Look at my hands. Put your hand into my side. No more disbelief. Believe!”

Thomas responded to Jesus, “My Lord and my God!”

Jesus replied, “Do you believe because you see me? Happy are those who don’t see and yet believe.”

Then Jesus did many other miraculous signs in his disciples’ presence, signs that aren’t recorded in this scroll. But these things are written so that you will believe that Jesus is the Christ, God’s Son, and that believing, you will have life in his name.

## **Sermon**

**Hymn**                    “We Live by Faith and Not by Sight”        NCH #256  
                                  [*Please remain seated for this hymn.*]

## **Prayers for Our Church and Our World**

Please remember the following persons in your prayers: Karl Paulette; Amos Hewitt; Rhonda Pruzinsky; Cari Jansen; Maria Coffin; Carol Fitzsimmons; Jim Baronowski; and Laraine Patterson.

## Moments of Silent Prayer

### Pastoral Prayer

#### The Lord's Prayer

*Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy names. 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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us. 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

#### Offertory

“DUNLAP'S CREEK”

*Arr. James Biery*

#### \*The Doxology

*(In Unison)*

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise God all creatures here below,  
Praise God for all that Love has done,  
Creator, Christ, and Spirit—One. Amen.*

#### \*Unison Prayer of Dedication

*God of all, we give these offerings in gratitude, rejoicing in the abundance of your gifts to us. We give these offerings in faith, trusting that you will provide for our needs. We give these offerings in hope, knowing you can use them to spread your love in this world. With these offerings, we give ourselves; may we live with generous hearts, with open hands. Amen.*

#### \*Hymn

“I Would Be True”

NCH #492

**Benediction**

**Postlude**

“LANCASHIRE”

*Arr. Mark Rippe*

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*As a community of faith, gathered in Christ's love,  
we strive to support one another in hearing the Word,  
living the Word, and sharing the Word.*

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**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**Please join us after service this morning for our 260<sup>th</sup> Annual Meeting. We will be voting on the Annual, proposed Bylaw revisions, and the proposed change in the Church fiscal year to run from July 1<sup>st</sup> to June 30<sup>th</sup>. Please join us for this important meeting.**

**You may request digital versions of the Annual Report and Bylaws by contacting the office by email at [office@mccucc.com](mailto:office@mccucc.com).**

**Physical copies of the 2025 MCCC Family and Friends Directory will be available for pickup prior to this morning’s meeting. Please pick up your copy on your way into the Hall. If you would like a PDF copy of the directory, please contact the office by email at [office@mccucc.com](mailto:office@mccucc.com) and we will get one to you as it is available.**

**Our annual Spring Tag and Craft Sale is scheduled for Saturday, May 3rd from 9:00am to 2:00pm. Per usual, there will be a variety of unique craft and tag tables to choose from, as well as delicious food to purchase via our Snack Bar and delectable treats to discover via our Church Bake Sale table. We hope to see you there!**

# **SPRING WORSHIP: A LOOK AHEAD**

*Please join every Sunday at 10am for service!*

## **May 4<sup>th</sup>, 2025: Communion**

*Third Sunday of Easter*

**Scripture:** Acts 9: 1-6 (7-20)  
Psalm 30  
Revelations 5: 11-14  
John 21: 1-19

## **May 11<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*Fourth Sunday of Easter*

**Scripture:** Acts 9: 36-43  
Psalm 23  
Revelations 7: 9-17  
John 10: 22-30

## **May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*Fifth Sunday of Easter*

**Scripture:** Acts 11: 1-18  
Psalm 148  
Revelations 21: 1-6  
John 13: 31-35

## **May 25<sup>th</sup>, 2025**

*Sixth Sunday of Easter*

**Scripture:** Acts 16: 9-15  
Psalm 67  
Revelations 21:10, 22:1-22:5  
John 14: 2-29

Please join us for our Annual



**WHERE:**

Mount Carmel Congregational Church  
3284 Whitney Avenue, Hamden CT 06518

**WHEN:**

Saturday, May 3<sup>rd</sup>  
9:00am-2:00pm

**WHAT:**

Tag Tables!  
Handmade Crafts!  
Snack Bar!  
& MORE!



*April 27<sup>th</sup>, 2025*



## **Mount Carmel Congregational Church**

3284 Whitney Avenue, Hamden, CT 06518

Website: [www.mccucc.com](http://www.mccucc.com)

Phone: (203) 248-7408



### **Staff and Officers**

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Music Director:	Mrs. Lynda Pedersen <a href="mailto:lyndal.pedersen@gmail.com">lyndal.pedersen@gmail.com</a>
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Treasurer:	Mrs. Ellen Amato <a href="mailto:treasurer@mccucc.com">treasurer@mccucc.com</a>
Church Clerk:	Sandee Martin <a href="mailto:sandeeamart48@gmail.com">sandeeamart48@gmail.com</a>
Board of Trustees	Anna Anderson, Chair <a href="mailto:aanderson545@gmail.com">aanderson545@gmail.com</a>