

Belleville Congregational Church

*An Open and Affirming Congregation
of the United Church of Christ*



Mission of Belleville Church

Centered in the inclusive love of Jesus Christ, we seek to be a welcoming, affirming, and healing congregation. Led by the Holy Spirit, we are inspired to grow and be renewed through our worship, fellowship, scripture study, and the sharing of our gifts. Strengthened by God's love and guidance, we strive to serve with compassion those in need, both near and far.

Led By: Reverend Ross Varney
Ushers: Ben Heersink
Scripture Reader: Ben Heersink
Coffee Hour: Sue Heersink
Organist: Dr. Kristen Helgeland

April

19

2026

- (*) where indicated, if able, please stand -

Luke 24:13-35

Now on that same day two of them were going to a village called Emmaus, about seven miles from Jerusalem, and talking with each other about all these things that had happened. While they were talking and discussing, Jesus himself came near and went with them, but their eyes were kept from recognizing him. And he said to them, “What are you discussing with each other while you walk along?” They stood still, looking sad. Then one of them, whose name was Cleopas, answered him, “Are you the only stranger in Jerusalem who does not know the things that have taken place there in these days?” He asked them, “What things?” They replied, “The things about Jesus of Nazareth, who was a prophet mighty in deed and word before God and all the people, and how our chief priests and leaders handed him over to be condemned to death and crucified him. But we had hoped that he was the one to redeem Israel. Yes, and besides all this, it is now the third day since these things took place. Moreover, some women of our group astounded us. They were at the tomb early this morning, and when they did not find his body there they came back and told us that they had indeed seen a vision of angels who said that he was alive. Some of those who were with us went to the tomb and found it just as the women had said, but they did not see him.” Then he said to them, “Oh, how foolish you are and how slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have declared! Was it not necessary that the Messiah should suffer these things and then enter into his glory?” Then beginning with Moses and all the prophets, he interpreted to them the things about himself in all the scriptures.

As they came near the village to which they were going, he walked ahead as if he were going on. But they urged him strongly, saying, “Stay with us, because it is almost evening and the day is now nearly over.” So he went in to stay with them. When he was at the table with them, he took bread, blessed and broke it, and gave it to them. Then their eyes were opened, and they recognized him, and he vanished from their sight. They said to each other, “Were not our hearts burning within us while he was talking to us on the road, while he was opening the scriptures to us?” That same hour they got up and returned to Jerusalem, and they found the eleven and their companions gathered together. They were saying, “The Lord has risen indeed, and he has appeared to Simon!” Then they told what had happened on the road and how he had been made known to them in the breaking of the bread.

Hymn*“Christ Beside”*

(see attachment)

Sermon*“Trusting the Unseen Risen Christ”*

Rev. Ross Varney

Offering Time**Offering Music**

*** Doxology, Dedication of Offerings**
Pilgrim Hymnal #515

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

Announcements

***Closing Hymn** *“I Want Jesus to Walk With Me”* (see attachment)

Benediction

Postlude Music *“Blessed Assurance”* *Mark Patterson*

Feel free to leave when ready; please do so quietly. Join us for refreshments in the stage room.

Christ Is Alive!

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing, The cross stands
 2 Christ is a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant
 3 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war, where col - or,
 4 Wom - en and men, in age and youth, can feel the
 5 Christ is a - live and comes to bring good news to

emp - ty to the sky, Let streets and homes with
 years in Pal - es - tine, but sav - ing, heal - yet,
 scorn, or wealth di - vide, Christ suf - fers still, yet
 Spir - it, hear the call, and find the way, the
 this and ev - ery age; till earth and sky and

prais - es ring. Love, drowned in death, shall nev - er die.
 here and now, and touch - ing ev - ery place and time.
 loves the more, and lives, where e - ven hope has died.
 life, the truth, re - vealed in Je - sus, freed for all.
 o - cean ring with joy, with jus - tice, love, and praise.

Open My Eyes, That I May See 480

1 O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps - es of truth you have for me;
 2 O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth you send so clear;
 3 O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth ev - ery - where;

place in my hands the won - der - ful key that shall un - lock and set me free.
 and while the mes - sage sounds in my ear, ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear.
 O - pen my heart, and let me pre - pare love with your chil - dren thus to share.

Si - lent - ly now, on bend - ed knee, read - y I wait your will to see;

O - pen my eyes, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 O - pen my heart, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!

Christ Beside Me

425

Unison *c*

C/E Dm7/F G7 F/C C

1 Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me,
 2 Christ on my right hand, Christ on my left hand,
 3 Christ be in all hearts think - ing a - bout me,
 4 Christ be - side me, Christ be - fore me,

C Em Am C/E Am/F# Gsus G7

Christ be - hind me— King of my heart;
 Christ all a - round me— shield in the strife;
 Christ be on all tongues tell - ing of me;
 Christ be - hind me— King of my heart;

C F Dm7 C/E Am D/F#

Christ with - in me, Christ be - low me,
 Christ in my sleep - ing, Christ in my sit - ting,
 Christ be the vi - sion in eyes that see me,
 Christ with - in me, Christ be - low me,

Em/G C F G7 C

Christ a - bove me— nev - er to part.
 Christ in my ris - ing— light of my life.
 in ears that hear me Christ ev - er be.
 Christ a - bove me— nev - er to part.

WORDS: James Quinn, S.J. (1919-); adapt. from *St. Patrick's Breastplate*
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Jack Schrader (1942-)

BUNESSAN
 5.5.5.4.D.

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 Music Arr. © 1989 Hope Publishing Company

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me 506

Unison Dm A7/E Dm A7 Dm Am Dm N.C.

1 I want Je - sus to walk with me; I want
 2 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me; in my
 3 When I'm in trou - ble, Lord, walk with me; when I'm in

F C7/G F/A F A7/E Dm A7/C# A7 Dm C9/E C7

Je - sus to walk with me; all a - long my pil - grim
 tri - als, Lord, walk with me; when my heart is al - most
 trou - ble, Lord, walk with me; when my head is bowed in

Dm Dm7/C Bb C7 Dm Bb Gm7 A7 Dm Gm6 Dm

jour - ney, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 break - ing, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 sor - row, Lord, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

WORDS and MUSIC: African-American spiritual

WALK WITH ME
Irregular



Prayers for Joys and Concerns

If you would like prayers for yourself or others, please place your request in the offering plate during worship service. You could also call/e-mail the office by Thursdays by 11:00 AM.

Prayers for

*Thanks for great trip to FLA for Christa/Steve and grandkids
Artemis Moon expedition learnings
Sue and Ben's granddaughter Antonia, new singing opportunities
Phil, continued healing from a stroke
Israel, Iran, U.S., for peace talks
Our President and staff: for Negotiations, not threats of annihilation
Our Orthodox friends for their Easter*

THIS WEEK

CODA Meetings Mondays at 7:00 PM

Bible Exploration 12:30PM

UPCOMING

Sergei Novikov – Sunday, May 31st 4:00 PM

SERVICE SCHEDULE

If you are unable to perform the assigned task, please trade with someone on the list.

ARIL			
Date	Usher	Scripture Reader	Coffee Hour
April 5 <i>(Easter)</i>	Jim Samuelson Liz Neale, Gail Gandolfi Babhekile Ssemwogerere	Jim Samuelson	Lynn Varney Peggy Utterback Dorothy Williamson
April 12	Gail Gandolfi	Sandra Biondo	Gail Gandolfi
April 19	Ben Heersink	Ben Heersink	Sue Heersink
April 26	Mary Lou Tyler	Babhekile Ssemwogerere	Mary Lou Tyler

MAY			
Date	Usher	Scripture Reader	Coffee Hour
May 3	Kathy Raywood	Gail Gandolfi	Kathy Raywood
May 10 <i>(Mother's Day)</i>	Bill Silsby	Keith Barbera	All Men on board – led by Bill Silsby
May 17	Peggy Utterback	Peggy Utterback	Rachel Shunamon
May 24	Sue Heersink	Barbara Colten	Audrey Clarkson
May 31	Liz Neale	Martha Kelleher	Peggy Utterback and Sue Wolfendale

HAPPY BIRTHDAY

APRIL

2nd - Lynn Varney
9th - Wyatt Allard
12th - Lynne Hangen
15th - Sue Heersink
15th - Petey Conway
18th - Nancy Canali
23rd - Nancy Tsakirgis
26th - Tim Conway

MAY

8th - Robert Gandolfi
8th - Chapel Allard
12th - Jean Mantarian
12th - Talya Ipbuken
14th - Martha Kelleher
16th - Jen Gandolfi
26th - Tess Schmidt
30th - Norma Dean
31st - Amy Schmidt

*If you would like to add your birthday, please e-mail
office@belleville-church.com*