

# The Scribe

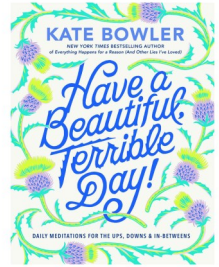
March 2024

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Throughout this Holy Season of Lent, I have been reading and sharing with you excerpts from Professor Dr. Kate Bowler's "Have a Beautiful, Terrible Lent"

We come to the end of our Season of Lent with her piece "Truth and Trials"

"All eyes are on Jesus as he walks toward Jerusalem – not to sit on the throne his followers expect, but to wear a crown of thorns. He was born a humble child and now rides a humble colt, ushering in a new kingdom available to all. We began the season of Lent by facing the truth of our finitude – "for dust you are and to dust you will return." The beginning of Holy Week starts the process of facing even more difficult truths: Jesus is not the king we had expected, Jesus spoke truths we could not yet understand, Jesus will suffer, Jesus will be murdered, and Jesus will be raised from the dead. If you or I had been there on Palm Sunday, Maundy Thursday, Good Friday, or Holy Saturday, we too, may have misunderstood who Jesus was. It isn't until you have cried the tears over Jesus' death, witnessed the empty tomb, put your finger in the holes where the nails were, had breakfast on the beach, and watched him ascend into heaven that the pieces start to come together (and even then we still don't fully get it). We didn't know what kind of king we needed, until Jesus came into our helplessness and invited us all to partake in abundant life. May we all spend our lifetimes learning the truth of that kind of love."



And Her Blessing for Easter Sunday

"So, Jesus, wasn't that illegal for you to break the seal the Roman guards put there?

Bursting the bonds of death itself to come again, larger than life?

And was it wise to present yourself first to the women, so lowly in social standing their word meant nothing in court?

And why did you keep appearing suddenly to the huddled believers behind locked doors for fear of their enemies, scared out of their wits to hear you say, "Peace be with you!"?

And isn't it the case that they were never the same again, these ordinary people who had been so cowed, receiving your Holy Spirit, emboldened to begin the work you set in motion, speaking life and health and peace to all who would listen?

That is what our newborn church looks like: Blessed.

Blessed in our fear and inadequacy.

Blessed by your faith in us.

Blessed that we received, by your own hand, the gift of hope – the beginning of the end of sin and of death.

We follow you as best we can along that downward path with all the humility we can manage.

You came back to us.

Alleluia.

Alleluia.

Alleluia."

Happy and Blessed Easter,

Pastor Joan

## from Session . . .

The Session met again by Zoom due to inclement weather. The first order of business was the PNC report. The committee seems to meet constantly with additional applications coming in. Since most candidates will be potentially relocating from great distances additional funds may be needed for moving expenses. Since it is unlikely that we will have a new pastor by spring, the Session approved extending Rev. Joan's contract through June.

The Trustees have been working on updating our church operations manual. Copies of the drafts are available for comment from boards and committees. Both electronic and hard copies are available through the church office. The deadline for comments is March 1<sup>st</sup>.

A new church logo has been designed and will be presented to the congregation. Also, we have been approached by a Verizon representative to rent space in our back lot for a cell tower. Rental income will be significant and can off-set our financial deficit. This needs congregational discussion and possible approval if it is to move ahead.

The new front door has been ordered, and donations are appreciated to offset the expense. The Building and Grounds committee continues to do upgrades in our facility. A leaking oil tank will be replaced and plans are underway to paint the ladies' room. Renovation of the Music Director's office is underway.

This year the Membership and Evangelism committee will be updating the church directory, so stay tuned for details. A new member class will be planned, those interested should contact Bill McLintock.

### **Some dates to remember:**

**Easter egg hunt will be March 24**

**Maundy Thursday service at Babcock Chapel**

**Good Friday service at DCCCP**

**Shoreline Ringers Concert June 15<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm**

**VBS starting June 24**



*Building a Community of Support*

*Save the date:*

*Women's retreat October 4 - 5 2024*



**TAX** Tips

**Timely tips for tax season**

**If you have appreciated common stock in your investment portfolio that you have held for more than 12 months, you may transfer that stock directly to the Church instead of selling it. You may avoid paying the capital gains tax, possibly resulting in Federal and State Income Tax savings. Consult with your tax advisor before making any decisions. If you wish to make a transfer, our Financial Secretary, Rachel Pierson, can give you more information.**

**Also, if you are retired and are at least 72½ years old, you may be receiving a “Required Minimum Distribution” (RMD) from your “Individual Retirement Account” (IRA). Consider using your RMD as a charitable contribution. Ask your broker to send the RMD directly to the Church. This way, it will not be taxed as individual income, but the distribution will satisfy the required minimum distribution rule. Note: You will not be able to take a deduction for the charitable donation. Contact your IRA representative for more information.**

## DEACONS

# Corner

The Deacons of the church are busy reaching out to meet needs in the congregation and the community. Although our Board of Deacons is actively involved in many endeavors, some current activities are highlighted below.

Deacons continue to seek and grow as a community where God's love and kindness are available for all.

**Warm Shelter Dinner:** **Swiss Chicken**, sign up in Fellowship Hall. Remember we are the first Saturday of the month - **March 2nd** - church will be open from 8 am - 2 pm to accept donations. Please use all **disposable** containers.

**Jonnycake:** has given us an update on food items they are currently in need of: **Baked Beans, Side Dishes— rice/noodle, Crackers, Cookies, Cake Mixes, and Frosting.** Cindy Shetler & Sandy Santy continue to deliver the items you leave at the church to the Jonnycake Center. Thank you for your support!

**We need your help!** Please be sure to visit the bulletin board just inside Fellowship Hall. There you'll find information and sign ups for everything from upcoming events and activities to Coffee Fellowship, Communion servers, Sunday morning flowers, WARM dinners and more. Hope you'll stop by the board regularly and find various ways to participate!

### **Deacons who are faithfully serving the congregation are:**

Yvette Drurey, Dianne Lowther, Sandy Santy, Doreen Smith, Jeanne Pietraallo, Sue Rieger, Sue Eldredge, Bonnie Krauss, Sharon Joiner, and Cheryl Remsbacker, Susan Strouse, and Stephanie Cahoon





## Early Learning Center

January has been an exciting month in ELC. We started the month engaging in a penguin and snowman unit. The kids had so much fun learning their math and literacy skills through engaging activities about penguins and snowmen. We then dived into a space unit which we just finished up this week. We learned about day/night, the stars, moon, sun, and each planet. We loved making crafts to represent each planet. We just wrote back to our pen pals from DCS sharing what our favorite planet is and one fun fact about the planet. We met with Sharon from the Women's Presbyterian Group to set up some reading days which will be starting in March. We are so excited to welcome these dedicated women into our classroom to share some new books with us. We have loved playing in the snow since we had our snow day last week. The kids have been very creative with the snow and have been "baking" with it outside.

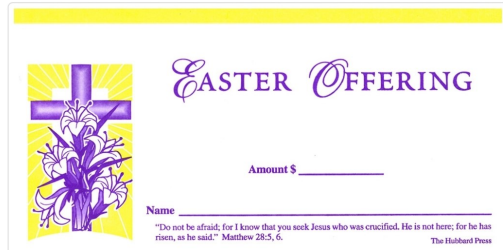
We held our open house a couple weeks ago where we welcomed new families who will be joining our school community in the Fall. We are so excited to learn together with our new friends.

We look forward to our upcoming units on dental hygiene, Dr. Seuss week, St. Patrick's Day, and of course Easter. March can sometimes be a long month, but with all these exciting upcoming themes we are in for a fun filled month.



## Easter Collection for Homeless Vets

On Palm Sunday and Easter we will have a special collection to help Rhode Island Homeless veterans.



Our Mission committee is working with the American Legion Auxiliary Downey Weaver Unit in Charlestown, RI, to raise funds. Longtime Church member Lorraine Boucher Michaud will coordinate the effort. Lorraine herself is a daughter and wife of a veteran and member of the American Legion Auxiliary.

Lorraine met recently with the Mission committee to explain the need. She explained there has been a big push recently to house all homeless veterans. The Department of Housing and Urban Development finds apartments and the Veteran's Administration Medical Center in Providence provides a new, clean bed and all medical and support services.

Nothing else is provided - no linens, dishes, towels, cookware, etc. The veteran is happy to have an apartment but because they have been homeless for so long, they don't have any of the necessary furnishings.

The Downey Weaver Auxiliary has been helping for the past three years. Their effort is similar to our work with refugee resettlement. They raise money, purchase all the necessary furnishings and supplies, and prepare the apartment for occupancy.

We are delighted to help this worthy effort with our Easter offering. 100% of the offering will be used to purchase furnishings for as many veterans as possible. To support this work, please place your offering in the special Easter Mission envelope or write Homeless Vets on your check. You may also use the online donation feature on our website with Homeless Vet in the comment section.



We are having our Annual Easter Egg hunt Sunday March 24<sup>th</sup> at 1pm. Come for crafts, cookie decorating, egg dying, and even visit with some baby chicks. In preparation for the Easter egg hunt we are asking for volunteers and donations. We are asking for peanut free candy, and prizes to fill the eggs with. We could also use volunteers to help fill eggs. We will be meeting on Friday March 22<sup>nd</sup> at 5:30 in the fellowship hall. There are sign up sheets in fellowship hall if you're interested in helping.

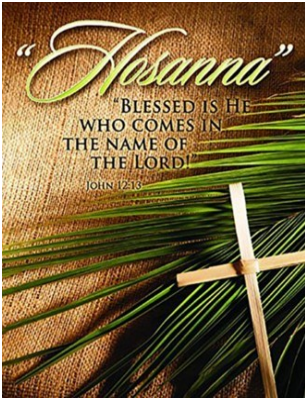


## Lenten Soup Supper





# Holy Week



**Palm Sunday**  
**March 24, 2024**  
**Worship Service**  
**8 am and 10 am**

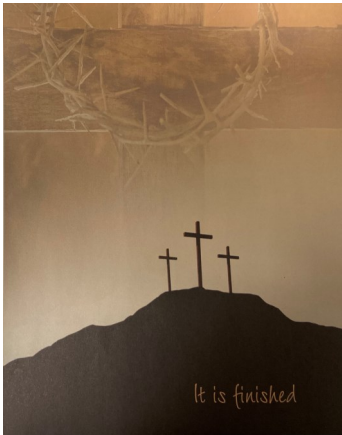


**Service at**  
**Babcock Presbyterian**  
**Church**  
**25 Maxson St.**  
**Ashaway**

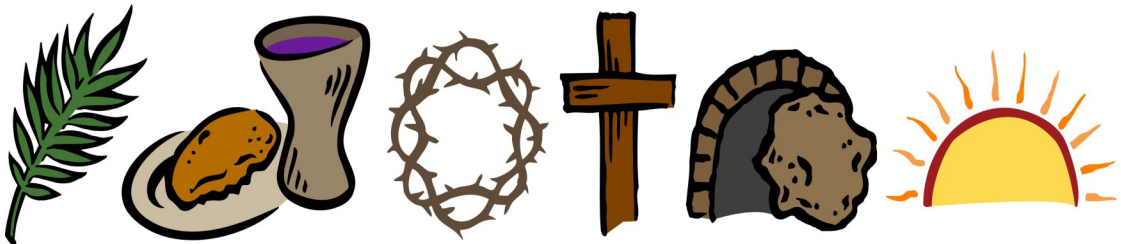
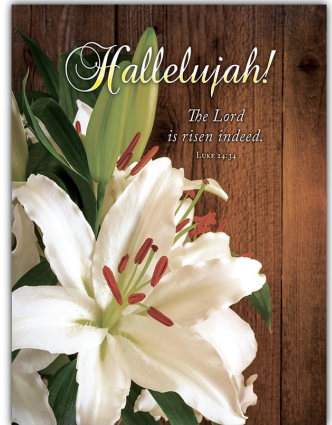
**March 28, 2024**  
**7 pm**

**Good**  
**Friday**  
**Service**

**March 29**  
**7 pm**



**Easter Sunday**  
**March 31, 2024**  
**Sunrise Service**  
**6:30 am**  
**Worship Service**  
**8 am and 10 am**



## Choral Reflections: A Lenten Journey

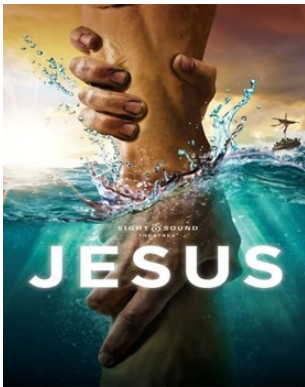
The choral anthems of this Lenten season revolve around a central theme of introspection. Each anthem is crafted with texts written from the first person perspective—using "I," "me," and "my." This thematic approach during Lent aims to symbolize the deeply personal journey we all undertake in "observing a Holy Lent, by self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by practicing works of love, and by reading and reflecting on God's Holy Word."

For our Good Friday service at 7pm on March 29, the choral anthems transition from our individual voices and thoughts to those of Jesus. The texts of the Good Friday anthems serve as poignant reminders that Christ, in his humanity, experienced all aspects of being one of his children, and that the pain and anguish of the crucifixion were profoundly felt both physically and emotionally by our Savior.

Throughout the anthems, you are invited to immerse yourself in the text and the message conveyed through music. On Good Friday, in particular, we are encouraged to forge a deeper connection to the redemptive act of Love.

## FELLOWSHIP AT THE DUNN'S

Fri, Mar 15<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall at 6pm:



You won't want to miss this. Come join us to watch the DVD of the Sight and Sound production of 'Jesus' a wonderful musical production of the life of Jesus.

Filmed in front of a live audience, Sight & Sound's JESUS is a state-of-the-art theatrical production. Witness some of the most awe-inspiring, miraculous events in the gospels as Jesus sets sail with fishermen, challenges the Pharisees, and heals the hurting. From the bustling streets of Jerusalem to the raging Sea of Galilee, experience the greatest rescue story of all time as this spectacular original production comes to life like never before!

Upcoming APR 27<sup>th</sup> 8AM:  
Breakfast in Fellowship Hall followed by a Hike at Grills Preserve

JUNE: New London Boat tour

## Introducing Our New Logo: A Place to Call Home



We're excited to introduce our new logo, a visual embodiment of our church community's essence and values. With a calming greenish-blue palette, it radiates a sense of tranquility, health, and stability, echoing our commitment to growth and spiritual well-being. At its core, our logo features a simple yet profound cross, symbolizing our Christian faith and providing a spiritual anchor for all who seek. Complementing this, a modern interpretation of an ocean wave reflects our coastal roots and the dynamic movement of the Holy Spirit. Notably, the intentional breaking of the circle's boundaries signifies our church's spirit of inclusivity and openness—truly making our church 'A Place to Call Home.'



### *From Building and Grounds...*

We are happy to start talking about Spring! B & G will be sponsoring our annual Spring clean-up on April 20th. We will be raking / blowing leaves, cleaning out flower beds, spreading mulch etc. We are planning to work from 9 AM till about noon. All help is much appreciated.

Bring your rakes, shovels work gloves, blowers and enthusiasm! Hope to see you there!







First, I would like to extend my thanks to Linda Griffin, she continues to be a huge help with her knowledge of the inner workings of the Church and helping set the Membership Committee up for a successful 2024 year.

Session has agreed that it is time for us to update the Church's Directory. Over the next few months, we ask that you send in pictures of you and/or your family, which you would like to use in the new Directory, as well as your updated contact information. The committee will also set up a box with contact cards in Fellowship Hall for anyone who would like to update their contact information that way. This is a wonderful opportunity to have something in place for our new Pastor when he/she begins their work with us. Photos and contact information can be submitted to the church office email at [dunnschurch@gmail.com](mailto:dunnschurch@gmail.com).

As we advance into the year, the Membership Committee is calling for any who would be interested in sitting in on one of the many committees throughout the Church and/or signing up for one of the multiple opportunities to serve, to check out the board in Fellowship Hall. This is an exciting time to bring forth innovative ideas to help build our faith community and serve the wider community head on with much needed outreach. There are opportunities to help with the Sunday School, the WARM shelter dinners and much more.

If you are a visitor among us, it is our hope you feel welcome and a part of this community. If you would like to learn more about our congregation and how you can be a part of it, please contact Pastor Joan or William McLintock, we would love to hear from you.

Thank you,  
DCCCP Membership Committee  
William McLintock  
[Billmc1886@gmail.com](mailto:Billmc1886@gmail.com)

# Presbyterian Women's Group

Our regularly scheduled meeting was held on February 19<sup>th</sup> in Fellowship Hall. Michelle Jones led the devotions and Janet Loffredo provided refreshments. We completed plans for our reading program with the students in the Early Learning Center. The reading program begins in March and will continue through April.

The following meeting will be held on March 18<sup>th</sup>. We have arranged to tour the facilities of the Jonnycake Center. The Jonnycake provides support to our church families and those in need with clothing, household items, and food and even some job training. After the tour we plan to have lunch at the Haversham Restaurant in Dunns Corners.

We are planning a celebration of crafts for our April 15<sup>th</sup> meeting. Several Guest Crafters will be presenting their handiwork.

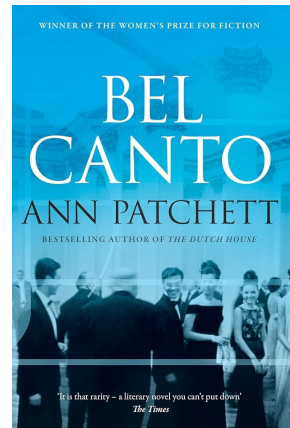
Other items of interest include; the Ladies Night Out scheduled for April 24<sup>th</sup> to be held at the Wood River Inn and the summer book sale. We ask that you save any books that you might donate until they are collected sometime in June or July. More information will be forthcoming in the church bulletin.



## Presbyterian Women's Book Club

The zoom book club will meet at 7pm on Monday, March 25<sup>th</sup> to discuss the book, *Bel Canto*, by *All Patchett*. New members are welcome and should email Sue Rieger at [talltreesue1@gmail.com](mailto:talltreesue1@gmail.com). A link will be sent out via email.

Our in-person book club will meet at 7pm on Monday April 22<sup>nd</sup> in the Meeting House at church. We will discuss the book *Bel Canto* by *Ann Patchett*. Email Sue Rieger at [talltreesue1@gmail.com](mailto:talltreesue1@gmail.com) if you would like to attend.



# March 2024 SABBATH DAY WORSHIP

Sundays at 8 a.m. and 10 a.m.

*March  
Worship  
Schedule*

**Sunday, March 3**

*Third Sunday in Lent  
Celebration of Holy Communion*

Sermon: The Secret's We Keep  
Old Testament: Psalm 63:1-8  
New Testament: John 4:5-42

**Sunday, March 10**

*Fourth Sunday in Lent*

Guest Preacher: Rachel Pierson  
Old Testament: 1 Samuel 16:1-13  
New Testament: John 3:14-21

**Sunday, March 17**

*Fifth Sunday in Lent*

Sermon: Our Purpose  
Old Testament: Ezekiel 37:1-14  
New Testament: John 11:1-45

**Sunday, March 24**

*Palm Sunday*

Sermon: Shouting Stones  
Old Testament: Psalm 118:1-2, 19-29  
New Testament: Mark 11: 1-11

**Friday, March 29**

*7 pm Good Friday Service*

**Sunday, March 31**

*Easter Sunday*

Sermon: Still Rolling Stones  
Old Testament: Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24  
New Testament: John 20:1-18



Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
			<b>1</b> 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village  6-8pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>2</b>  5:45-6:50pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir	<b>1</b>	<b>2</b>  <b>Habitat work day</b> 8 am-2 pm Deacons Collect Meals for the WARM Center (FH)  10am-4pm Sew Good Souls (FH)
<b>3</b> <b>Communion Sunday</b> 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am Griefshare (M)	<b>4</b>	<b>5</b> 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH)  4 pm Worship Committee (Z) 5 pm Christian Ed 5:30 pm Prayer Service (S) 6:00 pm Soup Supper (FH) 5-7 pm Teen Time (T)	<b>6</b> 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village  6-8pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>7</b>  5:45-6:50pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir(S)	<b>8</b>	<b>9</b>
<b>10</b> 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am Griefshare (M)	<b>11</b>	<b>12</b> 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH)  5:30 pm Prayer Service (S) 6:00 pm Soup Supper (FH) 5 - 7pm Teen Time (T) 6 pm Building & Grounds (M) 7 pm Session (M)	<b>13</b> 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village  6-8pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>14</b>  5:45-6:50pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir(S)	<b>15</b>  <b>6 pm Movie night (FH)</b> <b>Sight and Sounds</b> <b>production of 'Jesus'</b>	<b>16</b>
<b>17</b> 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am Griefshare (M)  <b>SCRIBE DEADLINE</b>	<b>18</b> 1 pm Presbyterian Women (FH)	<b>19</b> 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH)  5 pm Compliance (M) 5:30 pm Prayer Service (S) 6:00 pm Soup Supper (FH) 5-7pm Teen Time (T)	<b>20</b> 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village  6-8pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>21</b>  5:45-6:50pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30pm Chancel Choir	<b>22</b> 5:30 pm Christian Ed (FH) Filling Eater Eggs	<b>23</b>
<b>Palm Sunday 24</b> 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School 11:30 am Griefshare (M) <b>1 pm Easter Egg Hunt</b>	<b>25</b> 7 pm P.W. Book Club (Z)	<b>26</b> 8:30 am Work Team 9:30 am Bible Study (FH)  5:30 pm Prayer Service (S) 6:00 pm Soup Supper (FH) 5-7 pm Teen Time 7 pm Deacons (M)	<b>27</b> 1:30-3:30pm Westerly Village  6-8 pm Cub Scouts (FH)	<b>28</b> 5:45-6:50pm Glory Ringers 7-8:30 pm Chancel Choir  7 pm Maundy Thursday Service at Babcock Presbyterian Church	<b>29</b> 7 pm Good Friday Service (S)	<b>30</b>
<b>Easter Sunday 31</b> 8 am & 10 am Worship 9 am & 11 am Fellowship 10 am Sunday School						