

# Fourth Sunday of Easter

**We are so glad you are here!**

**Masks are optional and available at the doors.**

There are LARGE PRINT bulletins and listening aides available; please see the ushers.

To not interfere with the wireless livestream of our service, **please power off your phones.**

The green cards in the pews are for sharing prayer requests; place in offering plates and they will be read as part of the “Prayers of the People.”

## GATHERING MUSIC

## WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Karen Johnson

## RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP

- Pastor

Come, friends, let us join together in the presence of God.

**The One whose image we bear.**

Let us open our hearts and minds to the inspiration of the Spirit.

**The One who guides and gifts us.**

Let us set our feet on the path of Christ.

**The One who shows us new life.**

O Trinity of Love,

**Lead us in your way!**

\* OPENING HYMN #247      *My Shepherd Is the Living God*

\* PRAYER OF INVOCATION and THE LORD’S PRAYER

- Jay Thornber

**Shepherding God,**

**Lead us in paths of right-doing, right-being, right-loving.**

**Help us to have teachable hearts and open minds.**

**We want to be the sheep of your fold;**

**To know you and follow you closely.**

**By your grace, make us your own.**

**Praying with Jesus, we say:**

**Our Father (Mother) 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, the power and glory, forever. Amen.**

WORD FOR ALL AGES

- Rev. Jan

[Children are welcome to join Ms. Cindy and helpers downstairs for Church School]

\* DISMISSAL HYMN #314

*Community of Christ*

SCRIPTURE READINGS

John 10:1-18

- Jay Thornber

‘Very truly, I tell you, anyone who does not enter the sheepfold by the gate but climbs in by another way is a thief and a bandit. The one who enters by the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The gatekeeper opens the gate for him, and the sheep hear his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. When he has brought out all his own, he goes ahead of them, and the sheep follow him because they know his voice. They will not follow a stranger, but they will run from him because they do not know the voice of strangers.’ Jesus used this figure of speech with them, but they did not understand what he was saying to them.

So again Jesus said to them, ‘Very truly, I tell you, I am the gate for the sheep. All who came before me are thieves and bandits; but the sheep did not listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters by me will be saved, and will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief comes only to steal and kill and destroy. I came that they may have life, and have it abundantly.

‘I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. The hired hand, who is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep, sees the wolf coming and leaves the sheep and runs away—and the wolf snatches them and scatters them. The hired hand runs away because a hired hand does not care for the sheep. I am the good shepherd. I know my own and my own know me, just as the Father knows me and I know the Father. And I lay down my life for the sheep. I have other sheep that do not belong to this fold. I must bring them also, and they will listen to my voice. So there will be one flock, one shepherd. For this reason the Father loves me, because I lay down my life in order to take it up again. No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it up again. I have received this command from my Father.’

SERMON

The Good Shepherd

- Rev. Marilyn Kendrix

ANTHEM

\* Indicates you are invited to stand; **Bold** type indicates all speak/sing together.

OFFERING OUR GIFTS

CALL TO OFFERING FOR HOLY WEEK:

OFFERTORY

\* SUNG DOXOLOGY

*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.*

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & PASTORAL PRAYER

\* CLOSING HYMN #495     *Called as Partners in Christ’s Service*

\* BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE



We welcome to our pulpit as our Emig Lecturer, the Rev. Marilyn Kendrix, who served as Transitional Conference Minister of the Rhode Island Conference and Bridge Conference Minister of the Southern New England Conference during the 2020 bridge year, and during that time helped to facilitate the union of the RI, MA and CT conferences and the creation of the Southern New England Conference in 2020. Prior to being ordained, she worked in the corporate world, in particular for 15 years as an organizational development consultant for AT&T. She earned her Executive MBA and her MA in Industrial and Organizational Psychology from the University of New Haven. She earned her Masters of Divinity degree from Yale Divinity School and a certificate from the Yale Institute of Sacred Music.

Please join us for Q&A following the service in the Fireplace Room.



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The flowers today are given by Clay V. Sink with gratitude for everyone’s kindness to me during my move from Kingston to North Carolina.

Emig Lecture 4/30/23: Systemic Racism in America

The Board of Missions invites you to our annual Emig Lecture in memory of Rev. Don Emig, a past member of KCC, who worked tirelessly for social justice. Using the scripture from the Gospel of John (John 10:1-18) as a frame, Rev. Marilyn Baugh Kendrix will deliver the sermon addressing systemic racism in America, providing both a definition and a few examples to help congregants who are not targets of this racism better understand what it is and how it impacts people of color, especially Black Americans. In addition, Rev.Kendrix will spend some time unpacking the controversy over critical race theory and how erasing African Americans from the history of our nation negatively impacts us all. Rev. Kendrix will also be available in the Fireplace Room after coffee hour for Q&A.

Witness Stones Project Three-Part Learning Community  
Mondays, May 8, 15, 22, 7-9 pm, Fellowship Hall

- May 8:** Learning the Lenses (through which to view the history of slavery)  
**May 15:** Piecing Together the Story of Cuffe Torrey (from primary sources)  
**May 22:** Retelling and Responding to the Story (in preparation for ceremony June 5<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 pm)

Women's Fellowship News

**Kingston Fair is Saturday, May 13** and we will have a **bake sale!!** Please contact Michelle or Helen if you can help be a cashier and sell that day. Cakes and pies sell the best! – also, some muffins, cookies, etc. Let Michelle or Helen know what you are making and plan to bring it over that morning. Fellowship will be serving chowder and we can provide dessert or goodies to take home for Mother's Day on Sunday.

-CALENDAR-

SUNDAY, APRIL 30

- 9:30 am Service of Worship  
10:45 am Emig Lecture (FPR)  
4:00 pm Community Dinner Prep. (Kitchen)  
6:00 pm Community Dinner (Hall)

WEDNESDAY, MAY 3

- 6:00 pm C.E. Meeting (Z00m)  
7:00 pm BS Troops 1 & 2 (Hall)

THURSDAY, MAY 4

- 12:00 pm Bible Study (Zoom)  
7:00 pm Choir

SUNDAY, MAY 7

- 9:30 am Service of Worship

**Mission Statement of the Kingston Congregational Church:**

*We are a Christian Church that supports each person's spiritual journey  
through the communal pursuit of worship, learning, and service.*  
(Voted on and approved by the Congregation on April 27, 2008)

*We welcome into our community persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and  
expression, mental and physical ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith  
background, marital standing and family structure; and we invite all to share in the life,  
leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings and joys of our  
congregation.* (Voted on and approved by the Congregation on May 17, 2015)

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Greeter: Tina Letcher; Ushers: Tom Brillat and Fran Bergeron; Lay Reader: Jay Thornber  
Deacon of the Month – Amy Monahan (amypmonahan287@yahoo.com)  
Coffee Hour – The Board of Missions

Church Council:

President – Sharon Davis

Moderator – Joyce Stevos

Chair of the Board of Deacons – Frank Lenox

Chair of the Board of Trustees – K. Wayne Lee

Chair of the Board of Missions – Lisa Bowe

Co-Chairs of the Board of Music – Margaret Bradley and Matt Simeone

Chair of the Board of Christian Education – Dave Remington

Chair of the Board of Stewardship – Open

Chair of the Board of Finance – David Coleman

Chair of the Board of Membership – Lori Ann Hiener

Co-Chairs of the Board of Fellowship – Maria Burdett and Ann Lenox

President Women's Fellowship – Michelle Girasole

Treasurer – Doug Kraus

Senior Pastor – Rev. Dr. Jan Gregory-Charpentier

Pastoral Intern – Katie Howe

Ministers – All Members

Interim Director of Music – Eden Casteel

Director of Christian Education – Cindy Dowgiallo

Communications Director – Tony Jones

Office Administrator – Shirley M. Schock

Sexton – Andy Cournoyer

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