



Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational

917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell ME 04079 • 207-833-6026 • www.elijahkelloggchurch.org

Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Interim Pastor

ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH WORSHIP

February 25, 2024

Second Sunday in Lent

THOUGHTS FOR MEDITATION — “I hear and behold God in every object, yet I understand God not in the least...” — Walt Whitman (1819-1892), *Leaves of Grass* (1855)

“The first principle is that you must not fool yourself, and you are the easiest person to fool.” — Richard Feynman (1918-1988), Theoretical Physicist

“The characteristic work of Torah teaching that it mediates between absolute theological, covenantal claims and the reality of lived life.” — Rev. Dr. Walter Bruggemann (b. 1933)

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace...

* Call to Worship

ONE: We are invited to walk with God.

MANY: We are welcomed by God as people of the covenant.

ONE: How awesome it is to know of the covenant made with humanity by the Creator! God calls us by name and gives us new names.

MANY: God summons us to be to be in relationship, to be a faithful people and beckons us to participate in the work of the covenant.

* **HYMN** — *Guide My Feet* INSERT

Reception of New Members

Affirmation of Faith

MINISTER: Dearly beloved, do you affirm your faith in God, and Jesus as your Lord and Savior?

CANDIDATES: **I do.**

MINISTER: Will you make Jesus your example, and take for your rule of life His words: “You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart and soul, and with all your mind and strength, and your neighbor as yourself?”

CANDIDATES: **I will.**

MINISTER: In the presence of God and these witnesses, will you give yourself to His service, and take this to be your church? Will you promise to walk together with them in faithfulness and Christian love? And will you promise, as far as you are able, to attend its services, observe its sacraments, share in its work, support and benevolence, and make it a fruitful branch of the Church of Christ?

CANDIDATES: **I will, with the help of God.**

Owning of our Church's Covenant (in unison) (Those who are able, please stand.)

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and Will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Community, the Nation and all the World, while worshipping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our forebears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

Welcome of the Church

Congregation: We then, as members of this church, gladly welcome you to a part with us in the hopes, the labors and the joys of this Church of Christ. We promise to walk with you in Christian love, and to promote, as far as in us lies, your growth in Christian life.

Prayer of Dedication (New Members and Congregation in unison)

Gracious God, we praise You for your calling us to faith, and gathering us in to this Church of Christ. We thank You for all our members and friends, and rejoice that You have increased our number. Together, may we live by your Spirit: building up each other in love, sharing the life and work of this church, and serving the world in Jesus' Name. Amen.

Right Hand of Fellowship (Minister and Deacons on behalf of the church)

{The Children are encouraged to leave for Church School.}

OFFERTORY INVITATION

***OFFERING RESPONSE (DOXOLOGY)**

Old One-hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE *TANAKH* IN THE SECTION KNOWN AS THE *TORAH* —
Genesis 17:1-7, 15-17, 19b — Adapted from a translation by Everett Fox

[1] When *Avram*, the exalted ancestor, was ninety-nine years old, *Yahweh* appeared to *Avram*, and said, “I am God, Almighty— or, as it says in the Hebrew, *El Shaddai*, meaning God, the One on the mountain— I am God, Almighty— walk in my presence, and be wholehearted, blameless. [2] And I will set my covenant, make it between Me and you, and will make you exceedingly, exceedingly many.” [3] Then *Avram* fell face down before God and God spoke: [4] “As for me, here— my covenant is with you: You shall be the ancestor of a multitude of nations. [5] No longer shall your name be *Avram* or the exalted ancestor, but your name shall be *Avraham* or *Hamon Goyyim*. (And that is Hebrew for the progenitor of a multitude of Nations.) For I, God, Almighty, have made you the ancestor of a multitude of nations. [6] I will make you most fruitful, exceedingly fruitful; and I will make nations of you; yes, rulers shall go out from you. [7] I will establish My covenant as an everlasting covenant between Me and you, and your descendants after you throughout their generations to come. I will be God to you and to your descendants after you.

[15] God continued and said to *Avraham*, “As for *Sarai* your wife, she shall not be called *Sarai*, but Sarah, (which is Hebrew for Princess — Noble one). Sarah shall be her name. [16] I will bless her, and moreover I will give you a child by her. I will bless Sarah, so that she shall become nations; rulers of peoples shall come from her.”

[17] And then *Avraham* fell face down again and laughed, and said, “I am a hundred years old. How can children be born to me? Can Sarah, who is ninety years old, bear a child?”

[19] God said, “...your wife Sarah shall bear you a child, who, since you have laughed, shall be named *Yitzhak*, Isaac, Laughter. I will establish my covenant with *Yitzhak* as an everlasting covenant and for all the descendants who shall follow.”

SPECIAL MUSIC – *Create in Me a Clean Heart* (Carl F. Mueller)

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS — Mark 8:31-38 [ILV]

[31] Then Jesus began to teach them that the Promised One must undergo great suffering, be rejected by the elders, the chief priests and the religious scholars, be killed and after three days rise again. [32] Jesus said all this quite openly.

Peter then took Jesus aside and began to take issue with this. [33] At that, Jesus turned around and, looking at the disciples, reprimanded Peter: “Get out of my sight, you Satan! For you are judging by human standards, not by God’s, setting your mind not on divine things but on human things.”

[34] And Jesus called, summoned the crowd along with the disciples and said, “If you want to come after me, if you want to become my followers, you must deny your very self and take up your cross and follow in my footsteps. [35] Those who want to save

their life will lose it, and those who lose their life for my sake, and for the sake of the Gospel, will save it. [36] For what will it gain you if you win the whole world but lose your life in the process? [37] Indeed, what can you offer in return for your soul? [38] Those who are ashamed of me and of my words in this faithless and corrupt generation will find, in turn, that the Promised One and the holy angels will also be ashamed of that person when all stand before our God in glory.”

* **HYMN** — *If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee* INSERT

SERMON — *An Invitation to Change*

Piano Meditation —

Prayers of the People -

SILENCE

Lord’s Prayer (debts and debtors)

Our Father, 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, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

* **HYMN** — *Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven* INSERT, v. 1, 2, 3

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven INSERT, v. 4

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM

Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14

<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Ralph Davies
Ushers	TBD
Coffee Hour	Hospitality Committee

Pastor Joe’s office hours for the week of February 19th

Monday, February 26th, 9am – 11am

The Bible Study passage for Monday, February 26th at 11:00 a.m. is:

Exodus 20:1-17



Today's flowers are given by Linda Clement in loving memory of Weston.

The rose welcomes Ismail Coto, son of Isaac Perry and Ife Cotto
and grandson of Denise Perry.



Welcome to Elijah Kellogg Church

Robin T. Dwyer

A Vermonter, I married a native Mainer, Kirk Dwyer from Brunswick in 1989. He spent decades living in Vermont where we met, married and worked while raising our son Chase, now 26, currently residing in California.

Professionally, I spent years in the insurance and hotel industries, selling medical insurance and as a corporate and association meeting planner on a national basis respectively; Director of Outreach for two political campaigns for governor and senator and taught school with a focus on history and english. I also sat on boards for our son's private school and local chamber of commerce.

Kirk has been working at top alpine ski racing academies and clubs for close to fifty years. He was Headmaster and coach at two schools in Vermont, Executive Director at Vail and is currently closing out at Carrabassett Valley Academy at Sugarloaf.

Chase is founder and CEO of Carbon Ridge, a leading developer of modular onboard carbon capture and storage solutions in maritime shipping.

In 2011 we purchased our cottage on Potts Point in South Harpswell where I enjoy gardening, sailing with family and walking into my sixties with Harper (dog) in tow. I have enjoyed volunteering at EKC and look forward to more in the future. Grateful!



Mary Chayka

Mary grew up in Wisconsin and was an elementary school teacher before moving with her husband to York in 1974. She and Tom have a son living in Wash. D.C. and a daughter in Brunswick. They moved to Brunswick several years ago where they especially enjoy time with their two young grandsons.

Guide My Feet

African-American traditional; alt.

Heb. 12:1-15

1 Guide my feet while I run this race, guide my feet
2 Hold my hand while I run this race, hold my hand
3 I'm your child while I run this race, I'm your child
4 Stand by me while I run this race, stand by me

Yes, my God.

while I run this race, guide my feet while I run this race,
while I run this race, hold my hand while I run this race,
while I run this race, I'm your child while I run this race,
while I run this race, stand by me while I run this race,

Yes, my God.

For I don't want to run this race in vain.

If Thou but Suffer God to Guide Thee

Georg Neumark, 1621-1681
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

NEUMARK 9.8.9.8.8.8.
Melody by Georg Neumark, 1621-1681

1 If thou but suf - fer God to guide thee, And hope in
2 On - ly be still, and wait his lei - sure In cheer - ful
3 Sing, pray, and keep his ways un - swerv - ing; So do thine

him through all thy ways, He'll give thee strength, what-e'er be - tide thee,
hope, with heart con - tent To take what-e'er thy Fa - ther's pleas - ure
own part faith - ful - ly, And trust his word, though un - de - serv - ing;

And bear thee through the e - vil days; Who trusts in God's un -
And all - de - serv - ing love have sent; Nor doubt our in - most
Thou yet shalt find it true for thee; God nev - er yet for -

chang - ing love Builds on the rock that nought can move.
wants are known To him who chose us for his own.
sook at need The soul that trust - ed him in - deed. A - men.

Praise, My Soul, the King of Heaven

Based on Psalm 103
Henry F. Lyte, 1793-1847

PRAISE MY SOUL 8.7.8.7.8.7.
John Goss, 1800-1880



1 Praise, my soul, the King of heav - en, To his feet thy
2 Praise him for his grace and fa - vor To our fa - thers
3 Fa - ther - like, he tends and spares us; Well our fee - ble
4 An - gels, help us to a - dore him, Ye be - hold him



trib - ute bring; Ran - somed, healed, re - stored, for - giv - en,
in dis - tress; Praise him, still the same for - ev - er,
frame he knows; In his hands he gen - tly bears us,
face to face; Sun and moon, bow down be - fore him;



Who, like me, his praise should sing? Praise him! praise him!
Slow to chide, and swift to bless. Praise him! praise him!
Res - cues us from all our foes. Praise him! praise him!
Dwell - ers all in time and space, Praise him! praise him!



Praise him! praise him! Praise the ev - er - last - ing King!
Praise him! praise him! Glo - rious in his faith - ful - ness!
Praise him! praise him! Wide - ly as his mer - cy flows!
Praise him! praise him! Praise with us the God of grace! A - men.



No board or committee meetings scheduled for the week of February 26th, 2024.

Hospitality

The Hospitality Committee needs your help hosting coffee hours, please pick a date for your Board and Committee to host. Individuals - get with a friend and host together. Members of our committee are always available to help you. The schedule is hanging next to the door into the kitchen.

Women's Fellowship

The next meeting of the EKC Women's Fellowship will be on **Tuesday, March 5th at 11:00 am in Fellowship Hall**. The program and slide show will be presented by David Hunter, titled "Introduction to Quahog Bay Conservancy Programs." All are welcome to attend the program (men and women). Please bring your own bag lunch. Dessert and drinks will be provided. This will be followed by our business meeting.

Christian Education

Please join the Board of Christian Education for a Lenten mission project. We will be "COLLECTING CHANGE TO MAKE A CHANGE" for Heifer International.



Located in the Sunday bulletin 2/25 and 3/3 will be plastic bags for you to collect coins in through Lent. The coins will serve those in need, around the world, by providing hard-working families with animals.

These animals will give them a steady source of food, or earn them a reliable income. As you fill these bags with coins please pray over this program and the families that will be reached. You can find additional bags for collecting coins in the missions room as well as calendars with prayers, activities, and more information about Heifer International. They have been giving families a "hand up" for 80 years, and we at Elijah Kellogg have a long tradition of supporting them. Please return your bags on Easter Sunday.

Thank you,
The Board of Christian Education

ELIJAH KELLOGG CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

CORNER BEEF SUPPER

— **March 9, 2024** —



MENU:

CORNER BEEF, PARSLEY POTATOES, CABBAGE, CARROTS, AND
FRESH DINNER ROLLS WITH BUTTER

DRINKS: GREEN PUNCH, WATER, COFFEE, TEA

DESSERT: SHAMROCK PUDDING

PRICE: \$14 FOR INDIVIDUAL, \$7 FOR CHILDREN UNDER 12 YEARS OLD

\$25 FOR FAMILY OF 4 OR LESS (INSIDE SEATING ONLY)

PAY BY CREDIT, CASH, OR CHECK

DOORS OPEN
5PM - 7PM

LOCATION: ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH
917 HARPSWELL NECK ROAD
HARPSWELL, ME
FMI: 207-833-6026

Easter Flower Order 2024

Special flowers are being planned for Easter Sunday.

If you wish to order flowers in honor of, or in loving memory of a loved one, please fill in your information below.

Orders are due by Tuesday, March 12th, and may be put in the Flower committee's mailbox outside of the church office, or you may give it to a member of the committee. Committee members are: Susan Anderson, Elizabeth Dyer, Christal Ellis, Becky Gallery, Kathy Goodrich and Judith Stanton

The plants are available for \$10.00 each.

Easter Lilies _____

Daffodils _____

Tulips _____ Please choose color preference for Tulips: _____ No color preference



_____ Yellow

_____ Pink

_____ Purple

_____ Red

In loving memory of: _____

In honor of: _____

Given by: _____ Phone # _____

We ask that you please pick up your plants after the Easter service, or within a week after Easter to take home, or give to a recipient.



PLEASE JOIN US



*Easter
Egg Hunt &
Meet the
Easter Bunny*

**SATURDAY, MARCH 30, 2024
10:00 AM**

**ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH
917 HARPSWELL NECK ROAD
HARPSWELL, ME 04079**

**CRAFTS, CANDY-FILLED EGGS, FAMILY
PHOTO STATION, AND MORE!**

