

**EASTER CELEBRATION OF HOPE IN CHRIST  
COME WORSHIP THE LORD!**



**PREPARATION OF OUR MINDS**

(Entering worship, let us prepare our hearts in quiet meditation.)

*As long as we have hope in our hearts life cannot destroy us. It may hurt us, but it will not break us. As long as hope holds out, we will weather the roughest storm. Hope is an anchor – only, mark you, it must be Christian hope. What is Christian hope? It is the attitude of one who has gazed upon the face of God the Father. It is perspective that God’s promises are for me. It is the conviction of God’s acceptance only because of Jesus’s death on the Cross. And that conviction transforms our life, attitudes, and behavior as we live for God’s glory and honor, not our own.*

**PRAISE TO AN AWESOME GOD**

**THE EMPTY TOMB RAISES HOPE – Reflection**

“I’ll rise again, ain’t no power on earth to tie me down.  
I’ll rise again, death can’t keep me in the ground.”

**INVOCATION**

**\*THE PEACE** “Christ is risen! He is risen indeed!”

**\*HYMN:** “Christ the Lord Is Risen Today”

**\*OLD TESTAMENT: Ezekiel 37:1-14**

**Hymnal #234**

**Bible p.857**

**PRAYERS OF CONFESSION (unison)**

Generous God, you have given us so much. Yet we ask you to give us one more thing. Give us thankful hearts because we know our hearts can be hard and cold. Too often we hold on when we should let go. We clutch when we should spend, hoard when we should be generous, doubt when we should lean on faith. We are fearful instead of trusting in your everlasting care. Open our hearts, to see the overwhelming bounty of your love, which cares for the flowers of the fields, the birds in the air, each child who toddles, each parent who worries, every person who struggles. If you care so much for every aspect of your creation, how can we doubt your care for us, your presence in our lives, walking and reaching out to us each day? Yes, you have given us so much. Give us now the assurance of your love and care and fill us with grateful hands and hearts that we may offer our lives for you who is the savor and Lord of life. Amen

**LORD’S PRAYER (debts)**

**WORDS OF AFFIRMATION (unison)** (John 11:25-26)

We are reminded by Jesus Christ, our Risen Lord:

*“I am the resurrection and the life. The one who believes in me will live, even though they die; and whoever lives by believing in me will never die.”*

**PRAYER TO A LISTENING SAVIOR**

**PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE**

**OFFERING SENTENCE AND PRAYER** (Revelation 4:11)

*“You are worthy, our Lord and God, to receive glory and honor and power, for you created all things, and by your will they were created and have their being.”*

**OFFERTORY: The Sherman Church Choir**

**\*DOXOLOGY:**

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
praise him, all creatures here below;  
praise him above, ye heavenly host:  
praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost*

**Hymnal #808**

**\*HYMN:** “My Hope Is in the Lord”

**Hymnal #482**

**PREACHING THE WORD**

**\*GOSPEL:** Luke 24:13-35 (portions)

**Bible p.1047**

**SERMON:** “We Had Hoped; We Will Hope; We Hope!”

**PROCLAIMING THE GLORY OF CHRIST**

**\*HYMN:** “Because He Lives”

**Insert**

**\*BENEDICTION and THREEFOLD AMEN**

**POSTLUDE** (\*Congregation, please stand if able.)

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**WHAT’S NEW ON THE HORIZON?  
CONNECTION CARDS KEEP US IN TOUCH**

God is alive and working in us, providing new opportunities for mission and caring in our community. Want to be part of the movement of God in Sherman and surrounding communities? Want to know what is happening in our church? Want to share a prayer concern? **USE THE CONNECTION CARD**; stay connected to life at The Sherman Church. Place completed Connection Cards in the offering plate or leave on the table in the Narthex as you leave.



**REMEMBER IN PRAYER**

- Eliza Capehart, serving in the United States Air Force.
- John Langworthy, back injury.
- Brian Barnier, health.
- Jim Beddows, health.
- Nicole Thorp, health.
- Amos Munch, health.
- Jim and Christine Munch, health.
- Roberta Judd, health.
- Willis Stephens, (Jon Stephens' father), health.
- Christopher Siebert, healing of foot.
- Jill Finch, health
- Betty Beatty, health
- Rev. Daniel Morton, health
- Mark Gerber, health

**UPCOMING:**

**Women's Bible Study**  
Every Wednesday. 10:00 AM

**FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP**  
**April 5th**, at 6:30 PM

**CHURCH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY**  
**April 6th** at 9:00 AM

**OUR MISSIONARIES:**

Nic & Christy Brenner; Robert & Nina Bruneau; 4C Church Planting; Lion of Judah Academy.

**DEACONS** of the church are always available to meet with you, pray with you, and hear your concerns.

**PRAYER TEAM**

Prayer is a vital part of our ministry at the Sherman Church. A Prayer Team meets every Thursday to pray for our Church Family. If you have an immediate prayer concern, please call or email the church office or the Pastor. We will share the need with the Prayer Team.

**FIRE EXITS** are located at the rear of the sanctuary through the double doors and at the front through the doors on both sides of the altar.

**DONATIONS FOR THE VETERANS HOSPITAL**

The church continues collecting items for the Veterans Hospital in West Haven. There is a list of needed items in the Fellowship Hall.

**HOPELINE** is in need of several items. Please bring them to church and place them in the basket in the narthex.

**(List of needed items is in the Narthex)**

**THE SHERMAN CHURCH**

A MEMBER CHURCH OF  
THE CONSERVATIVE CONGREGATIONAL CHRISTIAN CONFERENCE  
6 Church Road | Sherman, CT 06784  
860-354-6114  
info@shermanchurch.org | Shermanchurch.org

**CELEBRATING LIFE IN HOPE**

They returned to Jerusalem  
ecstatic with joy.  
**Luke 24:52**



THE SHERMAN CHURCH  
March 31, 2024

**NEXT WEEK:** April 7 is our observance of The Lord's Supper. All who profess faith in Jesus as Lord and Savior are welcome in this special monthly service. We will see how hope continues in the life of a Christian as continue "Fanning the Fires of Hope" through remembering the Easter experience.  
**The Scripture will be 1 Corinthians 11:23-26.**

**PASTORAL SEARCH SURVEY  
DEADLINE EXTENDED UNTIL APRIL 2!**

*Tuesday is the last day to turn in the Pastoral Search Survey. Hard copies are in the Narthex or complete them online. Paper copies can be emailed or placed in the box provided. We appreciate your input.*

**WARNING**

Notice is hereby given that a Special Meeting of The Sherman Church will be held in the sanctuary  
**April 7, 2024, at 11:30am**  
Immediately Following the Worship Service  
In-person and via Google Meet

- To approve expenditure of more than \$5,000 for painting of the parsonage.
- To approve the new church vision as created by the Transition Team.
- To hear and act upon any business proper to come before the congregation.

Dated at Sherman, Connecticut, this 24th day of March 2024.  
Aimée M. Suhie, Clerk

**ALL ARE WELCOME TO FIRST FRIDAY FUN NIGHT**

Join in the fun 6:30 PM this Friday for this monthly time of fellowship, light refreshments and enjoying unique fun experiences together while getting to know one another in a relaxed way. It's a great way to experience the warmth and love of The Sherman Church family.

**OUR CHURCH:**

- Pastor:** Rev. John Loring Carpenter, Interim Pastor
- Ministers:** The Congregation
- Minister of Music:** Carolyn Kopsick
- Moderator:** Edna Coons
- Chair of Deacons:** Charles Mastroni
- Co-Chair of Trustees:** Don Coons and Lynn Paulovicks
- Flowers:** Easter Committee
- Prayers of the People:** Charles Mastroni
- Reader:** Suzanne Browning
- Coffee Hour Host:** Anna Galasso
- Nursery:** Kristin Stephens
- Usher:** Don Coons

**CALENDAR**

**April 1 - April 6, 2024**

(Links for online meetings may be found at [shermanchurch.org](http://shermanchurch.org))

**SUNDAY:**

**WORSHIP SERVICES** at 10:00 A.M. (Also Live Streamed)  
**SUNDAY SCHOOL**

**TUESDAY:**

**MISSIONS at 7:15 P.M. - Online**

**WEDNESDAY:**

**WOMEN'S BIBLE STUDY** at 10:00 AM - Fellowship Hall  
**DEACONS** at 7:00 P.M. Online  
**AA** at 7:00 P.M - Fellowship Hall

**THURSDAY:**

**PRAYER IN THE PARLOR at 6:45 P.M**  
Dial-in Number: 667-770-1484; when prompted access code 357664#.  
**AA** at 7:00 P.M - Fellowship Hall

**FRIDAY**

**FIRST FRIDAY FELLOWSHIP** at 6:30 PM - Fellowship Hall

**SATURDAY:**

**CHURCH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY** at 9:00 AM

# 275 Because He Lives

Because I live, ye shall live also. John 14:19

WILLIAM J. AND GLORIA GAITHER

WILLIAM J. GAITHER

1. God sent His Son, they called Him Je - sus; He came to love,  
2. How sweet to hold a new-born ba - by, And feel the pride  
3. And then one day I'll cross the riv - er; I'll fight life's fi -

heal, and for - give; He lived and died to buy my  
and joy He gives; But great - er still the calm as -  
nal war with pain; And then as death gives way to

par - don, An emp - ty grave is there to prove my Sav - ior lives.  
sur - ance, This child can face un - cer - tain days be - cause He lives.  
vic - tory, I'll see the lights of glo - ry and I'll know He lives.

*Refrain*  
Be - cause He lives I can face to - mor - row; Be - cause He lives

all fear is gone; Be - cause I know He holds the fu - ture,

# SHERMAN CHURCH SPRING CLEAN UP DAY!



Please bring your own rakes, tree trimming tools and cleaning supplies.

In the event the weather does not cooperate with us, the rain date will be **April 13th**.

Help keep our church beautiful and join us on Saturday, April 6th at 9:00 am for our annual spring clean-up day.

## SAVE THE DATE

### VACATION BIBLE SCHOOL JUNE 17-21

Families plan ahead!  
And of course, if you can help in many different ways then set the week aside. More details will be coming next month.

17 / 21 June  
SAVE THE DATE

SHERMAN CHURCH  
Vacation Bible School

FREE ADMISSION  
Kids VBS IS BACK!

Outdoor Activities  
Bible Study  
Arts & Crafts & FUN!

info@shermanchurch.org

# EASTER FLOWERS

THE SHERMAN CHURCH



## IN MEMORY OF:

**FRED & TRUDY COONS**

Donald & Edna Coons

**CHRISTINE COONS**

Donald & Edna Coons

**JACK DUBE**

Jean Dube

**ELIZABETH FREY**

Lynn Paulovicks

**ALBERT & MARILYN FORSTER**

Lynne Gomez

**JOSE & MODESTA GOMEZ**

Tony & Lynne Gomez

**CLARENCE & FRANCES HILBRANDT**

Ed & Claire Siebert

**GORDON & ELLANITA KIMLIN**

Javier & Virginia DeLaCruz

**JOYCE NEUBAUER**

Paul & Carol Voorhees

**BARBARA & JOHN NORCROSS**

Ken & Cindy Moschitta

**JACK & EDNA ORMISTON**

Donald & Edna Coons

**PAUL ORMISTON**

Donald & Edna Coons

**BETTY COX PAULOVICKS**

Lynn Paulovicks

**ADAM & MYRTLE SIEBERT**

Ed & Claire Siebert

**CARTER MICHAEL TLASKY**

Ken and Suzanne Leach

**HUBERT AND MATILDA VOORHEES**

Paul & Carol Voorhees

**MILDRED WELLS**

Paul & Carol Voorhees



## IN HONOR OF:

**BETTY BEATTY**

Ed & Claire Siebert

**JACK & BARBARA DUNCAN**

Ken & Cindy Moschitta

**CAROL MEHNE**

Ken Leach & Suzanne Browning

# Because He Lives

Song by Bill & Gloria Gaither

God sent His son, they called Him, Jesus;  
He came to love, heal and forgive;  
He lived and died to buy my pardon,  
An empty grave is there to prove my Savior lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!

How sweet to hold a newborn baby,  
And feel the pride and joy he brings;  
But greater still the calm assurance:  
This child can face uncertain days because He Lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!

And then one day, I'll cross the river,  
I'll fight life's final war with pain;  
And then, as death gives way to victory,  
I'll see the lights of glory and I'll know He lives!

Because He lives, I can face tomorrow,  
Because He lives, all fear is gone;  
Because I know He holds the future,  
And life is worth the living,  
Just because He lives!