



*Central and Algonquin United
Methodist Churches*

Sunday, April 12, 2026

With Pastor Marty Johnston

Mission Statement:

**Connecting all people to God by building bridges
of caring, outreach, and acceptance.**

Central United Methodist
Pastor Marty Johnston
April 12, 2026
Liturgical Colors: White
Second Sunday of Easter
CCLI License# 3999519

Ushers/Greeters: John Proulx

Liturgist: Marcie Gleason

PRELUDE “Beneath the Cross” Duro

WELCOME/MISSION STATEMENT

Connecting all people to God by building bridges of
caring, outreach, and acceptance

***Call to Worship:** (Inspired by Psalm 16)

Leader: Come, let us gather in the presence of the Lord, for He is our
refuge and our portion.

People: We have no good apart from Him. Every good thing comes
from His hand.

Leader: The world offers many paths, but we choose the way of the
living God.

People: We will fix our hearts on the Lord, for He is near and will not
let us be shaken.

Leader: In times of uncertainty, God gives counsel. In the night, He
watches over us.

People: Therefore our hearts are glad, and our souls rejoice in His
care.

Leader: God does not abandon us to fear, nor leave us without hope.

People: He shows us the path of life.

Leader: In His presence there is fullness of joy.

People: At His right hand are pleasures forevermore. Come, let us worship the Lord!

*OPENING HYMN

“My Hope Is Built”

UMH 368
THE SOLID ROCK

*PASTOR’S OPENING PRAYER *

Lord, we are glad to be here today. You have given us another day, another breath, another chance to worship You.

Meet us here with Your grace and steady our hearts in Your presence. Lift what is heavy, quiet what is restless, and help us fix our eyes on You.

As we sing, pray, listen, and respond, make us more open to Your truth and more ready to follow where You lead.

We trust You, we welcome You, and we worship You with joy.

In Jesus ’name, Amen.

TIME FOR YOUNG CHRISTIANS

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE READING:

John tells us that this happened on the evening of Easter Day. The disciples are gathered behind locked doors—afraid, confused, and unsure what comes next. They’ve heard the news that the tomb is empty, but they still don’t know what to make of it all. And honestly,

that makes them a lot like us. Sometimes faith is mixed with fear. Sometimes hope is tangled up with questions.

In this passage, Jesus comes right into that room of uncertainty. He brings peace to anxious hearts, and He meets one disciple in particular—Thomas—who struggles to believe without seeing for himself. So if you've ever had questions, doubts, or wondered whether faith has room for honest uncertainty, this is a good passage to hear. Listen now for the good news: Christ is not afraid of locked doors, fearful hearts, or sincere questions.

SCRIPTURE READING John 20: 19-31

¹⁹ Then, the same day at evening, being the first *day* of the week, when the doors were shut where the disciples were assembled, for fear of the Jews, Jesus came and stood in the midst, and said to them, "Peace *be* with you." ²⁰ When He had said this, He showed them *His* hands and His side. Then the disciples were glad when they saw the Lord.

²¹ So Jesus said to them again, "Peace to you! As the Father has sent Me, I also send you." ²² And when He had said this, He breathed on *them*, and said to them, "Receive the Holy Spirit. ²³ If you forgive the sins of any, they are forgiven them; if you retain the *sins* of any, they are retained."

²⁴ Now Thomas, called the Twin, one of the twelve, was not with them when Jesus came. ²⁵ The other disciples therefore said to him, "We have seen the Lord."

So he said to them, "Unless I see in His hands the print of the nails, and put my finger into the print of the nails, and put my hand into His side, I will not believe."

²⁶ And after eight days His disciples were again inside, and Thomas with them. Jesus came, the doors being shut, and stood in the midst, and said, "Peace to you!" ²⁷ Then He said to Thomas, "Reach your

finger here, and look at My hands; and reach your hand *here*, and put *it* into My side. Do not be unbelieving, but believing.”

²⁸ And Thomas answered and said to Him, “My Lord and my God!”

²⁹ Jesus said to him, “Thomas, because you have seen Me, you have believed. Blessed *are* those who have not seen and *yet* have believed.”

³⁰ And truly Jesus did many other signs in the presence of His disciples, which are not written in this book; ³¹ but these are written that you may believe that Jesus is the Christ, the Son of God, and that believing you may have life in His name.

Leader: The Word of God for the People of God

All: Thanks be to God

SERMON

The Wounds That Still Speak

Big Idea: The risen Christ still bears His wounds, showing us that God’s answer to suffering is not denial or erasure, but redemption, presence, and new life

INVITATION TO OFFERING

As we give today, we offer not only our gifts, but our gratitude to the risen Christ, who still meets wounded people with peace and hope.

OFFERTORY

“Trentham”

Jackson

DOXOLOGY

UMH 95
OLD HUNDREDTH

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. Amen.

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Risen Lord, receive these gifts and use them to bring peace, hope, and healing to a world still marked by fear and pain. May what we offer today help others see Your love made visible through Your Church.

HYMN

“I Surrender All”

UMH 354
SURRENDER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE,

Leader: Lord, in your Mercy

All: Hear our prayer.

Pastor:

Trusting in the risen Christ, who comes to us in our fear, speaks peace to our hearts, and meets us even in our wounds and questions, let us pray for the Church, the world, and all who are in need.

For the Church

Risen Lord, breathe Your Spirit into Your Church again. Make us a people of peace, mercy, and welcome, so that those who are fearful, wounded, or unsure may find grace among us.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For the World

God of peace, we pray for a world still living behind locked doors of conflict, violence, and fear. Bring wisdom to leaders, protection to the vulnerable, and hope to places torn apart by war, especially in Europe and the Middle East.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For Those Who Carry Wounds

Compassionate Christ, we pray for those whose wounds are visible and those whose wounds are hidden. Draw near to all who carry

grief, trauma, disappointment, loneliness, or pain, and let Your presence bring healing and strength.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For Those with Questions and Doubts

Patient Savior, we thank You that You were gentle with Thomas and that You are not afraid of honest questions. Be near to seekers, doubters, and all who struggle to believe, and lead them by Your grace into deeper trust.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For This Community

Lord Jesus, bless this congregation, our families, our neighbors, and all who gather in this place. Where there is anxiety, speak peace; where there is division, bring healing; where there is weariness, renew with hope.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

For Our Daily Witness

Risen Christ, send us into the world as You sent Your disciples. Help us to carry Your peace into tense places, Your compassion into hurting places, and Your hope into places that feel closed off and afraid.

Lord, in Your mercy, hear our prayer.

Pastor:

Into Your hands, O Lord, we commend all for whom we pray, trusting not in our own strength, but in Your mercy and love; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who taught us to pray:

LORD'S PRAYER

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 trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us; and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS – April 12, 2026

Save the Date

Wed. Apr. 15th - *Family Night* at CUMC Fellowship Hall @
5:30 PM – 7 PM. Come enjoy a tasty dinner, fun activities, and a meaningful lesson for all ages. Bring the whole family—everyone is welcome!

Sun. Apr. 19th – There will be a ***Mission meeting*** after services

Mon. Apr. 20th – *Rebecca Circle* meeting at 1:30pm, hosted by Jackie Willey



Algonquins Change Jar Offering for April will be used for the cleaning of their Church Steeple



Central's Missions : is still collecting shelf stable foods plus other items for elementary schools and personal hygiene items for the **Mission/Outreach** program. The lists are located upstairs and you may drop off your items in their appointed boxes or if you wish to purchase a gift card, please pass that to either Kathy (in office), or Diane Bell....thank you.

Join us for Bible Study, led by Raymond Bell, every Sunday at 9:30 AM in the CUMC lounge

Algonquin Birthday/Anniversary

Apr. 8th – Frances Sylvester **Apr. 10th** – Bernita Sibbald
Apr. 16th – Todd Vollick

Central Birthday/Anniversary

Apr. 16th – Sherry Hutchins **Apr. 17th** – Brenda Coullard
Apr. 22nd – Norb Bennin **Apr. 24th** – Dennis Hill

April 16th – Cathy & John Wilkinson (21st)



Nursery is available for infants through age 3 during worship with Mallory Baier. The nursery is located downstairs, and ushers will be happy to assist you.

***CLOSING HYMN**

“Christ is Alive”

UMH 318
TRURU

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

“ Postlude in F ”

Ashford