

EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

Cranston, RI

10:00 AM

May 8, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER

Welcome! We invite you into a time of preparation for worship. We invite you to unplug, turn off your phones, unwind from the past week, and focus your hearts on God's presence within, around, and between us all.

Words of Welcome & Announcements

L: God is present. L: Everywhere, all the time.

C: **All the time, everywhere.** C: **God is present.**

Prelude

Call to Worship

L: We celebrate today our mothers who bore us and cradled us as infants, as well as our mothers who adopted us.

C: **We also remember mothers who have lost their children through illness or violence, whose tears still flow from their broken hearts.**

L: We express gratitude to our spiritual mothers who helped to guide us throughout life, modeling for us the love of God.

C: **On this Mother's Day, we come to worship the living God, honoring our mothers – biological, adoptive, and spiritual, as we find our solace and peace in the goodness that life brings.**

All: **Acknowledging the joys and sorrows of life, may our worship transform us, so that we, honoring our mothers and glorifying God, may express compassion, seek justice, show mercy, and pursue peace wherever our lives may lead.**

Invocation

***Hymn** #11 "Bring Many Names"

Question(s) for Reflection

"The difference between a broken community and a thriving one is the presence of women who are valued." - Michelle Obama

When have my words or actions devalued a woman or women?

Why have I not spoken out more often and forcefully, when I have encountered the societal bias against women?

Silence

Assurance of Blessing

***Sharing of the Sign of Peace**

Let us celebrate God's great grace by offering to one another a sign of Christ's peace.

Scripture

Acts 9:36-43

Sermon

A Disciple Named Gazelle

***Hymn**

#467 "Mohtering God, You Gave Me Birth"

Prayers of the People / Centering Prayer / Intercessory Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

Our Father, who is in heaven, hallowed be your name. Your kingdom come, your will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread, and forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

*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. Amen.**

*Prayer of Dedication

Loving God, bless these gifts and the givers that all might carry forward the ministry you intend here in this church and community, and wherever there is a need on the face of the earth. Amen.

***Hymn**

#426 "O God, Whose Steadfast Love"

The Take Home

“Biology is the least of what makes someone a mother.”

- Oprah Winfred

“I was surrounded by extraordinary women in my life who taught me about quiet strength and dignity.”

- Michelle Obama

Benediction / Sung Response “Go, My Children” (tune: #82)

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;

Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;

In my love’s baptismal river I have made you mine forever,

Go, my children, with my blessing, you are my own.

Postlude

We thank Pat Kohler for serving as lay reader this morning.

Please keep **Cay Browne** and **Joe DiCiccio** in your prayers.

We are preparing to receive applications for our annual higher education scholarships.

Our monthly mission outreach goes to the UCC’s support for Ukraine. Envelopes for these gifts can be found on the table at the back of the church.

Be sure to visit us on the web: <http://edgewoodchurchri.org>

Or on Facebook:

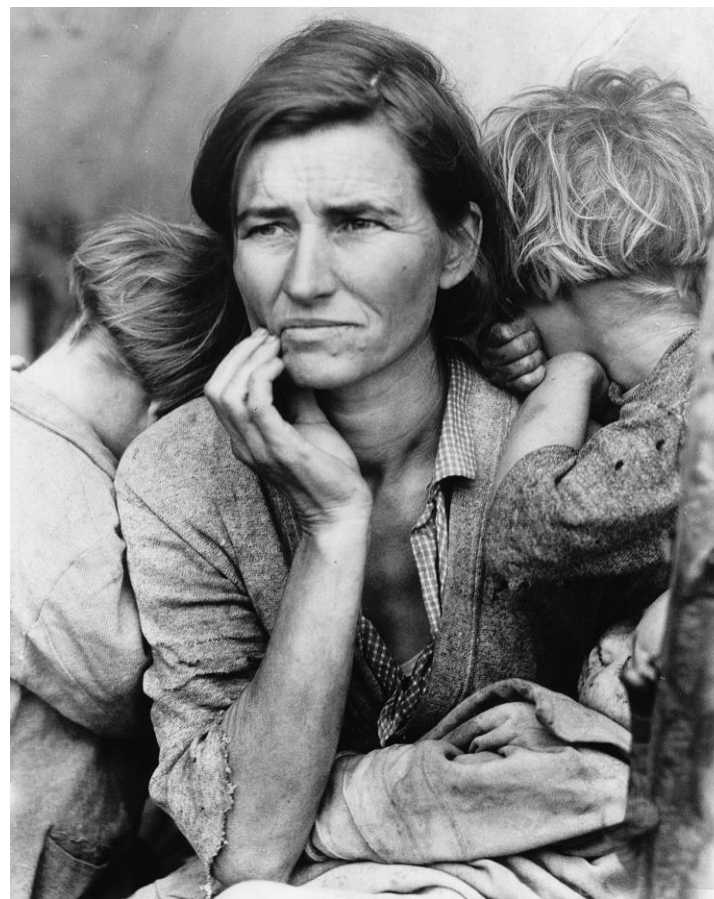
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EDGEWOOD CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

1788 Broad Street, Cranston, Rhode Island 02905



Mother’s Day.

No matter who you are or where you are on life’s journey, you’re welcome here.

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