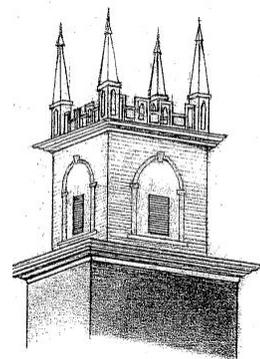


+ **N.E.W.S. CONNECTION**  
Pittsford Congregational Church  
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Vol. 22 No.05

May 2022

**Message from the Pastor**



*Reading of the Passion Gospel on Palm Sunday: Michael Dwyer, Matt Harvey, and out of the camera's range, Jane Wilson who read a variety of parts in the narrative. This frame is clipped from the video recording that is sent to mailing list each Sunday and later aired on PEG TV.*



*Rev. Sara Rossigg read the Gospel on Maundy Thursday.*



*View from the balcony as the team places Memorial flowers for Easter*

We truly experienced the fullness of Holy Week this year from the procession with palms and reading of the Passion Gospel on Palm Sunday, the combined congregations of Brandon, Pittsford, and Proctor on Maundy Thursday, the quiet meditation of Good Friday's Way of the Cross, and to the joyful celebration of Easter. Our Easter choral quintet promises to grow and sing again soon!

The leading question of my Easter homily: What is the pull that brings us to church on Easter? With upwards of seventy people in the pews, it FELT like Easter. From the pulpit and looking outward over the worshippers, it moved me deeply to see so many people, to hear the responses to the prayers, and to watch the faces of people as they were singing. That experience of worshipping together continues to fill me with hope for our future. Looking forward, let us keep some of the energy of "the pull" of Easter with us on every Sunday. Come back; pray with us; sing with us. Give thanks for our many blessings. Never take for granted the freedom we possess to gather safely as a Resurrection people. On Orthodox Easter, April 24, how could we not be moved by news images of families throughout Ukraine attempting to celebrate Easter in the streets for fear that their churches would be shelled?

On Sunday, May 15, we plan to welcome new members into the fold. As did we last fall, when we welcomed Lucinda and Michael Scanlan, and Carol Bailey Leigh, they reaffirmed their baptismal promises during the service. Such an important step has been part of an ongoing conversations with me, our deacons, and members-in-waiting. Please see me if you are ready and willing on this designated Sunday. We need each other's gifts to complement our own.

One of our UCC brochures effectively addresses the question: *What are the responsibilities of church members?*

**First, that you make a genuine commitment to Christian faith and life, and seek those experiences that will help you grow in faith and the practice of it.**

**Second, that you participate regularly in worship, the center of a congregation's life.**

**Third, that you make a point to be an informed member who takes part in congregational meetings and decision making.**

**Fourth, that you support the church financially, by committing a portion of your income to the work of the work.**

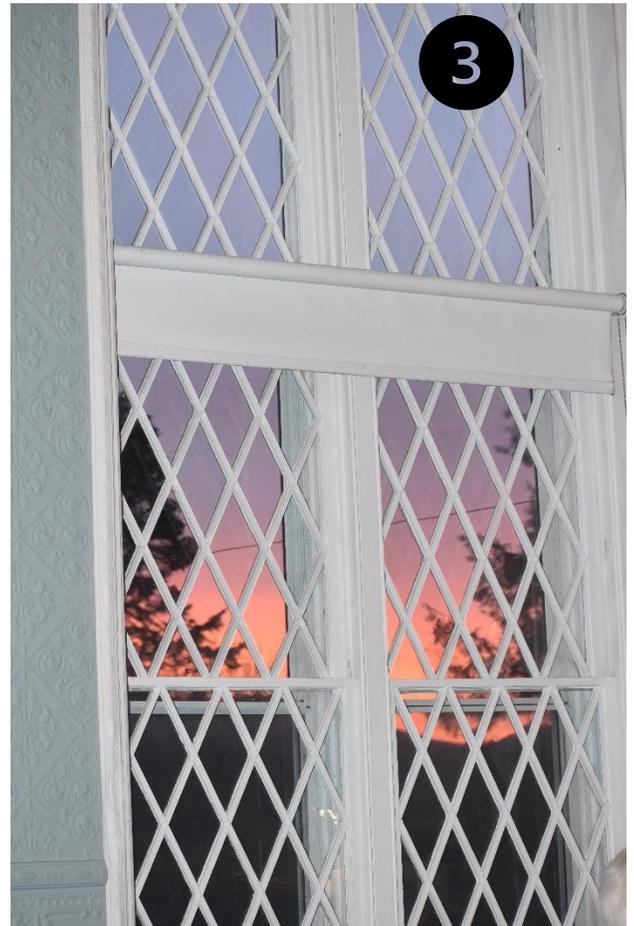
**And finally, that you seek to build relationships with others in the congregation through conversation, small groups, retreats, or similar opportunities.**

Fill those pews!

Yours in faith,

Michael F. Dwyer, Pastor

# Maundy Thursday Service at Pittsford Congregational Church



Photos from Maundy Thursday Service.

1. Brandon Congregational Church Choir, under the direction of Eugene Childers, accompanied by Jean Childers, pianist, sing anthem, "My Savior and My God."
2. George Valley, representing Union Church of Proctor, Pastor Michael Dwyer, and Rev. Sara Rossigg of the Brandon Congregational Church, share in the Communion Prayer.
3. Guest Jeannie Corbett took pictures and captured a beautiful sunset.