

# Easter Sunday

April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025

A Service of Holy Word and Holy Eucharist

Christ Church Easton



*Kenneth Tanner, "Jesus Gardener of a New Creation"*

**The Reverend Canon D Littlepage, Celebrant**

**Vicki MarkAnthony, Senior Warden**

**Tracy Carlucci, Music Minister**

## EASTER FLOWERS

### Given by:

Sandy Breyan	In memory of Nick Breyan
Catherine Cody	In memory of Marge & Nick Kowtko, Catherine Nevilles, Mary Renehan
Vicki MarkAnthony	In memory of Joe, Sally & Mike MarkAnthony, Christina & Joseph MarkAnthony, Colin & Dorothy Simpson, Bruce & Colin Simpson, Stella & Leo Gavril
Jim & Deborah Swann	In memory of the members of the Swann family, Mrotek family, and David D. Harris who have found peace
Claire & Bill Wilkes	In memory of Rosalyn Wood, Milton Coward, and Raymond Wilkes
Peg & Bob Ellwanger	In thanksgiving for our grandchildren: Ella, Danny and Kevin Daniel
John & Mary Gennarini	For world peace
Marina Philips	In thanksgiving for my family
Karen Emanuelson	In memory of Clifford and Virginia Emanuelson
Marilyn & Tony Caruso	In memory of Carol & Edward Knauff and Eleanor & Palmerino Caruso
Katie Tressler	<p>In loving memory of Will Tressler, Ella and Donald Tressler, Eleanor Brown, Donald and Amelia McCann, Helen, Tom, Gloria Hennigan, Mary McCann and Gary Bradicich, Don, Mike, and Michael McCann, Agnes and Frances Donovan, Aracy Beth Belcher, and Anne Fiyalka; all deceased members who had worshiped here since the inception of Christ's Church: those who donated the land, those who were involved in the planning &amp; building here, those known and unknown who had shared their time, talent, and treasure, faithfully serving Christ's Church.</p> <p>In thanksgiving for my family and my grandchildren: Colman, Tiernan, Clara, &amp; Tristan; for our supply priests, our Senior and Junior Wardens, Vestry members, our Organist/Parish Secretary, choir, teachers, parents and students of CCNS, committee members, our church members and their precious children.</p>

Prelude:

Trio for 3 Violins, Op. 99, No. 2  
Charles Dancla

Thine Be the Glory  
Edward L. Budry, G. F. Handel

*Celebrant:* As we gather to worship, let us recognize that we gather on the ancestral lands and traditional territory of the Aspetuck River Valley dwelling of the Paugussett people.

Processional Hymn

“Christ is alive!”

Hymnal #182

1 Christ is a - live! Let Chris - tians sing. His cross stands  
2 Christ is - a - live! No long - er bound to dis - tant  
3 Not throned a - bove, re - mote - ly high, un - touched, un -  
4 In ev - ery in - sult, rift, and war where co - lor,  
5 Christ is a - live! His Spi - rit burns through this and

1 emp - ty to the sky. Let streets and homes with  
2 years in Pal - es - tine, he comes to claim the  
3 moved by hu - man pains, but dai - ly, in the  
4 scorn or wealth di - vide, he suf - fers still, yet  
5 ev - ery fu - ture age, till all cre - a - tion

1 prais - es ring. His love in death shall nev - er die.  
2 here and now and con - quer ev - ery place and time.  
3 midst of life, our Sa - vior with the Fa - ther reigns.  
4 loves the more, and lives, though ev - er cru - ci - fied.  
5 lives and learns his joy, his jus - tice, love, and praise.

*Celebrant*

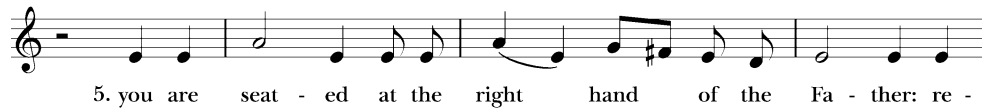
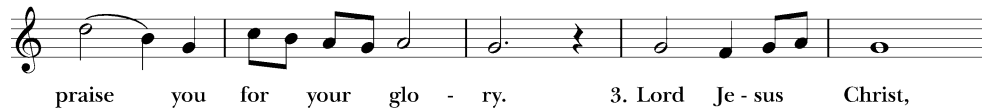
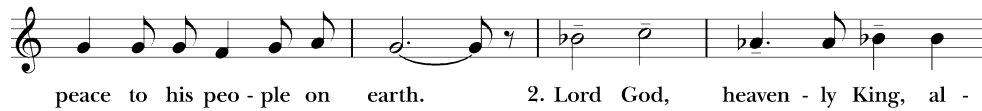
Alleluia. Christ is risen.

*People*

The Lord is risen indeed. Alleluia.

**The Collect for Purity**

Almighty God, to you all hearts are open, all desires known, and from you no secrets are hid: Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit, that we may perfectly love you, and worthily magnify your holy Name; through Christ our Lord. **Amen.**



## The Collect of the Day

*Celebrant* The Lord be with you.

*People* **And also with you.**

*Celebrant* Let us pray.

Almighty God, who through your only-begotten Son Jesus Christ overcame death and opened to us the gate of everlasting life: Grant that we, who celebrate with joy the day of the Lord's resurrection, may be raised from the death of sin by your life-giving Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and for ever. **Amen.**

## The First Reading

**Acts 10:34-43**

A Reading from the Acts of the Apostles.

Then Peter began to speak to them: "I truly understand that God shows no partiality, but in every nation anyone who fears him and does what is right is acceptable to him. You know the message he sent to the people of Israel, preaching peace by Jesus Christ—he is Lord of all. That message spread throughout Judea, beginning in Galilee after the baptism that John announced: how God anointed Jesus of Nazareth with the Holy Spirit and with power; how he went about doing good and healing all who were oppressed by the devil, for God was with him. We are witnesses to all that he did both in Judea and in Jerusalem. They put him to death by hanging him on a tree; but God raised him on the third day and allowed him to appear, not to all the people but to us who were chosen by God as witnesses, and who ate and drank with him after he rose from the dead. He commanded us to preach to the people and to testify that he is the one ordained by God as judge of the living and the dead. All the prophets testify about him that everyone who believes in him receives forgiveness of sins through his name."

The Word of the Lord.

**Thanks be to God.**

## Psalm 118

**Psalm 118:1-2, 14-24**

Give thanks to the LORD, for he is good; \*

**his mercy endures for ever.**

Let Israel now proclaim, \*

**"His mercy endures for ever."**

The LORD is my strength and my song, \*

**and he has become my salvation.**

There is a sound of exultation and victory \*

**in the tents of the righteous:**

"The right hand of the LORD has triumphed! \*

**the right hand of the LORD is exalted! the right hand of the LORD has triumphed!"**

I shall not die, but live, \*

**and declare the works of the LORD.**

The LORD has punished me sorely, \*

**but he did not hand me over to death.**

Open for me the gates of righteousness; \*

**I will enter them; I will offer thanks to the LORD.**

"This is the gate of the LORD; \*

**he who is righteous may enter."**

I will give thanks to you, for you answered me \*

**and have become my salvation.**

The same stone which the builders rejected \*

**has become the chief cornerstone.**

This is the LORD'S doing, \*

**and it is marvelous in our eyes.**

On this day the LORD has acted; \*

**we will rejoice and be glad in it.**

## The Second Reading

1 Corinthians 15:19-26

A Reading from the First Letter to the Corinthians.

If for this life only we have hoped in Christ, we are of all people most to be pitied.

But in fact Christ has been raised from the dead, the first fruits of those who have died. For since death came through a human being, the resurrection of the dead has also come through a human being; for as all die in Adam, so all will be made alive in Christ. But each in his own order: Christ the first fruits, then at his coming those who belong to Christ. Then comes the end, when he hands over the kingdom to God the Father, after he has destroyed every ruler and every authority and power. For he must reign until he has put all his enemies under his feet. The last enemy to be destroyed is death.

The Word of the Lord.

Thanks be to God.

## Gospel Hymn

“Jesus Christ is risen today” (*vs 1-2 before/vs 3-4 after*)

Hymnal #207

1 Je - sus Christ is risen to - day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
2 Hymns of praise then let us sing, Al - le - lu - ia!  
3 But the pains which he en - dured, Al - le - lu - ia!  
4 Sing we to our God a - bove Al - le - lu - ia!

our tri - um - phant ho - ly day, Al - le - lu - ia!  
un - to Christ, our heaven - ly King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
our sal - va - tion have pro - cured; Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise e - ter - nal as his love; Al - le - lu - ia!

who did once up - on the cross, Al - le - lu - ia!  
who en - dured the cross and grave, Al - le - lu - ia!  
now a - bove the sky he's King, Al - le - lu - ia!  
praise him, all ye heaven - ly host, Al - le - lu - ia!

suf - fer to re - deem our loss. Al - le - lu - ia!  
sin - ners to re - deem and save. Al - le - lu - ia!  
where the an - gels ev - er sing. Al - le - lu - ia!  
Fa - ther, Son, and Ho - ly Ghost. Al - le - lu - ia!

The Holy Gospel of our Lord Jesus Christ, according to John.

**Glory to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

Early on the first day of the week, while it was still dark, Mary Magdalene came to the tomb and saw that the stone had been removed from the tomb. So she ran and went to Simon Peter and the other disciple, the one whom Jesus loved, and said to them, "They have taken the Lord out of the tomb, and we do not know where they have laid him." Then Peter and the other disciple set out and went toward the tomb. The two were running together, but the other disciple outran Peter and reached the tomb first. He bent down to look in and saw the linen wrappings lying there, but he did not go in. Then Simon Peter came, following him, and went into the tomb. He saw the linen wrappings lying there, and the cloth that had been on Jesus' head, not lying with the linen wrappings but rolled up in a place by itself. Then the other disciple, who reached the tomb first, also went in, and he saw and believed; for as yet they did not understand the scripture, that he must rise from the dead. Then the disciples returned to their homes.

But Mary stood weeping outside the tomb. As she wept, she bent over to look into the tomb; and she saw two angels in white, sitting where the body of Jesus had been lying, one at the head and the other at the feet. They said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping?" She said to them, "They have taken away my Lord, and I do not know where they have laid him." When she had said this, she turned around and saw Jesus standing there, but she did not know that it was Jesus. Jesus said to her, "Woman, why are you weeping? Whom are you looking for?" Supposing him to be the gardener, she said to him, "Sir, if you have carried him away, tell me where you have laid him, and I will take him away." Jesus said to her, "Mary!" She turned and said to him in Hebrew, "Rabbouni!" (which means Teacher). Jesus said to her, "Do not hold on to me, because I have not yet ascended to the Father. But go to my brothers and say to them, 'I am ascending to my Father and your Father, to my God and your God.'" Mary Magdalene went and announced to the disciples, "I have seen the Lord"; and she told them that he had said these things to her.

The Gospel of the Lord.

**Praise to you, Lord Jesus Christ.**

**The Sermon**

**Rev. Canon D Littlepage**

**The Nicene Creed**

**BCP p. 358**

We believe in one God,  
the Father, the Almighty,  
maker of heaven and earth,  
of all that is, seen and unseen.

We believe in one Lord, Jesus Christ,  
the only Son of God,  
eternally begotten of the Father,  
God from God, Light from Light,  
true God from true God,  
begotten, not made,  
of one Being with the Father.  
Through him all things were made.

For us and for our salvation  
he came down from heaven:  
by the power of the Holy Spirit  
he became incarnate from the Virgin Mary,  
and was made man.

For our sake he was crucified under Pontius Pilate;  
he suffered death and was buried.  
On the third day he rose again  
in accordance with the Scriptures;  
he ascended into heaven  
and is seated at the right hand of the Father.  
He will come again in glory to judge the living and the dead,  
and his kingdom will have no end.

We believe in the Holy Spirit, the Lord, the giver of life,  
who proceeds from the Father and the Son.  
With the Father and the Son he is worshiped and glorified.  
He has spoken through the Prophets.  
We believe in one holy catholic and apostolic Church.  
We acknowledge one baptism for the forgiveness of sins.  
We look for the resurrection of the dead,  
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

### **Prayers of the People**

Let us pray, calling out to our God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

God of the bright and morning star, God of the rising sun, we praise and worship you! For empty tombs: thank you! For greetings brimming with good news: thank you! For your presence, alive, powerful, resurrected: thank you! For all the blessings of our lives and those in whom the Easter flowers were given this day. We celebrate your victory over death, over all the powers that would defeat us. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

Help us to grasp resurrection; to understand its power, to see its force at work in our world, overturning evil empires, changing the hatred within us, moving the world slowly. Bend us towards love and truth. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

On this day of great gladness empower us to be your ambassadors, proclaiming good news. Good news in our kitchens and living rooms, good news in our offices and schools, good news in the fields and factories. Help us to be that good news, walking softly on this good earth caring for all people, living hopefully into your kingdom. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

Today we think of all who are grieving, those sick in body or mind, and the downhearted, lifting up those on our parish prayer list and those we name now, either silently or aloud (Parish Prayer List). Comfort and heal us and move us to be of comfort to one another. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

We give you thanks for your promise of eternal life and the saints who keep your company, asking your blessing on those we remember now and in whose memory the Easter flowers have been given. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

We pray for the places in the world that are torn by war and disaster. Shelter the vulnerable, open the boundaries of our hearts and nations to care for the displaced, and may your healing peace prevail. God of Life, **hear our prayer.**

In this world we catch sight of your kingdom come, in the person of Jesus Christ, who lives and reigns in us forever. **Amen.** Adapted from prayers written by Carol Penner and posted on blog: [carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship](http://carolpenner.typepad.com/leadinginworship)



## Confession of Sin

Let us confess our sins against God and our neighbor.

**Most merciful God,**  
we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed,  
by what we have done, and by what we have left undone.  
We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves.  
We are truly sorry and we humbly repent.  
For the sake of our Savior Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us;  
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.

*Celebrant:* Almighty God have mercy on you, forgive you all your sins through the grace of Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. **Amen.**

## The Peace

*Celebrant*           The peace of the Lord be always with you.  
*People*               **And also with you.**

## The Holy Communion

*Celebrant:* Offer to God a sacrifice of thanksgiving, and make good your vows to the Most High. *Psalm 50:1*

Offertory Anthem

“People of Easter“

Herb Frombach & David Lantz III

Great Thanksgiving: Eucharistic Prayer A

BCP p. 361

*Celebrant*           The Lord be with you.  
*People*               **And also with you.**  
*Celebrant*           Let up your hearts.  
*People*               **We lift them to the Lord.**  
*Celebrant*           Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.  
*People*               **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

It is right, and a good and joyful thing, always and everywhere to give thanks to you, Almighty God, Creator of heaven and earth.

You bid your faithful people cleanse their hearts, and prepare with joy for the Paschal feast; that, fervent in prayer and in works of mercy, and renewed by your Word and Sacraments, they may come to the fullness of grace which you have prepared for those who love you.

Because in Jesus Christ our Lord you have received us as your sons and daughters, made us citizens of your kingdom, and given us the Holy Spirit to guide us into all truth.

Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with Angels and Archangels and with all the company of heaven, who for ever sing this hymn to proclaim the glory of your Name:

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly Lord, God of pow - er and might,  
 heaven and earth are full of your glo - ry. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.  
 Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Ho -  
 san - na in the high - est. Ho - san - na in the high - est.

Holy and gracious God: In your infinite love you made us for yourself, and, when we had fallen into sin and become subject to evil and death, you, in your mercy, sent Jesus Christ, your only and eternal Son, to share our human nature, to live and die as one of us, to reconcile us to you, the God and Maker of all.

He stretched out his arms upon the cross, and offered himself, in obedience to your will, a perfect sacrifice for the whole world.

On the night he was handed over to suffering and death, our Lord Jesus Christ took bread; and when he had given thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, and said, "Take, eat: This is my Body, which is given for you. Do this for the remembrance of me."

After supper he took the cup of wine; and when he had given thanks, he gave it to them, and said, "Drink this, all of you: This is my Blood of the new Covenant, which is shed for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Whenever you drink it, do this for the remembrance of me."

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of faith:

**Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

We celebrate the memorial of our redemption, Almighty God, in this sacrifice of praise and thanksgiving. Recalling his death, resurrection, and ascension, we offer you these gifts.

Sanctify them by your Holy Spirit to be for your people the Body and Blood of your Son, the holy food and drink of new and unending life in him. Sanctify us also that we may faithfully receive this holy Sacrament, and serve you in unity, constancy, and peace; and at the last day bring us with all your saints into the joy of your eternal kingdom.

All this we ask through your Son Jesus Christ: By him, and with him, and in him, in the unity of the Holy Spirit all honor and glory is yours, Almighty Father, now and for ever. AMEN.

As our Savior Christ has taught us, we are bold to say,

**Our Father who art in heaven, hallowed be thy Name, thy kingdom come, thy will be done, on earth as it is in 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, the power, and the glory, for ever and ever. Amen.**

*Celebrant* Alleluia! Christ our Passover is sacrificed for us;  
*People* Therefore, let us keep the feast. Alleluia!

Je - sus, Lamb of God: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, bear - er of our sins: have mer - cy on us.

Je - sus, re - deem - er, re - deem - er of the world:

give us your peace, give us your peace.

*Celebrant:* The Gifts of God for the People of God. Take them in remembrance that Christ died for you, and feed on him in your hearts by faith, with thanksgiving.

**A Prayer for Spiritual Communion**

We believe that you are truly present in the Holy Sacrament, and we pray you to come into our hearts, praying especially with those at home who cannot at this time receive communion. I unite myself with you and embrace you with all my heart, my soul, and my mind. Let nothing separate me from you; let me serve you in this life until, by your grace, I come to your glorious kingdom and unending peace. Amen.

**A Special Note for Communion:**

Christ’s table welcomes all. Please come forward to receive communion or receive a blessing. Simply extend a hand to receive communion, and indicate if you require a gluten free wafer. If you would like a blessing instead, simply cross your arms at your chest. If you take the wine cup, please consume it as you receive it and put the empty cup in the glass bowl.

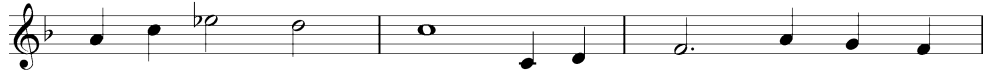
**Instrumental**

**“Menuetto”**

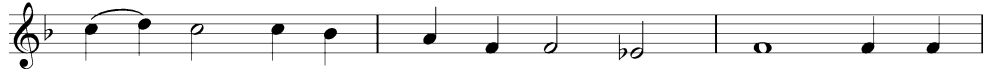
**W.A. Mozart, arr. François Piguet**



1 Lift your voice re - joic - ing, Ma - ry, Christ has  
 2 Raise your wea - ry eye - lids, Ma - ry, see him  
 3 Life is yours for ev - er, Ma - ry, for your



ris - en from the tomb; on the cross a suf - fering  
 liv - ing ev - er - more; see his coun - te - nance, how  
 light is come once more and the strength of death is



vic - tim, now as vic - tor he is come. Whom your  
 gra - cious, see the wounds for you he bore. All the  
 bro - ken; now your songs of joy out - pour. End - ed



tears in death were mourn - ing, wel - come with your smiles re -  
 glo - ry of the morn - ing pales be - fore those wounds re -  
 now the night of sor - row, love has brought the bless - ed



turn - ing. Let your al - le - lu - ias rise!  
 deem - ing. Let your al - le - lu - ias rise!  
 mo - rrow. Let your al - le - lu - ias rise!



1 Now the green blade ris - eth from the bur - ied grain,  
 2 In the grave they laid him, Love whom hate had slain,  
 3 Forth he came at Eas - ter, like the ris - en grain,  
 4 When our hearts are win - try, griev - ing, or in pain,



wheat that in dark earth man - y days has lain;  
 think - ing that nev - er he would wake a - gain,  
 he that for three days in the grave had lain,  
 thy touch can call us back to life a - gain,



love lives a - gain, that with the dead has been:  
 laid in the earth like grain that sleeps un - seen:  
 quick from the dead my ris - en Lord is seen:  
 fields of our hearts that dead and bare have been:



*Refrain*  
 Love is come a - gain like wheat that spring - eth green.

Eternal God, heavenly Father, you have graciously accepted us as living members of your Son our Savior Jesus Christ, and you feed us with spiritual food. Send us now into the world in peace, and grant us strength and courage to love and serve you with gladness and singleness of heart; through Christ our Lord. Amen.

### Blessing

May the blessing of God Almighty, the Father, the Son, and the Holy Spirit, be upon you and remain with you for ever. **Amen.**

### Closing Hymn

#### “Joyful, joyful, we adore thee”

Hymnal #376

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore thee, God of glo - ry, Lord of love;  
 2 All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re - flect thy rays,  
 3 Thou art giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blest,

hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore thee, prais - ing thee, their sun a - bove.  
 stars and an - gels sing a - round thee, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.  
 well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean - depth of hap - py rest!

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness; drive the dark of doubt a - way;  
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, bloom - ing mea - dow, flash - ing sea,  
 Thou our Fa - ther, Christ our Bro - ther: all who live in love are thine;

giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.  
 chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, call us to re - joice in thee.  
 teach - us how to love each o - ther, lift us to the joy di - vine.

### Dismissal

*Celebrant*  
*People*

Go in peace to love and serve the Lord. Alleluia. Alleluia.  
**Thanks be to God. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

### Postlude

#### “Spring”

Vivaldi

Please join us after service for a light brunch and an Easter egg hunt on the hill.

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**Music Minister:**

Tracy Carlucci

**Christ Church Choir:**

Amy Strachan, Andy Verrocchi, Bob Ellwanger, David McCann,  
Diane McCann, Vicki MarkAnthony, Marina Philips, Katie Tressler

**Guest Choristers:**

Aidan Pryor, Dan Carlucci, Dan Tressler, George Philips, Rachel Philips

**Instrumentalists:**

Aidan Pryor – Violin  
Andy Verrocchi – Violin  
Christopher Geist – Trumpet  
Ella Carlucci – Flute  
George Philips – Violin

**The Vestry of Christ Church:**

Vicki MarkAnthony – Sr. Warden  
Jim Swann – Jr. Warden  
Bob Ellwanger – Treasurer  
Peg Ellwanger – Clerk

**Vestry Members-at-Large:**

Claire Wilkes, Marina Philips, Jim Swann, Russ Bailas, Amy Bailas

Diocesan Delegates: Diane McCann, Claire Wilkes

Diocesan Alternate Delegate: Bob Ellwanger

**Christ Church Easton**

**Tracy Carlucci, Parish Administrator**

Office Hours: Mondays & Wednesdays, 9:30 am - 1:30 pm

203-268-3569 | christchurcheastonct@gmail.com

**Vicki MarkAnthony, Sr. Warden: 203-551-4728**

[www.christchurcheaston.com](http://www.christchurcheaston.com)

**Christ Church Nursery School**

**Maggie Supple, Director**

203-268-0792 | ccns059@gmail.com

[www.ccneaston.com](http://www.ccneaston.com)