

5th Sunday in Lent
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
March 29, 2020

Service of Worship for Home

OPENING WORDS – Psalm 130

Out of the depths I cry
to you, O God.
Oh God,
hear my voice!
Let your ears be attentive
to the voice of my supplications!
If you, O God,
should mark iniquities,
who could stand?
But there is forgiveness
with you,
so that you may be revered.
I wait for God,
my soul waits,
and in God's word I hope;
my soul waits for God
more than those who watch
for the morning,
more than those who watch
for the morning.

HYMN FOR MEDITATION – “Precious Lord, Take my Hand”
(Ann Boudreaux, piano; Sarah Schneider, voice)

***link to audio file in “Sunday, March 29” email**

PRAYER (Adapted from *The New Zealand Prayer Book*)

O loving God, let us be at peace within ourselves. Let us accept that we are profoundly loved and need never be afraid. Let us be aware of the source of being that is common to us all and to all living creatures. Let us be filled with the presence of your great compassion

towards us and towards all living beings. Lead us, O God, from death to life, from falsehood to truth; lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust; lead us from hate to love, from war to peace. Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Old Testament Ezekiel 37: 1-14
New Testament John 11: 1-45

(For text of readings, see separate attachment.)

SERMON Unbound – Rev. Dr. Deborah M. Jenks
(For text of sermon, see separate attachment.)

HYMN – “Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life”
(Ann Boudreaux, piano; Sarah Schneider, voice)

***link to audio file in “Sunday, March 29” email**

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (Adapted from *The Iona Community Worshipbook*.)

Silent prayer

We bring to you, O God, all that we rejoice in and celebrate ...
(All may add prayers)

We bring to you, O God, those whom we have met or remembered this day ...
(All may add prayers)

We bring to you, O God, those who hurt or who are ill ...
(All may add prayers)

We bring to you, O God, a troubled situation in our world ...
(All may add prayers)

We bring to you, O God, in silence someone we find it hard to forgive or trust ...
(All may add prayers)

We bring to you, O God, our church and all who walk with us in faith ...
(All may add prayers)

**WE BRING OURSELVES TO YOU, O GOD THAT WE MIGHT GROW IN
GENEROSITY OF SPIRIT, CLARITY OF MIND, AND WARMTH OF
AFFECTION. THROUGH ALL OUR LIVES AND BY OUR PRAYERS WE
PRAY IN THE NAME OF YOUR SON AND OUR SAVIOR JESUS CHRIST,
WHO TAUGHT US TO PRAY:**

THE LORD'S PRAYER: (debts)

BLESSING: (Adapted from *Chalice Worship*.)

The grace of God, deeper than our imagination;
the strength of Christ, stronger than our need;
and the communion of the Holy Spirit, richer than our togetherness;
guide and sustain us this day and in all our tomorrows. Amen.