**Worship from Home**

**First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC**

**The Second Sunday of Easter, April 16, 2023**

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship

**One:** The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

**Many: And also with you.**

**One:** Blessed be the God of our Savior, Jesus Christ!

**Many: God has given us a new birth in the living hope of the resurrection.**

**One:**  God has given us an inheritance that is imperishable and unfading.

**Many: In this we rejoice, even when we suffer trials.**

**One:** For although we have not seen Jesus, we love him; and although we have not seen him, we believe in him.

**All: For the outcome of our faith is the salvation of our souls. Amen**

*\**Hymn #242 NCH *“The Strife is O’er”*

*Refrain: Alleluia x3*

The strife is o’er, the battle done, the victory of life is won;

The song of triumph has begun. Alleluia.

The powers of death have done their worst, but Christ their legions has dispersed:

Let shouts of holy joy outburst. Alleluia.

The three sad days are quickly sped, Christ rises glorious from the dead:

All glory to our risen Head! Alleluia!

Christ, by your wounds on Calvary from deaths, dread sting your servants free,

That we may live eternally. Alleluia!

*Refrain*

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Oh, God, we have not seen your son with our own eyes, nor have we touched his body with our hands, but we still try to believe in him. We ask you to give us your power and send us your Holy Spirit who will guide us into all the truth in this life and always. We pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Children’s Message

A Reading from the Epistles 1 Peter 1:3-9

A Reading from the Gospels John 20:19-31

Message *“The First Gift; The Lasting Gift”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#478 NCH *“I’ve Got Peace Like a River”*

*I’ve got peace like a river (3) in my soul. X2*

*I’ve got joy like a fountain (3) in my soul. X2*

*I’ve got love like an ocean (3) in my soul. X2*

*I’ve got faith like an anchor (3) in my soul. X2*

Prayers of the People *(sharing of joys and concerns)*

The Lord's Prayer *(debts and debtors)*

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below. Praise God above, you heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen**

Prayer of Dedication

**Generous God, you are our portion and our cup. In you our hearts are glad, our souls rejoice, and our bodies rest. Bless and multiply our offerings and pledges that they may bring the joy of your presence more deeply into the world. We offer our prayers in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

*\**Hymn #240 NCH *“Jesus Christ is Risen Today”*

Jesus Christ is Risen Today, Alleluia!

Our triumphant holy day, Alleluia!

Who di once upon the cross, Alleluia!

Suffer to redeem our loss, Alleluia!

To the tomb the women bring, Alleluia!

Spices rich, an offering, Alleluia!

Asking where might Jesus be, Alleluia!

Savior come to set us free, Alleluia!

There the angel clothed in white, Alleluia!

Tells the news with great delight, Alleluia!

This the news the angel gives, Alleluia!

That the Sovereign glorious lives, Alleluia!

Hasten no to Galilee, Alleluia!

Tell the others what you see!” Alleluia!

With excitement trembling, Alleluia!

Off they run, good news to bring, Alleluia!

Christ appears in full array, Alleluia!

Sing with joy this Paschal day, Alleluia!

Christ now from the dead is raised, Alleluia!

Holy Trinity be praised, Alleluia!

Benediction

This morning’s liturgy comes from *Feasting on the Word: Worship Companion*, Kimberly Bracken Long, editor.