

23rd SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
WORSHIP FROM HOME
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
November 8, 2020

GATHERING AND WELCOME

TIME OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 16:5-9; adapted)

Leader: O God, you are my chosen portion and my cup; my future is in your hands.

People: How wonderful are your gifts to me; how good they are!

Leader: I bless the Lord who guides me; in the night, my heart also instructs me.

People: I keep the Lord always before me; because

God is near, nothing can shake me.

All: Therefore our hearts are glad and our souls rejoice!

INVOCATION(unison):): **O God, our light and our salvation, we come to worship you in the spirit of faith, hope, and love. You are our strength and our shield, our shepherd and our Savior. For your presence within and among us, we now lift our hearts in praise and thanksgiving. Amen.**

HYMN "Morning Has Broken"

Morning has broken like the first morning,
blackbird has spoken like the first bird.
Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!
Praise for them springing fresh from the Word!

SCRIPTURE READING Jeremiah 29:11-14
 Hebrews 12:23-25
 Mark 13:1-8

Jeremiah 29:11-14

¹¹ For surely I know the plans I have for you, says the Lord, plans for your welfare and not for harm, to give you a future with hope. ¹² Then when you call upon me and come and pray to me, I will hear you. ¹³ When you search for me, you will find me; if you seek me with all your heart, ¹⁴ I will let you find me, says the Lord, and I will restore your fortunes and gather you from all the nations and all the places where I have driven you, says the Lord, and I will bring you back to the place from which I sent you into exile.

Hebrews 12:23-25

²³ and to the assembly^[g] of the firstborn who are enrolled in heaven, and to God the judge of all, and to the spirits of the righteous made perfect, ²⁴ and to Jesus, the mediator of a new covenant, and to the sprinkled blood that speaks a better word than the blood of Abel.

²⁵ See that you do not refuse the one who is speaking; for if they did not escape when they refused the one who warned them on earth, how much less will we escape if we reject the one who warns from heaven!

Mark 13:1-8

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, “Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!” ² Then Jesus asked him, “Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.”

³ When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, ⁴ “Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?” ⁵ Then Jesus began to say to them, “Beware that no one leads you astray. ⁶ Many will come in my name and say, ‘I am he!’^[a] and they will lead many astray. ⁷ When you hear of wars and rumors of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. ⁸ For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be

earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs.

SERMON **A Future With Hope**

SHARING

HYMN “How Firm a Foundation”

How firm a foundation, for you has been laid,
by God in the Word, in the sacrifice paid!
What more can God say, than to you has been said,
to you who for refuge to Jesus have fled?

“Fear not, I am with you, oh, be not dismayed,
for I am your God and I will still give you aid;
I’ll strengthen you, help you, and cause you to stand,
upheld by my gracious, omnipotent hand.

When through fiery trials your pathway shall lie,
my grace, all sufficient, shall be your supply;
the flame shall not hurt you; for I have designed
your soul to make pure, just as gold is refined.

A TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer/Lord’s Prayer (debts)

BENEDICTION

CHORAL RESPONSE “Sent Out In Jesus’ Name”

SHARING OF CHRIST’S PEACE