**Worship from Home**

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

**The First Sunday of Lent, February 18, 2024**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (From Moira Laidlaw, based on Psalm 25)

**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: **We come, trusting in God's mercy and love, longing to know and to learn more about God's ways.**
Many: We come, to be guided in the ways of God's truth - to experience the joy of God's salvation.
One: **We come, at the beginning of our Lenten journey, aware of God's steadfast love helping us to overcome the trials and temptations which can descend on us at any time.**
All: Lead us, O God, to do what is right in your eyes and teach us to follow the humble way of Christ, your beloved Son, our crucified and risen Lord.

Hymn #7 NCH (vs. 1, 2, 4) *“All People That on Earth Do Dwell”*

All people that on earth do dwell, sing out your faith with cheerful voice’
Delight in God whose praise you tell, whose presence calls you to rejoice!

Know that there is one God indeed; who fashions us without our aid,
Who claims us gives us all we need, whose tender care will never fade.

Proclaim again that God is good, whose mercy is forever sure.
Whose truth at all times firmly stood, and shall from age to age endure.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Loving God, you give us life. Inspire us throughout Lent, so that this season may be a spring cleaning of the soul as we walk in the shadow of the cross.** **Amen.**

Children’s Message

Psalm 25 p.635 NCH Psalm 25: 1-10

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Genesis 9:8-17

A Reading from the Epistles 1 Peter 3:13-22

A Reading from the Gospels Mark 1:9-15

Sermon *“Metanoia”*  Pastor Lisa

Hymn #207 NCH *“Just As I Am”*

Just as I am, without one plea but that your blood was shed for me,

And that you called inviting me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, thought tossed about with many a conflict, many a doubt,

Fightings and fears within, without, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, you will receive, will welcome, pardon, cleanse, relieve;

Because your promise I believe, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

Just as I am, your love unknown has broken every barrier down;

Now to be yours, and yours alone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come.

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

Prayer Response

Invitation to Give

OffertoryAnthem

Prayer of Dedication (From Moira Laidlaw)

**Living God, as we embark once more on this journey through Lent, we give thanks for the assurance of your presence with us in Jesus Christ, Savior, Redeemer and Friend. We offer these gifts and our lives with the prayer that they will be used to proclaim the story of his sacrificial love in word and deed. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen**

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**

Hymn #170 NCH *“Your Ways Are Not Our Own”*

Your ways are not our own, O gracious God most high,

Yet we would follow in your paths and on your love rely.

Christ teaches us to bless the ones who curse and harm,

To turn the other cheek when struck, attackers to disarm.

Yet, we cannot excuse abuse in any form,

For all are children of your care, and love must be our norm.

How shall we show your love, your pardon to believe?

You bid us share as we are blessed and give as we receive.

Forgiveness is our joy, receiving, giving, too.

Keep us from judgments hard and cruel, that we may dwell with you.*”*

Benediction

Postlude

Our thanks to Hunt Gressitt, who is substituting for us today while Ann is taking vacation.