**Worship from Home**

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

**Transfiguration Sunday, February 19, 2023**

Prelude *“Soul Adorn Thyself”*

Welcome & Announcements

Introit *“How Like a Gentle Spirit”*

Call to Worship (Isaiah 55:1-2,13; Matthew 5:6)

**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:** Let everyone who thirsts come and drink deeply!
**Many: Here all who hunger may satisfy themselves freely.
Leader:** Why should we spend our money for that which is not bread?
**Many: Why do we labor for that which cannot satisfy?
Leader:** Here you may feast on the goodness of the Lord.
**Many: Now those who hunger and thirst for righteousness shall be filled.
Leader:** It shall be to the Lord a memorial,
**All: And for us an everlasting sign that we shall not be cut off. Amen!**

*\**Hymn #1 NCH *“Immortal, Invisible”*

Immortal, invisible, God only wise,

in light inaccessible hid from our eyes,
most blessed, most glorious, the Ancient of Days,

almighty, victorious, your great name we praise.

Unresting, unhasting, and silent as light,

not wanting, not wasting, but ruling in might;
Your justice like mountains high soaring above
your clouds, which are fountains of goodness and love.

Your life is life giving, to both great and small;
in all life you’re living, the true life of all;
we blossom and flourish as leaves and as flowers,
then wither and perish but naught dims your powers.

So perfect your glory, so brilliant your light,
your angels adore you, all veiling their sight;
all praise we now render, as your angels do:
in awe at the splendor of light hiding you.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**God of majesty and might, you have blessed us with revelations of your glory. Give us the gift of faith, that we may hear you voice for ourselves and see Jesus Christ revealed to us, so that we may stand on our own without fear. We pray in His name. Amen.**

Children’s Message

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Exodus 24:12-18

A Reading from The Gospels Matthew 17:1-9

Message *“Mystical Reality”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn #290 vs. 1-3 NCH *“Spirit of God, Descend Upon Our Heart”*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
wean it from earth, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,
and make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Did you not bid us love you, every way?
All, all your own: soul, heart and strength and mind?
I see your cross—there teach my heart to stay:
O let me seek you and O let me find!

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

**Into your hands, O faithful God, we commit our lives and these gifts. Increase them and transform them into abundant goodness, that they might proclaim your presence in the world. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

*\**Hymn#182 NCH *“We Have Come At Christ’s Own Bidding”*

We have come at Christ’s own bidding to this high and holy place,
Where we wait with hope and longing for some token of God’s grace.
Here we pray for new assurance that our faith is not in vain,
Searching like those first disciples for a sign both clear and plain.

Light breaks through our clouds and shadows,; splendor bathes the flesh-joined Word;
Moses and Elijah marvel as the heavenly voice is heard.
Eyes and hearts behold with wonder how the Law and Prophets meet:
Christ, with garments drenched in brightness, stands transfigured and complete.

Strengthened by this glimpse of glory, fearful lest our faith decline,
We like Peter find it tempting to remain and build a shrine.
But true worship gives us courage to proclaim what we profess,
That our daily lives may prove us people of the God we bless.

Benediction

Benedictory Response

Postlude