**Worship from Home**

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

**First Sunday after Christmas/Epiphany, January 1, 2023**

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude “*Sussex Carol”* Chimes Choir

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:** Shout to the Lord your praises!

**Many: Sing to the Lord the joy of this day!**

**One:** For God’s might and power are established in the universe!

**Many: God’s transforming love beckons us!**

**One:** Come, let us worship God whose Light bursts forth into our darkness!

**Many: Let us praise the God of salvation who brings us home! Amen.**

Hymn #119 PH (vs. 1-3) *“As With Gladness Men of Old”*

As with gladness men of old did the guiding star behold,  
as with joy they hailed its light, leading onward, beaming bright,  
so, most gracious Lord, may we evermore be led by thee.

As with joyful steps they sped, Savior, to thy lowly bed,  
there to bend the knee before thee, whom heaven and earth adore,  
so may we with willing feet ever seek thy mercy seat.

As they offered gifts most rare at thy cradle, rude and bare,  
so may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin’s alloy,  
all our costliest treasures bring, Christ, to thee, our heavenly King.

Unison Prayer of Invocation (from Nancy Townley)

**God of hope and light, your good news has been emblazoned across the skies, the great starry night of Jesus’ birth, sung by angels, celebrated by shepherds, witnessed by animals. You have given to us a new chance, a reminder of your continual love for us. Be with us in this worship, we pray. Guide our thoughts, our lives, our spirits. Heal and restore us. For we ask this in Jesus’ Name. AMEN.**

Children’s Message

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures Isaiah 60:1-6

Anthem *“What Child is This”*

Anna Emery and Hunt Gressitt

A Reading from The New Testament Matthew 2:1-12

Sermon *“Poor As I Am”*  Pastor Lisa

Hymn #143 PH *“We Three Kings, Of Orient Are”*

We three kings of Orient are; bearing gifts we traverse afar,  
field and fountain, moor and mountain, following yonder star.

Refrain:  
O star of wonder, star of light, star with royal beauty bright,  
westward leading, still proceeding, guide us to thy perfect light.

Born a King on Bethlehem's plain, gold I bring to crown him again,  
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign. [Refrain]

Frankincense to offer have I; incense owns a Deity nigh;  
prayer and praising, voices raising, worshiping God on high. [Refrain]

Myrrh is mine; its bitter perfume breathes a life of gathering gloom;  
sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying, sealed in the stone-cold tomb. [Refrain]

Glorious now behold him arise; King and God and sacrifice:  
Alleluia, Alleluia, sounds through the earth and skies. [Refrain]

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

Invitation to Give

OffertoryAnthem “*What Shall We Give”*

Prayer of Dedication (from Thom Shuman)

**May the gifts we offer bring food to the hungry, healing to the broken, community to the lonely, and hope to those who live in the shadows of our time.  In Jesus' name, we pray.  Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**INVITATION**

**CONSECRATION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING**

**Jesus, no words can express our gratitude and amazement that you should live and die for us. How amazing it is that each of our lives are so valuable to you that you would lay yours down to reach us. May the bread and the cup remain with us as we seek to take your message of love and grace into the world. Amen.**

Hymn #123 PH *“All My Heart This Night Rejoices”*

All my heart this night rejoices, as I hear, far and near, sweetest angel voices.  
"Christ is born!" their choirs are singing,

till the air, everywhere, now with joy is ringing.

Hark! A voice from yonder manger, soft and sweet, doth entreat: ‘Flee from woe and danger!’

Brethren, come! From all doth grieve you,

You are freed; All you need, I will surely give you.

Come, then, let us hasten yonder! Here let all, Great and small, kneel in awe and wonder!

Love him who with love is yearning!

Hail the star, that from far, bright with hope is burning!

Benediction

Postlude *“Emanuel”*

Anna Emery and Hunt Gressitt