**Worship from Home**

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

**Seventh Sunday after Pentecost, July 7, 2024**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit *“Mothering God, You Gave Me Birth”*

Mothering God, You gave me birth in the bright morning of this world.

Creator, source of every breath, you are my rain, my wind, my sun.

Mothering Christ, you took my form, offering me your food of light,

Grain of life, and grape of love, your very body for my peace.

Mothering Spirit, nurturing One in arms of patience hold me close,

So that in faith I root and grow until I flow’r, until I know.

Call to Worship (from Psalm 48)

**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:** Great is our God, and greatly to be praised, the joy of all the earth.

**Many: Beautiful is our God, the joy of loving hearts.**

**One:** We have contemplated your faithful love, O God, in the midst of your temple.

**Many: God’s grace is sufficient for us, Christ’s power is made perfect in our weakness.**

**One:** Your right hand alone gives us the victory.

**Many: Let the sons of God be glad! Let the daughters of God rejoice!**

Hymn #7 NCH *“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 gad.

Enter the sacred gates with praise, with joy approach the temple walls.  
Extol and bless our God always as people whom the Spirit calls.

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 (from the Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay)

**Powerful One, we come into this gathering humbled by your presence among us, grateful for the companionship of your people, and eager to worship your name. As we tell your story anew, we enter your story as the objects of your attention, love, and care. May we know you more deeply and clearly. May we be transformed and transfixed by the mystery of you. May we be inspired by your deeds of power to be instruments of your reign in the world. Empower us, O Holy One. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Psalm 123, p.705 NCH Psalm 123

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible 2 Samuel 5:1-5

Anthem *“Save Us Now”* Tracy Chapman

A Reading from the Epistles Mark 6:1-13

Sermon *“The Leaders We Honor”* Pastor Lisa

Hymn #448 NCH *“Take My Life, God, Let It Be”*

Take my life, God, let it be consecrated, faithfully.  
Take my moments and my days; let them flow in endless praise.

Take my spirit, let it move at the impulse of your love.  
Take my intellect and use all its power as you choose.

Take my will, your will be done! Make your will and mine be one.  
Take my heart, and by your grace make of it your dwelling place.

Take my love and help it grow: let my loving overflow.

Take me now, and help me be part of Christ’s community.

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

Invitation to Give

Offertory *“The Summons”*

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

**You call us, not because you need us, but because others do.  You gift us, not because we are so special, but because others need to be blessed by our gifts.  We give from the abundance which is ours, not because we are so generous, but because you have graced us with so much.  May our gifts go to serve the work of your kin-dom, we pray.  Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**Invitation**

**Consecration**

**Sharing of the Bread and Cup**

**Prayer of Thanksgiving**

**Gracious God, we praise, worship and adore you for the food received at your table.  We go from here, strengthened, refreshed, and empowered by your Spirit to be true and joyful witnesses to Jesus Christ.  We look to that day when, with the great company of witnesses that surround us, we may eat and drink and be glad with him in the glory of your kingdom.  This we pray in Jesus’ name,  Amen.**

\*Hymn #446 NCH *“Jesus, Still Lead On”*

Jesus, still lead on, ‘til our rest be won; And although the way be cheerless,

We will follow, calm and fearless; Guide us by your hand to the promised land.

If the way be drear, if the woe be near, let not faithless fears o’ertake us,

let not faith and hope forsake us; For through many a woe to our home we go.

When we seek relief from a longfelt grief, When temptations com alluring,

Make us patient and enduring; show us that bright shore where we weep no more.

Jesus, still lead on, ‘til our rest be won; Heavenly Leader still direct us,

Still support, console, protect us, Guide us by your hand to the promised land.

Benediction

Postlude