**Worship from Home**

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

**Third Sunday after Pentecost, June 18, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

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: Let hearts and lives be filled with love for God - for God hears our cries and answers our prayers.  
**Many:**  **What can we possibly offer in response to all God’s goodness towards us?**  
One:  Let us lift up the cup of salvation and call on God’s name forever.  
**Many:**  **Let us testify to the love and faithfulness of God.**  
One: Each person is so precious in God’s eyes that no one is abandoned by God, not even in death.   
**Many: We shall freely and faithfully serve you, O God, with thanksgiving in our hearts.**  
One: Here and now, in the presence of one another, we affirm the love and faithfulness of God.   
**All: May God be praised forever!**

*\**Hymn #547 NCH *“Amazing Grace”*

Amazing Grace how sweet the sound, that saved a wretch like me!  
I once was lost, but now am found; was blind, but now I see.

‘Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and grace my fears relieved;  
How precious did that grace appear the hour I first believed!

Through many dangers, toils and snares, I have already come;  
‘Tis grace hath brought me safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.

The Lord has promised good to me, his Word my hope secures;  
He will my Shield and Portion be, as long as life endures.

When we’ve been there ten thousand years, bright shining as the sun,  
We’ve no less days to sing God’s praise than when we’d first begun.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Gracious and ever-present God, make each of us an instrument of your justice. Continue to weave us into a family, your Kindom, showing forth your power of healing, feeding, clothing and resurrection as evidenced through the life and ministry of your son Jesus the Christ. Bless us and our differences and sustain our courage to stand together in the face of oppression and injustice in this present world. We call on you today to gather us in your love. Impart to us the knowledge and understanding to better know you and glorify your grace on each and every step of the journey of our lives. In the name of Jesus, who came in the name of love, let us now commit to shout with the voice of triumph and proclaim the love and grace of God to all the world.  
One:** Let all the Kindom of God shout “Victory” **Many: Over Oppression!  
One:** Shout “Victory” **Many: Over Injustice!  
One:** Shout “Victory” **Many: Through Jesus the Christ  
All: Amen and Amen**

Children’s Message

#699 NCH Psalm 116

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Genesis 18:1-15, 21:1-7

A Reading from the Epistles Romans 5:1-8

Message *“There But For the Grace of God Go I”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#459 NCH *“Come, O Fount of Every Blessing”*

Come, O fount of every blessing, tune my heart to sing your grace.  
Streams of mercy never ceasing, call for songs of endless praise

Teach me some melodious sonnet, sung by flaming tongues above  
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it, mount of God’s unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning, giving thanks for having come,  
Come to trust, at ever turning, God will guide me safely home.

Jesus sought me when a stranger, wandering from the fold of God,  
Came to rescue me from danger, blessed body, precious blood.

Oh, to grace how great a debtor daily I am drawn anew!  
Let that grace now, like a fetter, bind my wandering heart to you.

Prone to wander, I can feel it, wander from the love I’ve known:   
Here's my heart, oh take and seal it, seal it for your very own.

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

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

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory *“You Are Mine”*

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

**God of peace and love, we offer these gifts in response to the many wonderful gifts we have received from you.  May our lives reflect our gratitude through our willingness to go out into the world, proclaiming the good news of your Kin-dom in word and deed.  Amen**

*\**Hymn #593 NCH *“Lift Every Voice and Sing”*

Lift every voice and sing Till earth and heaven ring  
Ring with the harmonies of Liberty  
Let our rejoicing rise High as the listening skies  
Let it resound loud as the rolling sea

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us  
Sing a song full of the hope that the present has brought us  
Facing the rising sun of our new day begun  
Let us march on till victory is won

Stony the road we trod Bitter the chastening rod  
Felt in the days when hope unborn had died  
Yet with a steady beat Have not our weary feet  
Come to the place for which our fathers sighed?

We have come over a way that with tears has been watered  
We have come, treading our path through the blood of the slaughtered  
Out from the gloomy past Till now we stand at last  
Where the white gleam of our bright star is cast

God of our weary years God of our silent tears  
Thou who has brought us thus far on the way  
Thou who has by Thy might Led us into the light  
Keep us forever in the path, we pray

Lest our feet stray from the places, our God, where we met Thee

Lest, our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we forget Thee  
Shadowed beneath Thy hand May we forever stand  
True to our God True to our native land Our native land

Benediction

Benedictory Response

Postlude

\* indicates where the congregation may stand as they are able