**Worship from Home**

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

**Fourth Sunday after Pentecost, June 25, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (from Psalm 86)

**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:** Incline your ear, O LORD, and answer me. You are my God.

**Many: Be gracious to me, O Lord, for to you do I cry all day long.**

**One:** Gladden the soul of your servant, for to you, O Lord, I lift up my soul.

**Many: All the nations you have made shall come and bow down before you, O Lord, and shall glorify your name. For you are great and do wondrous things; you alone are God. Amen**

*\**Hymn #230 NCH (vs. 1-3) *“Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain”*

Come, you faithful, raise the strain of triumphant gladness;
God has brought all Israel into joy from sadness.
Loosed from Pharaoh's bitter yoke Jacob's sons and daughters;
Led them with unmoistened foot through the Red Sea waters.

Spring has dawned on earth today; Christ has burst from prison,
And from three days' sleep in death as the sun hath risen;
All the winter of our sins, long and gray, is flying
From the light, to whom we give laud and praise undying.

Now the joyous season, bright with the day of splendor,
with the royal feast of feasts, comes its joy to render;
comes to glad Jerusalem who with true affection
Welcomes in unwearied strains Jesus' resurrection!

Unison Prayer of Invocation (from Bruce Prewer)

Most wonderful God, our Parent and Friend, we praise you for the riches of love that enable us to come together in this house of prayer to celebrate your goodness Please lead our truant minds away from petty concerns to larger commitments, away from tiredness or apathy towards a sense of awe and wonder, away from self obsession to the holy intoxication of your awesome beauty, humble power, and your unspeakable love. We realize we never seem be able to thank, praise and enjoy you to the heights that we should but we do pray to be able give you the best worship that at this time is possible. Through Christ Jesus our Lord. ***Amen***

Children’s Message

# 677 NCH Psalm 86 1-10; 16-17

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Genesis 21:8-21

Message *“Family Relations”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#276 NCH *“Holy God, We Praise Your Name”*

Holy God, we praise your name; Sovereign God, we bow before you;

All on earth your scepter claim, All the heavenly hosts adore you.

Infinite your vast domain, Everlasting is your reign.

Hark, the glad celestial hymn angel choirs above are raising;
cherubim and seraphim, in unceasing chorus praising,
fill the heav'ns with sweet accord: “Holy, holy, holy Lord!”

Holy Father, Holy Son, Holy Spirit, Three we name you,

While in essence truly one, Undivided God we claim you;

So we gather reverently To adore the mystery.

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

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

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory *“Mercy Now”* Mary Gauthier

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 transforming grace and love, we bring our diverse gifts. By your Holy Spirit enable us to live as responsible stewards and witnesses in living the way of Jesus. Amen**

*\**Hymn Insert *“Standing on the Promises”*

Standing on the promises of Christ, my King, Through eternal ages let his praises ring;
Glory in the highest, I will shout and sing, Standing on the promises of God.

Refrain: Standing, standing, Standing on the promises of God, my Savior;
Standing, standing, I'm standing on the promises of God.

Standing on the promises that cannot fail. When the howling storms of doubt and fear assail,
By the living Word of God I shall prevail, Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

Standing on the promises of Christ, the Lord, Bound to him eternally by love's strong cord,
Overcoming daily with the Spirit's sword, Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

Standing on the promises I cannot fall, List'ning ev'ry moment to the Spirit's call,
Resting in my Savior as my all in all, Standing on the promises of God. [Refrain]

Benediction

Benedictory Response

Postlude

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

Liturgical resources today include prayers from Bruce Prewer and Jeff Shrowder.