**Worship from Home**

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

**The Third Sunday of Lent, March 12, 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:** Come and worship! In wonder and awe let us seek the face of God. **Many: Ahh! God invites us to come just as we are.  
One:** We come longing to experience God's embrace.  
**Many: Ahh! God wraps us in the loving arms of our Creator.  
One:** We come hungry to encounter the Word. **Many: Ahh! God feeds us the Bread of Life.  
One:** We come parched for renewal and restoration.   
**Many: Ahh! God quenches our thirst with living water.  
One:** We come weary and worn.  
**Many: Ahh! God shoulders our burdens and grants us peace.  
One:** Come and worship! In wonder and awe God reveals the divine self to us.  
**Many: Ahh! We come as we are and are changed by God's love and grace.  
All: Give glory to God! Hallelujah! Amen.**

*\**Hymn #379 NCH (vs. 1,3,5) *“Come, We Who Love God’s Name””*

Come, we who love God’s name, and let our joys be known.  
Together God’s great love proclaim, and thus surround the throne.

God’s grace on earth is found, the seeds of glory sown;

Celestial fruits on earthly ground from faith and hope have grown.

Then let our songs abound, and every tear be dry.  
We’re traveling through Immanuel’s ground, to greater worlds on high.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Loving and caring God, in the darkness of our sin and the confusion of our world, we seek to renew our faith in you this Lent. In the face of death and suffering, we long to hope in your promise of everlasting life. In times of loneliness and alienation, we desire the consolation of your undying love. Touch our hearts this Lent that through the mystery of Christ’s suffering, death and resurrection, we may come to live faithfully in your kin-dom, both now and forever. Amen**

Children’s Message

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Jonah1:1-6

Message *“A Great Fish”* George Robbins

*\**Hymn #441 *“Jesus, Saviort, Pilot Me”*

Jesus, Savior, pilot me over life's tempestuous sea:  
Unknown waves before me roll, hiding rocks and treach'rous shoal;  
Chart and compass come ever be; Jesus, Savior, pilot me!

As a mother stills her child, you can hush the ocean wild;  
Boist'rous waves obey your will when you say to them, "Be still!"  
Wondrous Sov'reign of the sea, Jesus, Savior, pilot me!

When at last I near the shore, and the fearful breakers roar  
Keeping me from peaceful rest, then, while leaning on your breast,  
May I hear your words so true, "Fear not– I will pilot you."

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

**Good and generous God, we pray that your life would so overflow in us that our neighbors both near and far would be fed by your Spirit. Use the offerings of our resources and our lives to proclaim the gospel, spread your love and bring forth your kin-dom. For the sake of Christ we pray. Amen.**

*\**Hymn#429 PH *“Eternal Father, Strong to Save”*

Eternal Father, strong to save, whose arm does bind the restless wave,  
Who bids the mighty ocean deep its own appointed limits keep;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Savior, whose almighty word the winds and waves submissive heard,  
Who walked upon the foaming deep, and calm amid the rage did sleep;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Holy Spirit, who did brood upon the waters dark and rude,  
And bid their angry tumult cease, and give for wild confusion peace;  
O hear us when we cry to Thee For those in peril on the sea.

O Trinity of love and pow'r, your children shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire, and foe, protect them where-so-e'er they go;  
Thus, evermore shall rise to Thee glad hymns of praise from land and sea.

Benediction

Benedictory Response

Postlude