**Worship from Home**

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

**The Sixth Sunday of Easter, May 14, 2023**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (From Psalm 66)

**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 for joy to God, all the earth!

**Many: make God’s praise glorious.**

**One:** Say to God, “How awesome are your deeds!

**Many: All the earth bows down to you; they sing praise to you, they sing the praises of your name.”**

**One:** Praise our God, all peoples, let the sound of his praise be heard;

**Many: God has preserved our lives and kept our feet from slipping.**

**One:** Come and hear what the Lord has done,

**Many: the Lord who has made everything!**

*\**Hymn #43 *“Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”*

Love divine, all loves excelling,  joy of heaven, on earth be found,
Fix in us our humble dwelling,  all your faithful mercies crown.
Jesus, you are all compassion,  pure, unbounded love impart.
Visit us with your salvation; enter every trembling heart.

Breathe, O breathe your loving Spirit into every troubled breast.
Let us all in you inherit, let us find your promised rest;
Take away our love of sinning; Alpha and Omega be;
End of faith, as its beginning, set our hearts at liberty.

Finish, then, your new creation; pure and spotless may we prove.
Let us see your great salvation perfectly restored in you.
Changed from glory into glory, till in heaven we take our place,
Crowned as saints, we ever shall be, lost in wonder, love and praise.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Come Holy Spirit, our helper and advocate: Open our hearts and minds this day; entice us with your presence. Help us to choose life in you, O Loving God, in whom we live and move and have our being, so that we may keep the commands of Jesus, follow the promptings of the Holy Spirit, and witness to the hope that is within us, sharing Christ’s love in the world. Amen.**

Children’s Message

# 662 NCH Psalm 66

A Reading from the Book of Acts Acts 17:22-31

A Reading from the Gospels John 14:15-21

Message *“Spawn”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#355 NCH *“God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian”*

God the Spirit, guide and guardian, wind-sped flame and hovering dove,

breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:

Give to those who lead your people fresh anointing of your grace;

Send them forth as bold apostles to your Church in every place.

Christ our Savior, Sovereign, Shepherd, Word-made-flesh, Love crucified,

Teacher, healer, suffering Servant, friend of sinners, foe of pride:

In your tending may all pastors learn and live a Shepherd's care;

Grant them courage and compassion shown through word and deed and prayer.

Great Creator, Life-bestower, Truth beyond all thought's recall,

Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all:

As you know our strength and weakness, so may those the Church exalts

Oversee its life steadfastly yet not overlook her faults.

Triune God, mysterious Being, undivided and diverse,

Deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse:

Help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,

That our ministries uniting may give glory to your Name.

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 (from Moira Laidlaw)

**Gracious and loving God, you have abundantly blessed our lives with the gift of yourself revealed in Jesus.  We offer these gifts and the service of our lives praying that they may be used to make visible the truth of your great love for the world.  In Jesus’ name, Amen.**

*\**Hymn #31 NCH *“All Things Bright and Beautiful”*

Refrain: All things bright and beautiful, all creatures great and small
All things wise and wonderful, our dear God made them all.

Each little flower that opens, each little bird that sings
God made their glowing colors and made their tiny wings

The purple headed mountain, the river running by,
The sunset, and the morning that brightens up the sky. Refrain

The cold wind in the winter, the pleasant summer sun
The ripe fruits in the garden, God made them every one. Refrain

Benediction "the Trees of the Field"

Benedictory Response

Postlude

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

Some of our liturgy this morning comes from *Feasting on the Word*, edited by K. Bracken Long. Other prayers are accredited as noted.