**Worship from Home**

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

**Pentecost Sunday, May 28, 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: Listen, can you hear the wind?
**Many: Come, Holy Spirit; come!**
One: Look, can you see the dancing flames?
**Many: Come, Holy Spirit; come!**One: Can you hear the message in a language you can understand?
**Many: Come, Holy Spirit; come!**
One: Do you see the visions? Can you dream the dreams?
**Many: Come, Holy Spirit; come!**
One: Come let Pentecost become real in our lives this morning.
Come and worship our God who sends the Spirit to touch us and transform us into Pentecost people.

*\**Hymn #607 NCH *“We Would Be Building”*

We would be building; temples still undone o’er crumbling walls their crosses scarcely lift;

Waiting till love can raise the broken stone, and hearts creative bridge the human rift;

We would be building, Architect Divine, reveal the shape of life in your design.

Teach us to build; upon the solid rock we set the dream that hardens into deed,

Ribbed with the steel that time and change to mock, th’un failing purpose of our noblest creed;

Teach us to build; O Maker, lend us slight to see the towers gleaming in the light.

O keep us building, Savior; may our hands ne’er falter when the dream is in our hearts,

When to our ears there come divine commands and all the pride of sinful will departs;

We build with You; O grant enduring worth until your promised realm shall come on earth.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Spirit of God, we long to be open to your presence in our church and in our lives. Fill us with your wind and fire, that we might be enlivened again. Help us hear the words as if for the first time, that they might touch us anew. Give us visions and dreams of what you long for in your creation, so that we might begin to live them into reality. Come, Spirit; come into our worship, into our church, into our very selves. Amen**

Children’s Message

#689 NCH Psalm 104:24-34, 35b

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Numbers 11:24-30

A Reading from the Gospels John 20:19-23

Message *“We Would Be Building”* Pastor Lisa

*\**Hymn#540 NCH (vs. 1-3) *“We Plant a Grain of Mustard Seed”*

We plant a grain of mustard seed, and in our faith we find

The proof of God is love, indeed, which blossoms from its kind; (x2)

Our actions, more than words, define how love’s example feeds

A greater love, for love divine bursts forth from smallest seeds; (x2)

When stooped to lend a helping hand, we find a touch that heals,

For love invested will expand to bear the fruit love yields; (x2)

Make love our purpose, love our aim, for love endures all things,

And choosing love our lives will claim the peace forgiveness brings; (x2)

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

**Gracious God, we thank you for all that you give us each day. We pray now that you bless these gifts we offer in our gratitude; please use them and the work of our lives to further your reign on Earth. In Jesus’ name we pray, Amen.**

*\**Hymn #563 NCH *“We Cannot Own the Sunlit Sky”*

We cannot own the sunlit sky, the moon, the wild-flowers growing,
For we are part of all that is within life’s river flowing.
With open hands receive and share the gifts of God’s creation,
That all may have abundant life in every earthly nation.

When bodies shiver in the night and weary wait for morning,
When children have no bread but tears, and war horns sound their warning.
God calls humanity to awake, to join in common labor,
That all may have abundant life, oneness with their neighbor.

God calls humanity to join as partners in creating
a future free from want or fear, life’s goodness celebrating,
that new world beckons from afar, invites our shared endeavor
that all might have abundant life and peace endure forever.

Benediction

Benedictory Response

Postlude

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

Our opening prayers are from Cokesbury’s Worship Resources.