**Worship from Home**

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

**Seventh Sunday of Easter, May 29, 2022**

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude

Call to Worship (from Psalm 97)

**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:**  God rules the Earth with justice:

**Many:** **Earth and Earth’s people rejoice!**

**One:** All nature serves God: Fire clears the way and lightening lights God’s path:

**Many: Earth and Earth’s people rejoice!**

**One:** The heavens proclaim God’s righteousness; all peoples behold God’s glory:

**Many: Earth and Earth’s people rejoice!**

**One:** Delight in God, O coastlands and heartlands; Give thanks to God, O faithful ones:

**All: Earth and Earth’s people rejoice!**

Hymn *“We Are One in the Spirit”*

We are One in The Spirit,  
We are One in The Lord. (x2)  
And we pray that all unity may one day be restored.

Chorus  
And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our Love,  
Yes they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side. (x2)  
And we'll guard each man's dignity  
And save each man's pride. Chorus

We will work with each other,  
We will work side by side. (x2)  
And we'll guard each man's dignity  
And save each man's pride. Chorus

We will walk with each other,  
We will walk hand in hand. (x2)  
And together we'll spread the News  
that God is in our land. Chorus

Unison Prayer of Invocation *(John 17: 20-26)*

**Mysterious God, You reveal yourself in Jesus, your Beloved Child who gives us a glimpse your glory and invites us to share in the unity of all that is Holy: the holiness that is You, your creation, your people, united in the Spirit that breaks through all boundaries of fear and injustice. Meet us here today, O Unity, and teach us to be one: One in love for each other, One in understanding with all who find in Jesus the Way to You, One in peace with all who find other paths to your Truth. We ask all this in the name of Jesus, whose fervent prayer was ever: “May they all be one.” Amen**

Children’s Message

A Reading from The New Testament Acts 16:16-34

A Reading from the Gospels John 17:20-26

Sermon *“Free From What”* Pastor Lisa

Hymn #390 NCH *“Eternal Christ, Who, Kneeling”*

Eternal Christ, who, kneeling when earthly tasks were done,

turned unto God appealing, "That they may all be one,"

we thank you for your vision of unity untorn,

of faith without division with which your church was born.

But we have often slighted the ties designed to hold

your followers united within one common fold.

On history's tattered pages we see, O Lord, with shame,

the strife which through the ages has marred your church's name.

Accept our deep contrition for all our sundering ways

which still disrupt your mission, which mock our words of praise.

Christ, may your Spirit guide us that we may find, beyond

the things which still divide us, love's all-embracing bond.

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

The Lord’s Prayer

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory Anthem *“One”*

Is it getting better? Or do you feel the same?  
Will it make it easier on you now? You got someone to blame

You say, one love, one life. When it's one need in the night  
One love, we get to share it. Leaves you baby if you don't care for it

Did I disappoint you? Or leave a bad taste in your mouth?  
You act like you never had love. And you want me to go without

Well it's too late tonight To drag the past out into the light  
We're one but we're not the same. We get to carry each other, carry each other  
One!

Have you come here for forgiveness? Have you come to raise the dead?  
Have you come here to play Jesus? To the lepers in your head

Did I ask too much? More than a lot. You gave me nothin' now it's all I got  
We're one but we're not the same. Well we hurt each other then we do it again

You say love is a temple, love a higher law. Love is a temple, love the higher law  
You ask me to enter but then you make me crawl And I can't be holdin' on to what you got  
When all you got is hurt

One love, one blood One life, you got to do what you should  
One life, with each other Sisters, brothers

One life but we're not the same We get to carry each other, carry each other

Doxology

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below.**

**Praise God above the heavenly host. Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

**O God, receive these gifts, bless them and multiply them, that they may strengthen and unify the work of your Church here and around the Earth you love. In Jesus’ name we pray: Amen.**

Hymn  *“I Love Thy Kingdom, Lord”*

I love thy kingdom, Lord, the house of thine abode,  
the church our blest Redeemer saved with his own precious blood.

I love thy church, O God: her walls before thee stand,  
dear as the apple of thine eye and graven on thy hand.

For her my tears shall fall, for her my prayers ascend;  
to her my cares be giv'n, 'til cares shall end.

Beyond my highest joy I prize her heav'nly ways,  
her sweet communion, solemn vows, her hymns of love and praise.

Sure as thy truth shall last, to Zion shall be giv'n  
the brightest glories earth can yield, and brighter bliss of heav'n.

Benediction

Postlude