**Worship from Home**

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

**Twenty-Third Sunday After Pentecost, November 13, 2022**

Welcome & Announcements

Prelude *“”*

Call to Worship (from Psalm 98)

**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:** Sing to the Lord a new song, for God has done marvelous things;  
**Many: God’s right hand and holy arm have worked salvation.**

**One:** The Lord has made God’s salvation known and revealed God’s righteousness to the nations.

**Many: God has remembered his love and faithfulness to Israel;**  
**One:** all the ends of the earth have seen the salvation of our God.

**Many: Shout for joy to the Lord, all the earth, burst into jubilant song with music;**

**One:** make music to the Lord with the harp, with the harp and the sound of singing,

**Many: with trumpets and the blast of the ram’s horn— shout for joy before the Lord, the King. Amen**

\*Hymn *“If You Want to Sing Out”* Cat Stevens

Well, if you want to sing out, sing out, and if you want to be free, be free  
'Cause there's a million things to be. You know that there are

And if you want to live high, live high, and if you want to live low, live low  
'Cause there's a million ways to go. You know that there are.

Chorus: You can do what you want, the opportunity’s on.

And if you find a new way, well, you can do it today.  
Well, you can make it all true, and you can make it undo.   
You see, ah-ah-ah, it's easy, ah-ah-ah  
You only need to know.

Well, if you want to say yes, say yes, and if you want to say no, say no  
'Cause there's a million ways to go, you know that there are.

And if you want to be me, be me, and if you want to be you be you,

‘cause there’s a million things to do. You know that there are.

Chorus

Well, if you want to sing out, sing out, and if you want to be free, be free  
'Cause there's a million things to be. You know that there are

Unison Prayer of Invocation (from Catherine Rolling)

**Holy One, you have promised to be with us, and long ago sent your Spirit to abide among us and guide us to a future of goodness and hope. We come seeking your truth, your justice, your kindness. O God, you are with us this morning. Let us feel your presence and welcome you into our lives. Come and fill these desires of our hearts, for we pray in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

Children’s Message

A Reading from the Hebrew Bible Isaiah 65:17-25

A Reading from Psalms Luke 21:5-19

Sermon *“Eternal Bliss?”* Pastor Lisa

\*Hymn #108 NCH *“Isaiah the Prophet Has Written of Old”*

Isaiah the prophet has written of old how God's new creation shall come.  
Instead of the thorn tree the fir tree shall grow;  
the wolf shall lie down with the lamb, the lamb, the wolf shall lie down with the lamb.

The mountains and hills shall break forth into song, the peoples be led forth in peace;  
The earth shall be filled with the knowledge of God

as the waters cover the sea, the sea, as the waters cover the sea.

Yet nations still prey on the meek of the world, and conflict turns parent from child.  
Your people despoil all the sweetness of earth;  
the brier and the thorn tree grow wild, grow wild, the brier and the thorn tree grow wild.

God, bring to fruition your will for the earth, that no one shall hurt or destroy,

That wisdom and justice shall reign in the land

and your people shall go forth in joy, in joy, your people shall go forth in joy.,

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

The Lord’s Prayer

Choral Response

Invitation to Give

Offertory Anthem *“Lay ‘Em Down”* Needtobreathe

Come down to the river, come and let yourself in.  
Make good on a promise to never hurt again.

If you're lost and lonely, broken down, bring all of your troubles; Come lay 'em down

All you sinners and the weak at heart, all the helpless on the boulevards  
Wherever you are now whatever evil you've found,  
Bring all of your troubles; Come lay 'em down

Bridge: We're all tied to the same old failings, finding shelter in things we know.  
We're all dirty like corrupted small towns. We'll bring our troubles, bring our troubles  
And lay 'em down.

All you rich men and the high above, all of those with and without love,  
All you burdened and broken down, bring all of your troubles  
Come lay 'em down.

\*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 (from Bruce Prewer)

**Loving God, You have held up a vision for a heavenly kin-dom you desire for us, where suffering is gone, compassion is present, and justice reigns. May the gifts we offer this morning, the service we offer throughout the week, and the prayers of blessing and gratitude we lift with each breath, help usher that kin-dom into our world and into our hearts. We ask this in the name of Christ, our rock and redeemer. Amen.**

\*Hymn #299 NCH *“For All the Saints”*

For all the saints who from their labors rest, who to the world their steadfast faith confessed,  
your name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!

You were their rock, their refuge, and their might; You, Christ, the hope that put their fears to flight;  
mid gloom and doubt, you were their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Still may your people, faithful, true and bold, live as the saints who nobly fought of old  
and share with them a glorious crown of gold. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Ringed by this cloud of witnesses divine, we feebly struggle, they in glory shine;  
yet in your love our faithful lives entwine. Alleluia! Alleluia!

And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long, steals on the ear the distant triumph song,  
then hearts are brave again and faith grows strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!

Benediction

Postlude

\*Indicates that those who are able may stand