**Worship from Home**

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

**Fifteenth Sunday after Pentecost, September 1, 2024**

Prelude

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

Call to Worship (from John van Bemmel)

**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:** It is because we long for peace that we pray.

**Many**: It is because we hope for wholeness that we hunger.

**One:** It is because we need forgiveness that we seek new beginnings.

**Many: So we come, entering the depths of our soul--**

**One:** To plead for peace, to summon wholeness, to beg forgiveness of ourselves and one another,

**Many: and thus of You, Soul within our soul, Light within our longings.**

**One:** Be still and aware.

\*Hymn #12 NCH *“I Sing the Mighty Power of God”*

I sing the mighty power of God, that made the mountains rise,
That spread the flowing seas abroad, and built the lofty skies.
I sing the wisdom that ordained the sun to rule the day;
The moon shines full at God’s command, and all the stars obey.

I sing the goodness of the Lord, who filled the earth with food,
God formed the creatures with a word, and then pronounced them good.
Oh, how your wonders are displayed, where’er I turn my eye,
If I survey the ground I tread, or gaze upon the sky.

On earth there’s not a plant or flower but makes your glory known,
The clouds arise, and spread their showers by order from your throne;
All life is but a gift from you and ever in you care;
Wherever people gather, you, O God, are present there.

Unison Prayer of Invocation (based on Psalm 25: 1-5)

**To You, O God, we lift up our souls. To You we offer our praise and prayer, our worship and thanksgiving, even our very lives. Make Your ways known to us. Show us the path on which we should walk. Lead us in Your truth and teach us. For You are the God who saves, the God in whom we trust; and the One on whom we wait. Amen.**

Children’s Message

Psalm 15, p.627 NCH Psalm 15

A Reading from The Epistles James 1:17-27

A Reading from The Gospels Mark 7:1-8, 14-15, 21-23

Sermon *“Doers of the Word”* Pastor Lisa

\*Hymn Insert *“Here is Bread, Here is Wine”*

Here is bread, here is wine, Christ is with us, He is with us.
Break the bread, drink the wine, Christ is with us here.

Here is grace, here is peace, Christ is with us, He is with us.
Know His grace, find peace, feast on Jesus here.

In this bread there is healing, in this cup there's life forever.
In this moment, by the Spirit, Christ is with us here.

Here we are, joined as one, Christ is with us, He is with us.
We'll proclaim, 'til he comes, Jesus crucified.

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

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(debts and debtors)*

Invitation to Give

Offertory *“Come Share the Lord””*

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

**Lord, we dedicate our offering to you as a sign of our faith and trust in you. May it be used to further your work in the world and to bring hope and healing to those who are hurting. We pray that you would bless this gift and multiply it for your glory. Amen.**

**THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION**

**INVITATION**

**CONSECRATION**

**SHARING OF THE BREAD AND CUP**

**PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING** (from the Church of Australia)

**Bountiful God, at this table you graciously feed us with the bread of life and the cup of eternal salvation. May we who have reached out our hands to receive this sacrament be strengthened in your service; we who have sung your praises tell of your glory and truth in our lives; we who have seen the greatness of your love see you face to face in your kin-dom and come to worship you with all your saints forever. Amen**

\*Hymn #403 NCH *“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”*

My hope is built on nothing less than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame, but wholly lean on Jesus' name.

Refrain: On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand; all other ground is sinking sand,
all other ground is sinking sand.

When shadows veil my Savior's face, I rest upon unchanging grace;
In every high and stormy gale, my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]

Christ's oath and covenant and blood support me in the rising flood;
When all around my soul gives way, Christ then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]

When Christ shall come with trumpet sound, oh, may I then in Love be found,
Dressed in his righteousness alone, faultless to stand before the throne.

Benediction

Postlude

Except where otherwise noted, our liturgy this morning comes from the U.C.C.’s Worship Ways.