

Worship from Home
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
Sunday, January 17, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship (from Thom Shuman)

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 your spirit.

One: The Word of the Lord came,

Many: hope for all people cradled in his arms.

One: the Word of the Lord comes,

**All: calling us out of our comfort zones,
to go where grace is needed most.**

One: The Word of the Lord will come,

**All: gathering all the outsiders and insiders
into one community of the kingdom.**

*Hymn *"Here I Am, Lord"*

I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard met people cry.
All who dwell in dark and sin my hand will save.
I who made the stars of night, I will make their darkness bright.
Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord?
Have heard you calling in the night.
I will go, Lord, if you lead me.
I will hold your people in my heart.

Unison Prayer of Invocation

**Lord, as you called the fishermen by the Galilean Sea, you call us today to be willing to come and follow you, bringing the good news of your healing love and hope. Open our hearts to receive your call and make us ready for the journey.
Amen**

A Reading from the Hebrew Scriptures

Jonah 3:1-5; 10

¹ Then the word of the LORD came to Jonah a second time: ² “Go to the great city of Nineveh and proclaim to it the message I give you.”

³ Jonah obeyed the word of the LORD and went to Nineveh. Now Nineveh was a very large city; it took three days to go through it. ⁴ Jonah began by going a day’s journey into the city, proclaiming, “Forty more days and Nineveh will be overthrown.” ⁵ The Ninevites believed God. A fast was proclaimed, and all of them, from the greatest to the least, put on sackcloth.

¹⁰ When God saw what they did and how they turned from their evil ways, he relented and did not bring on them the destruction he had threatened.

A Reading from The Gospels

Mark 1:14-20

¹⁴ After John was put in prison, Jesus went into Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God. ¹⁵ “The time has come,” he said. “The kingdom of God has come near. Repent and believe the good news!”

¹⁶ As Jesus walked beside the Sea of Galilee, he saw Simon and his brother Andrew casting a net into the lake, for they were fishermen. ¹⁷ “Come, follow me,” Jesus said, “and I will send you out to fish for people.” ¹⁸ At once they left their nets and followed him.

¹⁹ When he had gone a little farther, he saw James son of Zebedee and his brother John in a boat, preparing their nets. ²⁰ Without delay he called them, and they left their father Zebedee in the boat with the hired men and followed him.

Sermon

“Come Out, Come Out, Wherever You Are!”

- Pastor Lisa

*Hymn

“Sent Out in Jesus’ Name”

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now
To make the part the place in which the kingdom comes.

The angels cannot change a world of hurt and pain
Into a world of love, of justice and of peace.

The task is ours to do, to set it really free.
O help us to obey and carry out your will.

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

Invitation to Give

*Unison Prayer of Dedication (from Moira Laidlaw)

We dedicate these gifts and our lives to you, O God, in thanksgiving for your great gift of Jesus, in whom we know an inner peace which is beyond our human understanding. Strengthen and empower us with the Holy Spirit to be bearers of this peace wherever we go. This we pray in Jesus' name. Amen

*Hymn *"The Summons"* by John L. Bell from a trad. Scottish melody

Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free

And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?

Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

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*Benediction