

Worship from Home
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
Sunday, April 11, 2021

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

-Welcome and Greetings from Rev. Elizabeth Dilley - Minister and Team Leader, Ministerial Excellence, Support and Authorization team, national setting of the UCC

MUSICAL OFFERING *"Thine Is The Glory"*

-Performed by members of the University Congregational Church UCC in Seattle, WA

OPENING LITANY (Based on John 20)

-Rev. Elena Larssen - Minister for Volunteer Engagement, national setting of the UCC

One: Peace be with you.

Many: The land drips with violence, people rage with contempt, even the air spins a path of destruction. How can we claim peace in a time like this?

One: Peace be with you.

One: Receive the Holy Spirit

Many: We are too afraid of this power, too enchanted by it, too disturbed by it. Is not this gift too powerful to be entrusted to humankind?

One: Receive the Holy Spirit.

One: See my hands.

Many: We do not want to see the wounds of the world; there are too many names to recall, too many places scored by violence. Why will you not let us forget?

One: See my hands.

One: Reach out your hand.

Many: We are so bound up in your love, O Christ, that your peace, your Spirit, even your pain will not let us go. Therefore we remember, take hold, receive, and move in faith.

One: Do not doubt but believe.

Many: Amen.

UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Lord of Resurrection surprises, open our hearts this day to the presence of Jesus Christ. Erase our excuses for unbelief and exchange them for strong witness to the power of your mercy and love. Give us courage, and challenge us to walk the path of discipleship, knowing that Jesus goes before us, leading and guiding our steps. In his name, we pray. AMEN.

SCRIPTURE *John 20: 19-31*

Rev. Kent Siladi - Director of Philanthropy, national setting of the UCC

TESTIMONIES: - *Introduction by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley*

Testimony 1: Rev. Dr. Edward Davis - Conference Minister of the Southern Conference

Testimony 2: Rev. Lynn Bunjak - Conference Minister of the Vermont Conference

Testimony 3: Rev. Noel Andersen - UCC and CWS Grassroots Coordinator for Immigrants' Rights

Testimony 4: Rev. Dr. Sarah Lund - Minister for Disabilities and Mental Health Justice

Closing by Rev. Elizabeth Dilley

MUSICAL OFFERING *"Hope Now"* - *Addison Road*
 -*Performed by Pastor Lisa and Ginny Bailey (Music Director at FCC West Brookfield, MA)*

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 Jeff Shrowder)

Gracious and holy God, accept what we offer today: our checks and cash, our faltering steps, our brokenness, our leftovers, our hope, our risking, our lives. Bless and transform all that we offer and all that we hold back, that new life may be ours, to celebrate and share in Jesus' name. Amen

MUSICAL OFFERING: *"Rise Up, Peace Eternal"*
 -*Written and performed by The Restoration Project*

BENEDICTION