

Worship from Home
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
Sunday, February 14, 2021

Welcome & Announcements

Call to Worship **WORSHIP** (From Charles Lamb)

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: From the point of Light within the mind of God,

Many: let light stretch forth into the minds of humanity, let light descend on earth.

One: From the point of love within the heart of God,

Many: let love stream forth into the hearts of humanity: may Christ return to earth.

One: From the center where the will of God is known,

Many: let purpose guide the little wills of humanity: the purpose which the Master knows and serves.

One: From the center which we call the human race,

Many: let the plan of love and light work out, and may it seal the door where evil dwells.

All: Let light and love and power restore the plan on earth. Amen.

*Hymn *"Unsettled World"*

vocalists - Sarah Schneider and John Merrifield; upright bass - Hunt Gressitt

Unsettled world, where people long to find their way,
to feel secure, from lives of turbulence and rush,
we come, to seek your peace, our God, Your word to hear, our faith to live.

Unsettled world, where angry poor from grinding need
at affluence stare, with tears and thirst for truth and right
we come, with longing in our hearts, your word to hear, our faith to live.

Unsettled world, unseated church, whose structures creak and doctrines swirl,
by faith, and in the strength of Christ,
we strive, in true community, your word to hear, our faith to live.

Unison Prayer Of Invocation (From John van Bommel)

God of graciousness and love, we pause to become aware that you are present within and around us. Your loving grace fills us now and strengthens our souls to see what is good and

true and beautiful and loving. Help us, we pray, to allow your powerful presence to fill us and increase our ability to see and hear you. Guide our every action today so that we might be earnest in our search for truth, and fair in how we treat those around us. Let your grace fill us now. In Jesus' name, Amen.

A Reading from the Epistles **2 Corinthians 4:3-6** - read by *Bill MacDowell*

³And even if our gospel is veiled, it is veiled to those who are perishing. ⁴In their case the god of this world has blinded the minds of the unbelievers, to keep them from seeing the light of the gospel of the glory of Christ, who is the image of God. ⁵For we do not proclaim ourselves; we proclaim Jesus Christ as Lord and ourselves as your slaves for Jesus' sake. ⁶For it is the God who said, "Let light shine out of darkness," who has shone in our hearts to give the light of the knowledge of the glory of God in the face of Jesus Christ.

A Reading from The New Testament **Mark 9:2-9** - read by *Bill MacDowell*

²Six days later, Jesus took with him Peter and James and John, and led them up a high mountain apart, by themselves. And he was transfigured before them, ³and his clothes became dazzling white, such as no one on earth could bleach them. ⁴And there appeared to them Elijah with Moses, who were talking with Jesus. ⁵Then Peter said to Jesus, "Rabbi, it is good for us to be here; let us make three dwellings, one for you, one for Moses, and one for Elijah." ⁶He did not know what to say, for they were terrified. ⁷Then a cloud overshadowed them, and from the cloud there came a voice, "This is my Son, the Beloved; listen to him!" ⁸Suddenly when they looked around, they saw no one with them any more, but only Jesus.

Sermon *"Face Off"* - *Pastor Lisa*

*Hymn *"O Wondrous Sight"*

vocalists - Joy Avery Webb, John Merrifield, Sarah Schneider

O wondrous sight, O vision fair of glory that the church shall share,
Which Christ upon the mountain shows, where brighter than the sun, Christ glows!

From age to age, the tale declare, how with the three disciples there,
Where Moses and Elijah meet, they with the Christ God's future greet.

With shining face and bright array, Christ deigns to manifest today
What glory shall be theirs beyond, who live within God's loving bond.

And faithful hearts are raised on high by this great vision's mystery,

For which in joyful strains we raise the voice of prayer, the hymn of praise.

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

Pastoral Prayer

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

Invitation to Give

Offertory

*Prayer of Dedication

Living God, your love for us is so unfathomable. Open our ears to hear the cries of your neediest children. Open our eyes to see human injustice. Open our minds to think about compassion in all circumstances. Continue to increase our willingness to give so that we may lead lives fully focused on ministry to others. We place these offerings upon your altar in gratitude for your guidance and love. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

*Hymn “ *God Speak To Me*”

Vocalists - Joy Avery Webb, Gina Grogean, John Merrifield, Tom Grogean

God speak to me, that I may speak in living echoes of your tone;
As you have sought, so let me seek your erring children lost and lone.

O fill me with your fullness, God, your overflowing love to know;
In glowing word and kindling thought, your love to tell, your praise to show.

*Benediction