

16<sup>th</sup> SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST  
WORSHIP FROM HOME  
First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC  
September 20, 2020

GATHERING AND WELCOME

TIME OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God of Life,

**People: you are as near to us as our breath.**

Leader: Touch our eyes,

**People: that we may see you in one another.**

Leader: Open our ears,

**People: that we may hear your voice in the cries of the oppressed.**

Leader: Enter our hearts,

**People: that we may be filled with your love toward all people.**

Leader: Come, O God of life and breath and wholeness.

**All: Be with us now. Show us the way to new life and grant us  
the courage to be people of your Way.**

MUSICAL INTERLUDE "Grace Alone" (Scott Wesley Brown and Jeff Nelson)

Every promise we can make, every prayer and step of faith,  
every difference we will make is only by His grace.

Every mountain we will climb, every ray of hope we shine,  
Every blessing left behind is only by his grace.

Refrain:

Grace alone, which God supplies,  
strength unknown he will provide.

Christ in us our Cornerstone;

We will go forth in grace alone.

Every soul we long to reach, every heart we hope to teach,  
everywhere we share his peace is only by his grace.

Every loving word we say, every tear we wipe away,  
every sorrow turned to praise is only by his grace.

## INVOCATION

**Loving God, we draw together in communion with you and with each other to celebrate the joy of being your people and doing your work. We ask that you be with us today in our worship. Calm our anxious hearts and still the distractions that might keep us from you. Lead us in joy and celebration that you love us just as we are. Call to us to walk in your ways on this and every day. Amen!**

## SCRIPTURE READING

### **Matthew 20:1-16**

"For the kingdom of heaven is like a landowner who went out early in the morning to hire laborers for his vineyard. After agreeing with the laborers for the usual daily wage, he sent them into his vineyard. When he went out about nine o'clock, he saw others standing idle in the marketplace; and he said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard, and I will pay you whatever is right.' So they went. When he went out again about noon and about three o'clock, he did the same. And about five o'clock he went out and found others standing around; and he said to them, 'Why are you standing here idle all day?' They said to him, 'Because no one has hired us.' He said to them, 'You also go into the vineyard.' When evening came, the owner of the vineyard said to his manager, 'Call the laborers and give them their pay, beginning with the last and then going to the first.' When those hired about five o'clock came, each of them received the usual daily wage. Now when the first came, they thought they would receive more; but each of them also received the usual daily wage. And when they received it, they grumbled against the landowner, saying, 'These last worked only one hour, and you have made them equal to us who have borne the burden of the day and the scorching heat.' But he replied to one of them, 'Friend, I am doing you no wrong; did you not agree with me for the usual daily wage? Take what belongs to you and go; I choose to give to this last the same as I give to you. Am I not allowed to do what I choose with what belongs to me? Or are you envious because I am generous?' So the last will be first, and the first will be last."

MEDITATION "Thy Kingdom Come"

SHARING

MUSIC OFFERING "Cares Chorus" (Kelly Willard)

I cast all my cares upon you,  
I lay all of my burdens down at your feet,  
and anytime that I don't know what to do,  
I will cast all my cares upon you.

A TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns  
Pastoral Prayer  
The Lord's Prayer (debts)

*Our Father who art in heaven,  
hallowed be thy name.  
Thy kingdom come, thy will be done  
on earth as it is in heaven.  
Give us this day our daily bread,  
and forgive us our debts  
as we forgive our debtors;  
and lead us not into temptation,  
but deliver us from evil.*

*For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.*

CHORAL RESPONSE "Sent Out in Jesus' Name" (music arranged by  
Carmen Peña; words translated by Jorge Maldonado)

Sent out in Jesus' name, our hands are ready now,  
to make the earth the place in which the kingdom comes [Repeat]  
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.

BLESSING AND SENDING

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE