

2ND SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST
 Worship from Home
 First Congregational Church of Blue Hill, UCC
 June 14, 2020

GATHERING & WELCOME

TIME OF SILENCE

CALL TO WORSHIP (from Psalm 116)

Leader: I love the Lord, who has heard my voice and my supplications.

People: Because you listened to me, I will call on you as long as I live.

Leader: What shall I return to the Lord for all God's bounty to me?

People: I will lift up the cup of salvation and call on the name of the Lord.

MUSICAL INTERLUDE "In the Midst of New Dimensions" (*Julian Rush, 1985, alt.*)

In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways,
 Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

Refrain:

God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
 We your people, ours the journey, now and ever, now and ever, now and ever
 more.

Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair,
 Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care? (Refrain)

As we stand a world divided by our own self-seeking schemes,
 Grant that we, your global village, might envision wider dreams. (Refrain)

We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young,
 Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung. (Refrain)

Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain,
 May your blazing phoenix spirit resurrect the church again. (Refrain)

* INVOCATION (from *The Open Gate: Celtic Prayers for Growing Spiritually*)

Lord, open our eyes, and we shall behold your glory.

Lord, open our ears, and we shall hear your call.

Lord, open our hearts, and we shall know your love.

Lord, open our hands, and we shall show your generosity.

Lord, open our lives, and we shall reveal your glory.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Genesis 18: 1-15

The Lord appeared to Abraham by the oaks of Mamre, as he sat at the entrance of his tent in the heat of the day. He looked up and saw three men standing near him. When he saw them, he ran from the tent entrance to meet them, and bowed down to the ground. He said, "My lord, if I find favor with you, do not pass by your servant. Let a little water be brought, and wash your feet, and rest yourselves under the tree. Let me bring a little bread, that you may refresh yourselves, and after that you may pass on--since you have come to your servant." So they said, "Do as you have said." And Abraham hastened into the tent to Sarah, and said, "Make ready quickly three measures of choice flour, knead it, and make cakes." Abraham ran to the herd, and took a calf, tender and good, and gave it to the servant, who hastened to prepare it. Then he took curds and milk and the calf that he had prepared, and set it before them; and he stood by them under the tree while they ate.

They said to him, "Where is your wife Sarah?" And he said, "There, in the tent." Then one said, "I will surely return to you in due season, and your wife Sarah shall have a son." And Sarah was listening at the tent entrance behind him. Now Abraham and Sarah were old, advanced in age; it had ceased to be with Sarah after the manner of women. So Sarah laughed to herself, saying, "After I have grown old, and my husband is old, shall I have pleasure?" The Lord said to Abraham, "Why did Sarah laugh, and say, 'Shall I indeed bear a child, now that I am old?' Is anything too wonderful for the Lord? At the set time I will return to you, in due season, and Sarah shall have a son." But Sarah denied, saying, "I did not laugh"; for she was afraid. He said, "Oh yes, you did laugh."

Matthew 9:35-10:14

Then Jesus went about all the cities and villages, teaching in their synagogues, and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom, and curing every disease and every sickness. When he saw the crowds, he had compassion for them, because they were harassed and helpless, like sheep without a shepherd. Then he said to his disciples, "The harvest is plentiful, but the laborers are few; therefore ask the Lord of the harvest to send out laborers into his harvest."

Then Jesus summoned his twelve disciples and gave them authority over unclean spirits, to cast them out, and to cure every disease and every sickness. These are the names of the twelve apostles: first, Simon, also known as Peter, and his brother Andrew; James son of Zebedee, and his brother John; Philip and Bartholomew; Thomas and Matthew the tax-collector; James son of Alphaeus, and Thaddaeus; Simon the Cananaean, and Judas Iscariot, the one who betrayed him. These twelve Jesus sent out with the following instructions: "Go nowhere among the Gentiles, and enter no town of the Samaritans, but go rather to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. As you go, proclaim the good news, 'The kingdom of heaven has come near.' Cure the sick, raise the dead, cleanse the lepers, cast out demons. You received without payment; give without payment. Take no gold, or silver, or copper in your belts, no bag for your journey, or two tunics, or sandals, or a staff; for laborers deserve their food. Whatever town or village you enter, find out who in it is worthy, and stay there until you leave. As you enter the house, greet it. If the house is worthy, let your peace come upon it; but if it is not worthy, let your peace return to you. If anyone will not welcome you or listen to your words, shake off the dust from your feet as you leave that house or town.

MEDITATION "What Shall I Return to the Lord?" - Rev. Dr. Deborah M. Jenks

SHARING

A TIME OF PRAYER

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (Debts)

SONG OF BLESSING & SENDING "Sent Out in Jesus' Name"

SHARING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Musicians this Morning: Ann Boudreaux, Hunt Gressett, Sarah Schneider