

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HANCOCK

Open and Affirming of ALL God's Children



Christ in the Wilderness, Ivan Kramskoy, 1872

First Sunday in Lent February 21, 2021

To join the Zoom Worship Service using **internet**:

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85916087169?pwd=UVNqNGV4UIQ4RHFaVC9WNlo4YWJFZz09>

Meeting ID: 859 1608 7169

Passcode: 619077

To join the Zoom Worship Service using **One tap mobile**:

+13017158592,,86489997648#,,,,,0#,,141102# US (Washington D.C)

To join the Zoom Worship Service using a **telephone**:

Dial +1 929 205 6099 US (New York)

Meeting ID: 859 1608 7169

Passcode: 619077

Silent Prayer

God of ancient covenants, your steadfast love and faithfulness are still new every morning.

I thank you that I can begin this day in the confidence of your abiding love and unending mercy. Help me to treat others— family, friends, coworkers, classmates, and even strangers— with love and mercy in our encounters today. Open my eyes to the places, people, and circumstances in which your kin-dom has come near. I pray in the name of your beloved Jesus, one of the many that you sent to show us the way. Amen.

Prelude *What Wondrous Love Is This*

Arr. Greene

Welcome

Rev. TJ Mack

Introit *For the Beauty of the Earth*

black hymnal #28

*For the beauty of the earth, for the splendor of the skies,
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies,
God of all, to your we raise this our hymn of grateful praise.*

Passing of the Peace (ASL)

Lighting of the Peace Candle & Prayer for Peace

Call to Worship (spoken in unison, but muted, please)

One: People of the covenant: God does not remember us according to our transgressions.

All: God remembers us according to God's own steadfast love!

One: The God of our salvation teaches us right paths and leads us in truth.

All: All the paths of the Lord are steadfast love and faithfulness; we put our trust in God.

Children's Hymn – *This is My Song*

black hymnal #591

*This is my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for lands afar and mine.
This is my home, the country where my heart is;
here are my hopes, my dreams, my holy shrine:
But other hearts in other lands are beating
with hopes and dreams as true and high as mine.*

*My country's skies are bluer than the ocean,
and sunlight beams on cloverleaf and pine;
But other lands have sunlight too, and clover,
and skies are everywhere as blue as mine.
O hear my song, O God of all the nations,
a song of peace for their land and for mine.*

Invocation (spoken in unison, but muted, please)

Gracious God, in rushing waters and in dry wilderness, in every season and circumstance, we need your sustaining word. By the power of your Holy Spirit, proclaim the good news among us today so that we may repent and believe and see anew how the time is fulfilled and the kin-dom has come near; in Jesus Christ your Son, our Savior. **Amen.**

Children's Message

Godly Play

The Mystery of Easter

Old Testament Reading

Genesis 9:8–17

New Testament Reading

Mark 1:9–15

Special Music *Steal Away*

African American Spiritual/Giamanco

Message –

Rev. TJ Mack

Hymn *There's a Wideness in God's Mercy*

black hymnal #23

There's a wideness in God's mercy, like the wideness of the sea;

there's a kindness in God's justice, which is more than liberty.

There is no place where earthly sorrows are more felt than in God's heaven;

there is no place where earthly failings have such kind judgment given.

For the love of God is broader than the measures of our minds;

and the heart of the Eternal is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more faithful, we would gladly trust God's word;

and our lives would show thanksgiving for the goodness of our God.

Call to Confession

We cannot earn God's grace or favor. It comes to us, not as something owed, but as a gift freely given. Confident in God's love for us, even when we are ungodly, we confess our faults in faith.

Prayer of Confession (from Psalm 25)

¹To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. ²O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. ³Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous. ⁴Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. ⁵Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. ⁶Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. ⁷Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Declaration of Forgiveness (from Psalm 25)

⁸ Good and upright is the LORD; therefore he instructs sinners in the way. ⁹ He leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble his way. ¹⁰ All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep his covenant and his decrees.

Prayers of the People – Sharing Joys & Concerns

Pastoral/Community Prayers

... for our country and our world, that we may all work toward the common goal of peace while ensuring the inherent worth and dignity of all persons;

For Marcia and Kenny; ... for Betty J. as she navigates health concerns; ... for Clayton as he recovers strength after his radiation regimen; ... for Graham and Joey and Morgan; ... for Kim and Jeff and Patsy; ... for Nancy in Ellsworth; ... for Peter recovering from surgery and Rose caring for him; ... for Kathy H. and her parents; ... Betty's step-daughter Molly; ... Eleanor's step-children Holly and Angus; ... Vanessa; ... Vicky; ... Edie; ... Gertrude; ... Andrew and his family; ... Danny & Clementine; ... and all those held in your heart.

Lord's Prayer ***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 trespasses, as we forgive those who trespass against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.***
Lead Me Lord

*Lead me Lord, lead me in thy righteousness,
make thy way plain before my face.
For it is thou Lord, thou Lord, only,
that makest me dwell in safety.*

Offering

Welcoming our Tithes and Offerings

Offertory *All Nature Sings*

Arr. Fedak

The Doxology

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, above ye heav'nly host:
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.*

Prayer of Dedication (spoken in unison, but muted, please)

God of all bounty and blessing, receive our lives and our gifts to be bounty and blessings to you, our church, and the world. Amen.

Hymn *Lord I Want to Be a Christian (vs. 2-4)*

black hymnal #454

*Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.*

*In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more loving in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart
Lord, I want to be more holy in my heart in my heart.*

*Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.
In my heart, in my heart,
Lord, I want to be like Jesus in my heart.*

Benediction – (spoken in unison, unmuted)

Mindful of your mercy, forgiveness, and instruction, O God, we go into the world renewed, refreshed, and full of courage to be your people. We go in peace to work for justice. Amen.

Postlude *With Joy Unending*

Broughton



To donate to our church online via PayPal:

Please visit

hancockucc.org

or

Hancock (Maine) UCC on Facebook

or mail offerings to:

Union Congregational Church

PO Box 443

Hancock, ME 04640

Attention: Treasurer

If you wish to donate to the expenses being accrued by Joey and Morgan Espling as young Graham is cared for at Boston Children's Hospital, please send checks to:

Union Congregational Church of Hancock, PO Box 443, Hancock, ME 04640

Please reference Graham Espling on the memo line of your check.

Or visit this link to our PayPal account: paypal.me/hancockucc

Thank you for your generosity.

Many thanks to those who helped make this service possible –
in front of the camera and behind the scenes.

Deb Riley – Music Minister

Doug Kimmel – Deacon & Liturgist

Ron Schwizer – Hymn Leader

Ruth Dietze – Flower Minister

Cynthia Wood – Graphics Minister

Ron Schwizer – Audio-Video Minister

Jennifer Ashmore – Technical Support

Vicky Espling – Office Secretary

TJ Mack – Settled Minister

You – Our Congregation near and far

office@hancockucc.com treasurer@hancockucc.com revtjmack@hancockucc.com

207.422.3100

207.323.6743

Resources: Worship Ways, adapted

Feasting on the Word, adapted