

UNION CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF HANCOCK
Open and Affirming of ALL God's Children



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Meeting ID: 859 1608 7169

Passcode: 619077

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Meeting ID: 859 1608 7169

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**Fifth Sunday after Epiphany
February 7, 2021**

Silent Prayer—words to ponder:

'Something fatal attends man's mastery over man, even when benevolently exercised, something which slowly poisons both master and victim, and in the end disintegrates the society in which they live.'

-Richard Pipes, on serfdom in Russia

'As I would not be a slave, so I would not be a master. This expresses my idea of democracy. Whatever differs from this, to the extent of the difference, is no democracy.'

-Abraham Lincoln, on slavery in America

Prelude

When I Think Upon Thy Goodness

Haydn/Whitford

Introit

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty (vs. 1)

red hymnal #26

Praise to the Lord, the Almighty, the God of Creation!

Sing, my soul, praising the source of thy health and salvation!

All ye who hear, now to God's temple draw near;

join me in glad adoration!

Passing of the Peace (ASL)

Lighting of the Peace Candle and Prayer for Peace

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

Leader: Why do we join on zoom this morning?

Congregation: We join to worship God.

Leader: Why do we do this?

Congregation: Because it is good for us.

Leader: And why is it good?

Congregation: Because it helps us face ourselves as we truly are.

All: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

Prayer of 'facing ourselves as we truly are' (spoken in unison, but muted, please)

Gracious God, we come before you today honestly to acknowledge who we are and what we are like. We are your creatures, your children. You have loved us since the moment of our coming into being. You have provided us with a sense of conscience. You are there with your silent voice at all times. You encourage us; you challenge us. And so often we fail. We do not show courage; we do not live up to your challenge; we know this. And yet, you forgive us; you wipe the slate of our failure clean, and you encourage us yet again. You treat us better than we deserve. You love us. For this we thank you, our gracious God. Amen

Children's Hymn: *Now Thank We All Our God* (verse 1) red hymnal #27
*Now thank we all our God with hearts and hands and voices,
who wondrous things hath done, in whom his earth rejoices,
who, from our mothers' arms, hath blessed us on our way
with countless gifts of love, and still is ours today.*

Time with the Children Kathy McGlinchey

Special Music *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* arr. Kelsey

New Testament Readings: *Matthew 11:18-19; Galatians 3:27-28*

Sermon Rev. Philip Devenish

Prayers of the People and Lord's Prayer

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; continued prayers for Clayton as he recovers from his radiation regimen; continued prayers for Graham and Joey and Morgan; continued prayers for Nancy in Ellsworth; for Peter recovering from surgery and Rose caring for him; for Roberta, for Kathy H. and her mom & dad; Betty's step-daughter Molly; Eleanor's step-children Holly and Angus; Vanessa, Vicky; Edie; Gertrude; Andrew and his family; Marcia and Kenny; Gary's mother Pat; 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.*

Communion Hymn *As We Gather at Your Table* red hymnal #314
Verse 1

*As we gather at your table, as we listen to your word,
help us know, O God, your presence; let our hearts and minds be stirred.
Nourish us with sacred story till we claim it as our own;
teach us through this holy banquet how to make Love's victory known.*

Verse 2

*Turn our worship into witness in the sacrament of life;
send us forth to love and serve you, bringing peace where there is strife.
Give us, Christ, your great compassion to forgive as you forgave;
may we still behold your image in the world you died to save.*

Verse 3

*Gracious Spirit, help us summon other guests to share that feast
where triumphant Love will welcome those who had been last and least.
There no more will envy blind us nor will pride our peace destroy,
as we join with saints and angels to repeat the sounding joy.*

The Lord's Supper/Holy Communion (spoken in unison, but muted, please)

Leader: We come to this table, not because we must,

People: But because we may;

Leader: We come to testify, not that we are righteous,

People: but that we sincerely desire to be true disciples of our Lord Jesus.

Leader: We come, not because we are strong,

People: but because we are weak;

Leader: not because we have any claim on heaven's rewards,

People: but because, in our frailty and sin we stand in constant need of heaven's mercy and help.

Leader: We come, not to express an opinion,

People: but to seek a presence and pray for a spirit.

Leader: And now that the Supper of our Lord is spread before us,

People: Let us lift up our hearts and minds above all selfish fears and cares; let this bread and this cup be to us the witnesses and signs of the grace of God and communion with God's spirit, as we come together at the table of the Lord.

Communion

We read that during Jesus' life he invited all people to his table, especially the outcast and unaccepted; before his death, he took bread, gave thanks and broke it, saying, "This is my self, broken for you." After the meal, he passed a cup and said, "This is the new covenant, sealed with my life."

We break this bread to enact the gospel of Christ crucified, showing God's compassion and mercy for all people. This is the bread of life.

We share in this cup in sign and token of God's love poured out upon all people. This is the cup of the new covenant.

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

We give thanks to you, O Lord, that you have refreshed us with this reenactment of your love, and have favored us with your presence as we share in the generosity of your grace and guidance. So strengthen our faith in you that our care for one another may abound and our service of your world increase; in Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

Closing Hymn

I Come with Joy

red hymnal #313 verses 1, 4 & 5

Verse 1

*I come with joy, a child of God, forgiven, loved and free,
the life of Jesus to recall, in love laid down for me,
in love laid down for me.*

Verse 4

*The Spirit of the risen Christ, unseen, but ever near,
is in such friendship better known, alive among us here,
alive among us here.*

Verse 5

*Together met, together bound by all that God has done,
we'll go with joy, to give the world the love that makes us one,
love that makes us one.*

Benediction

Postlude

Dialogue

Clerambault



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.

Virtual Clothing Sale planned. We are starting set up for an online clothing sale. It will happen towards the end of the month but we need your donations between now and February 15th. I will be at the church Tuesday's and Thursdays from 9am-12 and Wednesdays from 12-4 for anyone who wants to drop off clothing (coats and shoes too) and/or help organize. We will post items in categories of type and size for ease of shopping. Thanks. -Pat Summerer

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

Deb Riley – Music Minister

Philip Devenish – Guest Minister

Vicky Espling – Deacon

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

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