



THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
29 Mount Desert Street
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609

November 1, 2020

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

SILENT REFLECTION *(by Cornel West)*

We can forget that a rich life consists fundamentally of serving others, trying to leave the world a little better than we found it. We need the courage to question the powers that be, the courage to be impatient with evil and patient with people. In many instances we will be stepping out on nothing, and just hoping to land on something. But that's the struggle. To live is to wrestle with despair, yet never to allow despair to have the last word.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning have been given by Earl and Roxie Brechlin for peace and joy among us.

- It's Communion Sunday – remember to gather up your bread and cup beforehand
- If you'd like to participate in our upcoming worship services, let Pastor Rob know
- **Thanksgiving Basket Project** – We'd like BHCC to contribute 300 cans of pumpkin pie filling. All sorts of other items are needed too.

- **Open Table take-out / delivery Tues. 4-6pm**
- **Tues Morning prayer @8:30am, Thurs Evening prayer @7pm** via BHCC Facebook Live
- **Thursday morning BHCC Saunter @10am** – meet at church
- **Fresh Food Friday @ Bar Harbor Food Pantry from 9 to noon– ALL ARE WELCOME**
- **Bible study Friday @ 11am** via Zoom
- Special mission offering this month: **Thanksgiving Baskets**
- **If you're not receiving the BHCC weekly messenger**, please contact the church office, and with any Q's / Tech Help, to get on email / mailing list.
- *Need anything? Call Pastor Rob @ 266-9026.*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

INTROIT *Come and fill our hearts with your peace*

CALL TO WORSHIP (*by Rosie Venner*)

Leader: Come, all who are weary of wealth or poverty, of power or struggle, of self-righteousness or division;

People: Come, all who are heavy-laden with too much or too little, with anxiety or fear, with exclusion or anger;

Leader: Come, all who long for peace and freedom, for compassion and joy, for justice and mercy;

People: Come, beloved: Jesus calls us now – come and find blessing.

HYMN *For All the Saints*

*For all the saints who from their labors rest,
who thee by faith before the world confessed,
Thy name, O Jesus, be forever blest. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Thou wast their rock, their fortress, and their might:
Thou, Lord, their captain in the well-fought fight;
Thou, in the darkness drear, their one true light. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*O blest communion, fellowship divine!
We feebly struggle, they in glory shine;
Yet all are one in thee, for all are thine. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*And when the strife is fierce, the warfare long,
steals on the ear the distant triumph song.
And hearts are brave again, and arms are strong. Alleluia! Alleluia!*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (*unison, by Christine Jerrett*)

Gracious One: You are our God and we Your people. You have set us in the company of saints both past and present, in line with those who bear witness to Your goodness and truth. You know the places in our hearts where we are anxious and afraid: anxious for what we cannot control, afraid of losing health or independence, worried for the well-being of our children, troubled by the direction of our country. Write the stories deep in our hearts of your flawed yet faithful people, so that we too may learn to lean on you beyond our fears. Give us hearts and minds and spirits ready to trust You and follow wherever your Spirit may lead, confident that we cannot stray anywhere beyond your loving embrace. We ask this in the name of Jesus, whose outstretched arms welcome us and hold us securely in your grace. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

TIME OF REMEMBRANCE

In the zoom chat, you are invited to type the name of someone who has died in the past year, and we will ring a bell chime in their honor.

PRAYER OF REMEMBRANCE (*unison*)

Almighty and everlasting God, giver of life and author of love, today we remember all who abide in the fullness of your presence. For those whose love has taught us of your love, we give you thanks; for those whose faults teach us of your grace, we give you thanks. We thank you for all the saints - our spiritual forebears - sons and daughters of your own redemption. We rejoice that the light of their lives still illuminates our paths.

Rest eternal grant unto them, O Lord, and let light perpetual shine upon them. May the souls of all the departed, through the mercy of God, rest in peace. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns

Text prayer requests in the chat box or to (207) 266-9026

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*using '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, for ever and ever. Amen.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Love round

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Psalm 107:1-7, 35-37

O give thanks to the Lord, for he is good;
for his steadfast love endures forever.

Let the redeemed of the Lord say so,
those he redeemed from trouble
and gathered in from the lands,
from the east and from the west,
from the north and from the south.

Some wandered in desert wastes,
finding no way to an inhabited town;
hungry and thirsty,
their soul fainted within them.

Then they cried to the Lord in their trouble,
and he delivered them from their distress;
he led them by a straight way,
until they reached an inhabited town.

He turns a desert into pools of water,
a parched land into springs of water.
And there he lets the hungry live,
and they establish a town to live in;
they sow fields, and plant vineyards,
and get a fruitful yield.

Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then he began to speak, and taught them, saying:
“Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.
“Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.
“Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

“Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

“Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

“Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

“Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

“Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness’ sake, for theirs is the kingdom of heaven.

“Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

MEDITATION *"Blessings and Peace"*
 Rev. Rob Benson

SPECIAL MUSIC

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jesus embodied the unconditional love of God ... fed the hungry... embraced the vulnerable and excluded... brought healing and wholeness to those in need ... felt hunger and thirst for righteousness ... spoke with kindness and conviction ... loved both God and neighbor ... championed compassion and justice ... called both humble and proud into lives of faithful service.
Help us, O God, to live as he lived, and to follow where he led.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SHARING OF PEACE

SERVICE OF HOLY COMMUNION

Sursum Corda

Leader: May God be with you all.

People: Any also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Words of Institution

Eucharistic Prayer *(from the Iona Community)*

God of new life, send your Holy Spirit upon us and on these gifts of bread and cup, that they may become for us heaven's food and drink: healing, forgiving, making us whole; and that we may become your body, loving and caring in the world until your kingdom comes.

Leader: These are the gifts of God for the people of God.

People: All are welcome to this feast of grace.

Sharing of bread and cup

The body of Christ, the bread of heaven.

The cup of Christ, for our reconciliation.

Prayer after communion *(unison)*

Bountiful God, we give thanks that you have refreshed us at your table with the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

HYMN

You Are Salt For the Earth, O People

You are salt for the earth, O people: salt for the reign of God!
Share the flavor of life, O people: life in the City of God!

Refrain

*Bring forth the reign of mercy, bring forth the reign of peace;
Bring forth the reign of justice, bring forth the City of God!*

You are a light on the hill, O people: light for the City of God!
Shine so holy and bright, O people: shine for the City of God!

Refrain

You are a seed of the Word, O people: bring forth the reign of God!
Seeds of mercy and seeds of justice, grow in the City of God!

Refrain

We are a blessed and a pilgrim people: bound for the reign of God!
Love our journey and love our homeland: love is the City of God!

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING *(by Connie Epp)*

Beloved: You are the salt of the earth and light for the world. You are not too young or too old, not too rich or too needy, to bring good news to the impoverished, to lend a hand to the broken-hearted, and to live out freedom and grace through the gifts you have been given.

So remember to pack peace in your toolbox, hope in your satchel, love in your lunch box, and may integrity, honesty, and joy be your cloak.

Do not be frightened, for you are never alone. The God in whose image you are made will walk with you and guide you: today, tomorrow, and every day.

Leader: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE *God Be With You 'Til We Meet Again – verse 1*

God be with you till we meet again; by his counsels guide, uphold you,
With his sheep securely fold you: God be with you till we meet again.

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE

ZOOM COFFEE HOUR