



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

October 18, 2020

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

SILENT REFLECTION *(by Ted Loder)*

O extravagant God,
in this ripening, red-tinged autumn,
waken in me a sense of joy
in just being alive,
joy for nothing in general
except everything in particular;
joy in sun and rain
mating with earth to birth a harvest;
joy in soft light
through shyly disrobing trees;
joy in acolyte moon
setting halos around processing clouds;
joy in the beating of a thousand wings
mysteriously knowing which way is warm;
joy in wagging tails and kids' smiles
and in this spunky old city;
joy in the taste of bread and wine,
the smell of dawn,

a touch,
a song,
a presence;
joy in having what I cannot live without —
other people to hold and cry and laugh with
joy in love,
in you;
and that all at first and last
is grace.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The altar flowers this morning have been given by Byrne Erb and her children in memory of her husband and their father, J. William Erb.

- If you'd like to participate in our upcoming worship services, let Pastor Rob know
- **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: **Repairing the church bell**
- **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 My Way, My Truth, My Life (verse 2)*

Come, my light, my feast, my strength:
Such a light as shows a feast,
Such a feast as mends in length,
Such a strength as makes his guest.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(by Thom Shuman)*

Leader: Each morning, God's grace awakens us; each evening, God's peace cradles us.

People: Compassion is our constant companion, wherever we go.

Leader: In every moment, God is present with us; God whispers words which can change our lives.

People: Justice is our faithful teacher, pointing to where we can carry out fairness.

Leader: When we find ourselves fumbling in the shadows, God's light provides a way home.

People: We turn the corner, and hope is waiting for us; we return home, and find a feast prepared.

HYMN

Come and Find the Quiet Center

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:

Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the all the things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.

Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our being, touches base, making space within our thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.

In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's pain, let our loves and fears unravel, celebrate the space we gain:

there's a place for deepest dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the Spirit's lively scheming there is always room to spare!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(unison, from RCL Prayers)*

God of all who wander in the wilderness, you go before us as beacon and guide. You call us by name, O God, and in your sight we find ourselves blessed; we cannot comprehend the depths of your love. Grant that as we glimpse your boundless compassion, we may respond with gratitude and generosity. Accompany us through these anxious and uncertain times, sustain us through discouragement and despair, and bring us home to the land of goodness and peace. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

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

The Lord Is My Light

The Lord is my light
My light and salvation
In God I trust
In God I trust

SCRIPTURE READINGS

Exodus 33:12-23

Moses said to the Lord, "See, you have said to me, 'Bring up this people'; but you have not let me know whom you will send with me. Yet you have said, 'I know you by name, and you have also found favor in my sight.' Now if I have found favor in your sight, show me your ways, so that I may know you and find favor in your sight. Consider too that this nation is your people." He said, "My presence will go with you, and I will give you rest." And he said to him, "If your presence will not go, do not carry us up from here. For how shall it be known that I have found favor in your sight, I and your people, unless you go with us? In this way, we shall be distinct, I and your people, from every people on the face of the earth."

The Lord said to Moses, "I will do the very thing that you have asked; for you have found favor in my sight, and I know you by name." Moses said, "Show me your glory, I pray." And he said, "I will make all my goodness pass before you, and will proclaim before you the name, 'The Lord', and I will be gracious to whom I will be gracious, and will show mercy on whom I will show mercy. But," he said, "you cannot see my face; for no one shall see me and live." And the Lord continued, "See, there is a place by me where you shall stand on the rock; and while my glory passes by I will put you in a cleft of the rock, and I will

cover you with my hand until I have passed by; then I will take away my hand, and you shall see my back; but my face shall not be seen.”

Matthew 22:15-22

Then the Pharisees went and plotted to entrap him in what he said. So they sent their disciples to him, along with the Herodians, saying, “Teacher, we know that you are sincere, and teach the way of God in accordance with truth, and show deference to no one; for you do not regard people with partiality. Tell us, then, what you think. Is it lawful to pay taxes to the emperor, or not?” But Jesus, aware of their malice, said, “Why are you putting me to the test, you hypocrites? Show me the coin used for the tax.” And they brought him a denarius. Then he said to them, “Whose head is this, and whose title?” They answered, “The emperor’s.” Then he said to them, “Give therefore to the emperor the things that are the emperor’s, and to God the things that are God’s.” When they heard this, they were amazed; and they left him and went away.

SPECIAL MUSIC

MEDITATION *"Image and Likeness"*
 Rev. Rob Benson

HYMN *This Little Light of Mine*

This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
This light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No! I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go, I'm gonna let it shine
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING *(by Thom Shuman)*

Leader: Go forth, filled with God's grace.

People: We will cradle others in God's peace.

Leader: Go forth, with words that can transform the world.

People: We will go to speak up for those who are not heard.

Leader: Go forth, bearing the Light of God.

People: We will go into the shadows, with God's hope to light the way.

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