



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

February 21, 2021

10:00 AM

First Sunday in Lent

PRELUDE

Robin Ann Barron

SILENT REFLECTION (*Cheryl Lawrie*)

i just realized
that in my imagination
the wilderness is always somewhere else;
a foreign landscape i actively have to enter
in the act of being faithful.

truthfully,
the wilderness is always where i am
right now
and faith is the courage to stay with it
when i'd rather pretend i am
anywhere else.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Kathe and Al Simons in celebration of their 46th wedding anniversary.

- **There is a need for volunteers** to be greeters and liturgists, and to provide special music ... contact Cristy if you'd like to help
- **Offering envelopes are available.** Contact the office at 288-3280
- **Morning prayer** Tues 8:30am, Evening prayer Thurs 7pm - FB Live
- **Open Table Tuesday, @4-6pm:** takeout / delivery
- **BHCC Saunter** Thursday @ 10am
- **Zoom Bible study Friday @ 11am**
- **CEVST focus groups** – [after church]
- **Lenten micropractices – file link / BHCC families FB page**
- *Need anything? Call Pastor Rob @ 266-9026.*

INTROIT

O Day of Rest and Gladness (verse 1)

O day of rest and gladness, O day of joy and light,
O balm of care and sadness, most beautiful, most bright;
on thee the high and lowly before th' eternal throne,
sing "Holy, holy, holy" to the great Three in One.

CALL TO WORSHIP *(by Gill LeFevre)*

Leader: As darkness gives way to light, and winter to fresh beginnings,

People: We come to be reminded of God's love.

Leader: Like the green shoots of renewed life, stirring beneath the soil,

People: We welcome an awakening of God's presence in our lives.

Leader: In this season of reflection and repentance,

People: We affirm our identity, we claim our security, as beloved children of God.

HYMN

Like the Murmur of the Dove's Song

Like the murmur of the dove's song,
like the challenge of her flight,
like the vigor of the wind's rush,
like the new flame's eager might:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

To the members of Christ's Body,
to the branches of the Vine,
to the Church, God's hands incarnate,
to her midst as gift and sign:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

With the healing of division,
with the ceaseless voice of prayer,
with the power of love and witness,
with the peace beyond compare:
come, Holy Spirit, come.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(from Christian Aid)*

led by Danie Hahn

God of revelation and promise, unveil your Kin-dom in our midst. Show us who we truly are: expose the illusions that distort our vision, deliver us from temptations that contort our living, open our eyes in this trying season – that your presence may renew our joy, and our joy a beacon of your shalom. Amen.

CHILDREN'S TIME

PRAYERS OF THE COMMUNITY

Joys and Concerns

Text prayer requests in the chat box.

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer *(using 'sins')*

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. 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

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Precious Lord, take my hand
Lead me on, let me stand;
I am tired, I am weak, I am worn.
Through the storm, through the night
Lead me on to the light -
Take my hand, precious Lord, lead me home.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

led by Danie Hahn

Psalm 25:1-10

To you, O LORD, I lift up my soul. O my God, in you I trust; do not let me be put to shame; do not let my enemies exult over me. Do not let those who wait for you be put to shame; let them be ashamed who are wantonly treacherous.

Make me to know your ways, O LORD; teach me your paths. Lead me in your truth, and teach me, for you are the God of my salvation; for you I wait all day long. Be mindful of your mercy, O LORD, and of your steadfast love, for they have been from of old. Do not remember the sins of my youth or my transgressions; according to your steadfast love remember me, for your goodness' sake, O LORD!

Good and upright is the LORD; therefore God instructs sinners in the way. God leads the humble in what is right, and teaches the humble God's way. All the paths of the LORD are steadfast love and faithfulness, for those who keep God's covenant and decrees.

Mark 1:9-15

In those days Jesus came from Nazareth of Galilee and was baptized by John in the Jordan. And just as he was coming up out of the water, he saw the heavens torn apart and the Spirit descending like a dove on him. And a voice came from heaven, "You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased."

And the Spirit immediately drove him out into the wilderness. He was in the wilderness forty days, tempted by Satan; and he was with the wild beasts; and the angels waited on him. Now after John was arrested, Jesus came to Galilee, proclaiming the good news of God, and saying, "The time is fulfilled, and the kingdom of God has come near; repent, and believe in the good news."

SPECIAL MUSIC

Bradley Stager

MEDITATION

Into the Woods
Rev. Robert S. Benson

HYMN

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
In cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
There's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
In our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity,
In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
Unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING *(by Joanna Harader)*

Whatever wilderness the Spirit has brought you to:
walk in boldness, as a beloved child of God
walk in peace, under the shelter of the Most High
walk in faith, knowing Christ walks with you.

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

Robin Ann Barron