



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

July 18, 2021

Eight Sunday after Pentecost

10:00 AM

PRELUDE

SILENT REFLECTION *(by Adrienne Clarkson)*

Each of us is carving a stone, erecting a column, or cutting a piece of stained glass in the construction of something much bigger than ourselves.

GREETING

ANNOUNCEMENTS

The flowers this morning are given by Marjorie Beam and Crystal Dow in loving memory of their sister, Baby Sharon.

Special Thanks to Amy Burrell, our Liturgist today, and to Pat and Mike DiZazzo, staffing the Welcome Table.

- **Welcome table helpers / liturgists needed** - sign up on the whiteboard or contact Paul in the church office
- **Parking permits** are available at the welcome table or during church office hours
- **Human Water Balloon Battleship** – Sunday, July 18 @ 3:00, weather permitting
- **Morning prayer** Tues 8:30am, FB live or in-person
- **Open Table Tuesday**, @4-6pm: takeout / delivery
- **BHCC Saunter** Thursday @ **9:30 am** (note the change from 10)
- **Evening prayer** Thurs @7pm- FB Live or in-person
- **Bible study** Friday @ 11am – Zoom or in-person
- **ACMNP Sunset Worship Services** – 7:30 @ Hadley Point
- **You're invited to share your offering** in the offering plates either at the welcome table or on your way out after worship
- *Need anything? Call Pastor Rob @ 266-9026.*

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

CHOIR INTROIT

Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee, verse 1

Joyful, Joyful we adore Thee
God of glory, Lord of love
Hearts unfold like flowers before Thee
Hail Thee as the sun above
Melt the clouds of sin and sadness
Drive the dark of doubt away
Giver of immortal gladness
Fill us with the light of day

CALL TO WORSHIP *(by Roddy Hamilton)*

Leader: The Lord is my Shepherd

People: I shall not want

Leader: I seek the grace of God

People: and my cup runneth over

Leader: I seek the will of God

People: and my cup runneth over

Leader: I seek the strength of God

People: and my cup runneth over

Leader: How generous is God's love

People: so much the world cannot contain it

Leader: The Lord is my Shepherd

People: and I lack nothing

HYMN

Gather Us In

Here in this place, new light is streaming,
now is the darkness, vanished away,
see, in this space, our fears and our dreamings,
brought here to you in the light of this day.

Gather us in, the lost and forsaken;
gather us in, the blind and the lame;
call to us now, and we shall awaken,
we shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery;
we are the old, who yearn for your face,
we have been sung throughout all of history,
called to be light to the whole human race.

Gather us in, the rich and the haughty;
gather us in, the proud and the strong;
give us a heart so meek and so lowly,
give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water,
here we will take the bread of new birth,
here you shall call your sons and your daughters,
call us anew to be salt for the earth.

Give us to drink the wine of compassion,
give us to eat, the bread that is you;
nourish us well, and teach us to fashion
lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Not in the dark of buildings confining,
not in some heaven light years away,
but here in this space, the new light is shining,
now is the kingdom, now is the day.

Gather us in, and hold us forever;
gather us in, and make us your own;
gather us in, all peoples together,
fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Caring and Gracious God, you are the shepherd who gathers us together today to celebrate with grateful thanksgiving the community in which we live. We are nourished by its diversity, brought about by the unique gifts each person contributes. Be with us in this time of worship and encourage us to never cease welcoming the strangers we meet and accepting the gifts they bring. Grant that they will enrich our lives and will be a reminder of the joy that comes when all will be one in you. 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 '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

Sweet Hour of Prayer (verse 2)

Sweet hour of prayer, Sweet hour of prayer
The joys I feel, the bliss I share
Of those whose anxious spirits burn
With strong desires for Thy return
With such I hasten to the place
Where God my Savior shows such grace
And gladly take my station there
And wait for Thee, sweet hour of prayer.

SCRIPTURE READINGS

2nd Samuel 7:1-14a

Now when the king was settled in his house, and the LORD had given him rest from all his enemies around him, the king said to the prophet Nathan, "See now, I am living in a house of cedar, but the ark of God stays in a tent."

Nathan said to the king, "Go, do all that you have in mind; for the LORD is with you." But that same night the word of the LORD came to Nathan: Go and tell my servant David: Thus says the LORD: Are you the one to build me a house to live in? I have not lived in a house since the day I brought up the people of Israel from Egypt to this day, but I have been moving about in a tent and a tabernacle. Wherever I have moved about among all the people of Israel, did I ever speak a word with any of the tribal leaders of Israel, whom I commanded to shepherd my people Israel, saying, "Why have you not built me a house of cedar?"

Now therefore thus you shall say to my servant David: Thus says the LORD of hosts: I took you from the pasture, from following the sheep to be prince over my people Israel; and I have been with you wherever you went, and have cut off all your enemies from before you; and I will make for you a great name, like the name of the great ones of the earth. And I will appoint a place for my people Israel and will plant them, so that they may live in their own place, and be disturbed no more; and evildoers shall afflict them no more, as formerly, from the time that I appointed judges over my people Israel; and I will give you rest from all your enemies. Moreover the LORD declares to you that the LORD will make you a house. When your days are fulfilled and you lie down with your ancestors, I will raise up your offspring after you, who shall come forth from your body, and I will establish his kingdom.

He shall build a house for my name, and I will establish the throne of his kingdom forever. I will be a father to him, and he shall be a son to me.

Mark 6: 30-34, 50-53

The apostles gathered around Jesus, and told him all that they had done and taught. He said to them, "Come away to a deserted place all by yourselves and rest a while." For many were coming and going, and they had no leisure even to eat. And they went away in the boat to a deserted place by themselves.

Now many saw them going and recognized them, and they hurried there on foot from all the towns and arrived ahead of them. As he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them, because they were like sheep without a shepherd; and he began to teach them many things. When they had crossed over, they came to land at Gennesaret and moored the boat. When they got out of the boat, people at once recognized him, and rushed about that whole region and began to bring the sick on mats to wherever they heard he was. And wherever he went, into villages or cities or farms, they laid the sick in the marketplaces, and begged him that they might touch even the fringe of his cloak; and all who touched it were healed.

HYMN*Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart*

Spirit of God, descend upon my heart,
wean it from sin, through all its pulses move.
Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,
and make me love you as I ought to love.

I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
no angel visitant, no opening skies;
but take the dimness of my soul away.

Did you not bid us love you, God and King,
love you with all our heart and strength and mind?
I see the cross there teach my heart to cling.
O let me seek you and O let me find!

Teach me to feel that you are always nigh;
teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
to check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
teach me the patience of unceasing prayer.

Teach me to love you as your angels love,
one holy passion filling all my frame:
the fullness of the heaven-descended Dove;
my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

MEDITATION*“Reconstructing Houses of Cedar”**Alyson Anderson***SPECIAL MUSIC***BHCC Choir***THE OFFERING*****Doxology**

Praise God from whom all blessings flow
Praise God all creatures here below
Praise God above ye heavenly host;
Creator, Christ and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***Prayer of Dedication** (by Mary Petrina Boyd)

God of love, you abide with us; you provide for our needs and guide us in your ways. Out of gratitude for your care, we entrust our gifts to your purposes, both near and far. Use them for your work of caring, that all may feast at the table of abundance, walk without fear, and drink deeply from the cup of compassion.
Amen.

HYMN

The Reign of Love

Hark! Hear the voices singing
of the light of peace within
Voices joyfully ringing
This day the reign of love begins

*Refrain: So sing out, over and over
Sing out over again
Sing out, over and over
this day the reign of love begins*

See all the hands a-holding
Sharing the light of peace within
Truth and grace unfolding
This day the reign of love begins

*Refrain: So hold hands, over and over
Hold hands over again
Hold hands, over and over
this day the reign of love begins*

And now forth the people are marching
to spread the light of peace within
their path is a rainbow arching
This day the reign of love begins

*Refrain: So march forth, over and over
march forth over again
march forth, over and over
this day the reign of love begins*

To give love is the sowing
of the light of peace within
The soul of humanity growing
This day the reign of love begins

*Refrain: So give love, over and over
give love over again
give love, over and over
this day the reign of love begins*

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING *(by Terri)*

Redeeming God: you have made us one with your saints in heaven and on earth; help us see your presence burning in the hearts of others; unite us in a fellowship of love and prayer; renew our courage to respond to the needs of the world, strengthen us to follow you – to be your hands and heart in the world; enable us to be living witnesses to your grace and mercy. This we pray through the love your son, Jesus the Christ.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE *Make Us One*

Make us one, Lord, make us one;
Holy Spirit, make us one.
Let your love flow so the world will know
we are one in you.
(repeat)

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE