



THE BAR HARBOR CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

**United Church of Christ
29 Mount Desert Street
Bar Harbor, Maine 04609**

May 15, 2022

10:00 AM

Fifth Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

SILENT REFLECTION *(by Lynn Park)*

Take the time to pray
it is the sweet oil that eases the hinge into the garden
so the doorway can swing open easily.
You can always go there.

GREETING & GRATITUDE

Special Thanks to: Chloe Bolt, Kathe Simons, Al Simons, Steve Grubb, Cristy Benson and Jim Brown, worship technicians.

**The flowers today are given by Deb Wade and Bob Breen
in memory of loved ones.**

- **Sign up to help** w/ welcome table / liturgist on the whiteboard
- **Morning prayer** Tues @8:30, via BHCC Facebook live, or in person.
- **Evening prayer** Weds @ 6:30pm via BHCC Facebook live, or in person.
- **BHCC Saunter Thursdays** - meet at the church @ 10
- **BHCC Bible study** Friday @ 11: in-person or on Zoom
- TODAY ! **Celtic fiddler Sean Heely** will provide special music for our worship service, and he'll give a concert @ BHCC @4pm this afternoon – more info in Chimes and on our church Facebook page.
- **You're invited to share your offering** in the offering plates either at the welcome table or on your way out after worship
- **Pilgrim Lodge is ON!!** Check out the awesome summer offerings for all ages at <https://www.pilgrimlodge.org>
- Need anything? Contact Pastor Rob at 266-9026.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

- Please sign up in the parlor (or contact the church office) to serve as Liturgist or at the Welcome Table.
- Welcome Sean Heely and Beth Patterson! Thank you for providing special music for our service this morning.
- Sean & Beth will be here in concert @**4pm this afternoon**: \$20 / person, kids under 12 free, and college students free, with ID
- Anna & Emily Ellis fundraiser for Ukraine

LIGHTING OF THE CANDLES

INTROIT

Orthodox Alleluia

BHCC Choir

CALL TO WORSHIP *(by Rev. Mindi)*

Jesus commands us: love one another.

As Christ has loved us, so we ought to have love for one another.

By this, everyone will know we are his disciples:

By our love.

Come, let us join our hearts together in worship:

Worshipping God by cultivating our love.

Our first hymn is *In The Bulb There Is A Flower* (blue S&S p. 87)

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.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION *(by Thom Shuman)*

Vision-Giving God, when you put bandages on skinned knees; when you hold the hand of a teenager grieving unrequited love; when you wipe away the tears of parents at graduation day: you show us your new creation. Brother to the vulnerable: when you embrace the world's outcasts; when you stay a little longer with those we would rush past; when you will not take sides in our petty games: you show us the new earth. Holy Spirit, when you lead us from despair to joy; when mourning becomes memory; when pain is found only in dusty history books: you show us the new heaven. God in Community, Holy in One, inspire us again, renew our spirits, and hold us in love. In your name we pray - Amen.

GLORIA PATRI

Glory be to the Almighty,
to Jesus Christ,
and to the Holy Ghost.
As it was in the beginning
Is now and ever shall be
World without end.
Amen, amen.

RECEPTION OF NEW MEMBERS

Congregation:

We welcome you with joy in the common life of this church. We covenant to equip one another for the work to which God calls us: striving for peace and justice, protecting and restoring the integrity of God's creation, and bringing the light of God's hope to the world. May the grace of Christ and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit surround and sustain us always.

SONG *Blest be the tie that binds, verse 1 (red Pilgrim Hymnal # 272)*

Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.
Amen.

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

Alleluia (sing once through)

Text: 'Alleluia' sung 8 times

SCRIPTURE READINGS

A reading from the book of Revelation, chapter 21, verses 1-6

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, the new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband.

And I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, "See, the home of God is among mortals. He will dwell with them as their God; they will be his peoples, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe every tear from their eyes. Death will be no more; mourning and crying and pain will be no more, for the first things have passed away."

And the one who was seated on the throne said, "See, I am making all things new." Also he said, "Write this, for these words are trustworthy and true." Then he said to me, "It is done! I am the Alpha and the Omega, the beginning and the end. To the thirsty I will give water as a gift from the spring of the water of life.

A reading from the Gospel of John, chapter 13, verses 31-35

When he had gone out, Jesus said, "Now the Son of Man has been glorified, and God has been glorified in him. If God has been glorified in him, God will also glorify him in himself and will glorify him at once.

Little children, I am with you only a little longer. You will look for me; and as I said before so now I say to you, 'Where I am going, you cannot come.' I give you a new commandment, that you love one another. Just as I have loved you, you also should love one another. By this everyone will know that you are my disciples, if you have love for one another.

MEDITATION

“Renewal”

Rev. Robert S. Benson

SPECIAL MUSIC

Sean Heely & Beth Patterson

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 *Thom Shuman*)

You bless us in so many ways and with so many gifts, Loving God, and our hearts open in praise. We offer today our gifts and our lives, that through us, those in need may be fed, clothed, healed, restored, and graced. In Jesus' name, we pray. Amen.

HYMN

They'll Know We Are Christians By Our Love (blue S &S p. 197)

We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
We are one in the Spirit, we are one in the Lord;
And we pray that all unity will one day be restored.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
We will walk with each other, we will walk hand in hand;
And together we'll spread the news that God is in our land.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
We will work with each other, we will work side by side;
And we'll guard each one's dignity and save each one's pride.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

All praise to the Father, from whom all things come;
And all praise to Christ Jesus, His only Son.
And all praise to the Spirit who makes us one.

Refrain: And they'll know we are Christians by our love, by our love,
yes, they'll know we are Christians by our love.

BENEDICTION AND BLESSING *(by Terri)*

Holy God, before time you named us; through time you redeem us. You call us,
precious in your sight:
may we love as you love.

Holy One, through turbulent waters hold strong the fragile and weak:
may we love as you love.

Gracious God, may the fruits of our lives be food for the hungry, bread, clothing,
shelter, fire, water, Word:
may we love as you love.

Leader: We go in peace to love and serve the Lord.
ALL: Thanks be to God.

SUNG RESPONSE *Shalom Cheverim*

Shalom Cheverim, Shalom Cheverim, Shalom, Shalom
Til we meet again, til we meet again, Shalom, Shalom

CARRYING THE LIGHT OF CHRIST INTO THE WORLD

POSTLUDE