

Sunday, October 13, 2024

Paul Fenton, Leading Worship Fred Ogmundson, Guest Preacher

First Congregational Church Wilmot, New Hampshire

No matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome!

We are an Open & Affirming and Racial Justice United Church of Christ Congregation Gathered in 1829

ORDER of WORSHIP October 13, 2024

PRELUDE MUSIC

Donna Reade, Music Director

WORDS OF WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

GREEN MOMENT

Allan MacDonald

BRINGING FORTH THE LIGHT OF CHRIST

A TIME OF SILENCE TO CENTER OURSELVES

Our worship service takes place on N'dakinna, the traditional ancestral homeland of the Abenaki, Penacook and Wabanaki Peoples past and present. We acknowledge and honor with gratitude the land and waterways and the people who have stewarded N'dakinna throughout the generations.

*CALL TO WORSHIP

It is right for us to praise God and keep our promises to God. Our faults defeat us, but God forgives our faults. So let us thank God for our many blessings, and worship God earnestly in this hour.

*UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Holy God, We hear echoes of your Wisdom in Christ Jesus, The One you sent to dwell in our midst and lead us to abundant life. Keep us alert to the call to follow, ready to respond with justice and joy in your holy moment, which is always now.

*OPENING HYMN

"Morning Has Broken"

Chalice 53

1 Morning has broken like the first morning, blackbird has spoken like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning!

Praise for them, springing fresh from the Word!

2 Sweet the rain's new fall sunlit from heaven, like the first dewfall on the first grass. Praise for the sweetness of the wet garden, sprung in completeness where God's feet pass. 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, praise every morning, God's recreation of the new day!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (In Unison)

Though we may delight to be here, together, in worship, let us remember that the Prophet Amos offers us a word from God to challenge any complacent comfort. Our praise, our worship, our singing, however beautiful and heartfelt, must be accompanied by the work of justice in community. What pleases God is to have justice pour from our lives like waters, and righteousness from our work, like an ever-flowing stream

REFLECTION IN SILENCE

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

God's grace flows through our lives, refreshing and making all things new. Let this grace flow from us as justice and righteousness, That our lives and work may bless our world. God hears our prayers. Through Jesus Christ we are forgiven.

ANTHEM "In the Bulb There is a Flower" Choir

SCRIPTURE Hebrews 4:12-16

MESSAGE "Meditation on an Apple Tree" Fred Ogmundson

*HYMN "For the Fruit of All Creation" Chalice 714

1 For the fruit of all creation, thanks be to God; for the gifts to every nation, thanks be to God; for the plowing, sowing, reaping, silent growth while we are sleeping, future needs in earth's safekeeping, thanks be to God.

2 In the just reward of labor, God's will is done; in the help we give our neighbor, God's will is done; in our worldwide task of caring for the hungry and despairing, in the harvests we are sharing, God's will is done.

3 For the harvests of the Spirit, thanks be to God; for the good we all inherit, thanks be to God; for the wonders that astound us, for the truths that still confound us, most of all that love has found us, thanks be to God.

MORNING PRAYER

Peoples' Prayers and Pastoral Prayer followed by The Lord's Prayer

Our * 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen

*We have come to know God by many different names and images. Please use the one which speaks from your heart today. (e.g. Father, Mother, Creator, God...)

Prayer Response "Restle

"Restless Weaver" Chalice #658 (vs 4)

Restless Weaver, still conceiving new life now and yet to be. Binding all your vast creation in one living tapestry: You have called us to be weavers. Let your love Guide all we do. With your Reign of Peace our pattern, we will weave your world anew.

THE GIVING OF OUR GIFTS

Offertory Invitation and Offertory

*Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God all creatures here below; Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

*Prayer of Dedication (In Unison)

Gracious God, accept these gifts we offer to proclaim your presence as light in a dark world. Use our talents to help set others free. And may all things which we do in your name prosper under the guidance of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN "Let There Be Peace on Earth" Chalice #677

Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.
Let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God as our Father, children all are we.
Let us walk with each other in perfect harmony.
Let peace begin with me; let this be the moment now.
With every step I take, let this be my solemn vow;
To take each moment, and live each moment in peace eternally.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it begin with me.

*CLOSING CIRCLE & COMMISSIONING ONE ANOTHER

Go into the world to serve God with gladness; be of good courage; hold fast to that which is good; render to no one evil for evil; strengthen the faint-hearted; support the weak; help the afflicted; honor all people; love and serve God, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit.

SUNG RESPONSE "Spirit of the Living God"

Chalice #259

Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall afresh on me.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Acknowledgement: We are grateful to Fred Ogmundson for bringing our message to us today and to Paul Fenton for leading our worship service.

Upcoming Events and Meetings This Week*

Sunday October 13 10:00 am –Worship in person & on zoom

11:15 – Coffee Hour

Tuesday, October 15 2:30 pm – Justice and Witness

Wednesday, October 16 4:00 pm – Choir Practice

Thursday October 17 12:00 pm – Senior Luncheon

6 pm – AA meeting in Fellowship Hall 7:00 pm – Green Team meets via zoom

Sunday, October 20 10:00 am –Worship in person & on zoom

11:15 am – Coffee Hour

Staff and Leadership

Ministers Members and Friends of the Congregation
Music Director: Donna Reade
Moderator Charlie Foss

^{*}For additional calendar events check the Google Calendar at Wilmotucc.org

Clerk Religious Education Director Deacon of the Month Bob Evans Nancy Allenby Michiko Yamaguchi

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