### For the health and safety of all during this pandemic:

- Please wear your mask during worship.
- Keep 6 feet away from others at all times.
- The nursery and the office are closed until further notice.
- We ask that you refrain from singing while you are here.
- Any time before Joys and Concerns, you may text an item to Gary at 651-387-4095. Please list:
  - Your first name
  - o Subject or person you are happy about or concerned for
  - Brief description of your request

Gary will read it aloud during that part of the service, but it will be deleted from the recording of the service before it is posted on our website.

- Fellowship time is canceled until further notice.
- We have put in place preventative measures to reduce the spread of COVID-19, but we cannot guarantee that you or family members will not become infected with COVID-19.

# Welcome to Peace Community of Faith

A Progressive Community... A Reconciling Congregation... A Place of Peace

A Congregation of the United Methodist Church Communing with God's Presence

October 25, 2020 + + + + + 10:00 am

Peace is a progressive, multi-generational community of faith called to engage our world through the power of God's love.

We seek to accomplish this by respectfully:

Affirming that all people are a gift of God's love.

Nurturing ourselves and inviting all into God's love and peace through eclectic worship, exploring questions of faith and addressing challenging issues of our day.

Inspiring hope through community action, advocacy and service, taking our faith into the world together.

## **Gathering Together in Our Faith**

Gathering Music: See insert

Words of Welcome and Instruction – Gary Walpole

Breath Prayer

Invitation of the Bell for Noble Silence

For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 1 – Words: Fred Pratt Greene
Tune: AR HYD Y NOS – traditional Welsh tune, arr. David Tidball

A Word of Grace

There is amazing grace, even when the voices that cry out for justice are silenced, when we place ourselves to hear the voices of those who are being harmed; even when violence seems to be central to the call for change, when we place ourselves in solidarity with people of peace working for justice.

For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 2

There is amazing grace,

even when our leaders sow division,

when we place ourselves in solidarity with those seeking to build a wider, more inclusive community;

even when our leaders sow lies,

when we place ourselves in the midst of the flock of the Good Shepherd whose words of truth bring Life.

For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 3

Opening Mindfulness Practice: Sitting with Christ, the Good Shepherd

Music: Listen in the Silence – Words and Music by Bernadette Farrell

When life becomes a pandemic of violence,

I hear the voice of Loving Kindness so I may transform my life with its peace.

When life is a pandemic of dis-ease,

I hear the voice of Nurturing Care so I may transform my life with its health.

When life is a pandemic of racial division,

I hear the voice of Compassion so I may transform my life with its wholeness.

When I hear the voice of Loving Kindness, Nurturing Care and Compassion, my life transforms the world with peace, health and wholeness.

Music: Listen in the Silence – Words and Music by Bernadette Farrell

## **Engaging Our Faith**

Reflection I - Come Like a Child

Music: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us - Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp/Music: William B. Bradbury

Sacred Story: John 10:11-21a

See insert

Music: Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us - Words: Dorothy A. Thrupp/Music: William B. Bradbury

Reflection II - Growing in Christ

When Goodness Divides - Pastor Gary Walpole

Musical Reflection: Are Shepherds Good? - Words: Brian Wren/Music: Carlton R. Young

## **Grounding Our Faith**

Joys and Concerns

Hallowed - from He Lived the Good Life by Richard Wilson - arr. David Tidball

### Held in God's Loving Embrace

Hold us in your loving Embrace, Power of all Life. As you move and dance in the universe and our planet, dance our souls into life.

We offer ourselves and all we have to bringing about your just peace. Give us vision to live with courage to do what is compassionate and good.

Most of all we ask for Love that we may see ourselves, all people, and the world as beautiful, fragile and worthy.

Loving God, we offer to you the prayers of our hearts and the stewardship of our lives that you may use them to transform us by your love and grace, your justice and peace.

We pray in the name of the One who is our companion toward wholeness, Jesus who is the Christ.

#### Hallowed

#### Christ Prayer

Sacred Spirit, Life Giver, Justice Maker; your holy breath continues to sustain us and our universe. Your will is love. Give us daily that which nourishes peace. Heal us through forgiveness that reconciles. Lead us from arrogance to humility. Deliver us from participating in evil. May your governing grace guide us. May your desire for the common good inspire us. And may the power of your grace infuse us, always and everywhere. Amen.

> Adapted from *The Lord's Praver* for modern and inclusive language by Gary Walpole

#### Hallowed

### Engaging the Gifts of Life

Awakened to the suffering caused by destructive leadership, I am committed to openness, non-discrimination, and non-violence in my life, nation, and world.

I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Aware of Life's gifts that proclaim that my life is better when everyone's life is better, I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Aware of the power of leadership that brings safety and protects all, I am committed to consider the lives of those who are harmed by the decisions I and others make.

I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

*In the Singing* – a symbolic communion with gestures

Words: Shirley Erena Murray - Music: Carlton R. Young

## Taking Our Faith into the World

Closing Music: As We Depart for the Towns and Cities – Words: John Thornburg

Music: Jackson Henry - arr. David Tidball

Benediction: "What are We to Say"

What are we to say, except that it is not our wisdom alone which will make sense of all that is happening today, but a wisdom which knows the hearts of us all.

What are we to say, except that it is not our hearts alone that will give us strength and

courage, but the hearts of those with whom we share community and faith.

What are we to say, except that it is not our will alone which will see us through the confusion and pain of these days, but the will of the Risen One whose ways are compassion and comfort, reconciliation and peace, forgiveness and understanding. Spirit of Life, when we are bewildered and the world is all noise and confusion around us and we don't know which way to go and are frightened, go with us.

Spirit of the Risen Christ, take our hand and give us the strength of grace when we are tired and life seems to be dying all around us, so that we may know the power of life in the midst of death.

Spirit of Renewing Hope, step forward with us so that, through faith, we may do today that which will bring life tomorrow.

Spirit of Life, Spirit of the Risen Christ, and Spirit of Hope, send us forward to transform the world by the power of Love.

Adapted from A Service of Prayer, Sanctuary, Support The Federated Church of Sandwich, Center Sandwich, NH

#### Closing Music:

As We Depart for the Towns and Cities – Words: John Thornburg

Music: Jackson Henry – arr. David Tidball

What a Friend We Have in Jesus – Music: Charles C. Converse, arr. Phillip Keveren David Tidball, Music Ministries Coordinator and Worship Accompanist

### As you leave this place:

- Take this bulletin home to use and recycle.
- Please remain seated until ushers guide you out (remember to maintain appropriate social distancing!)
- If you wish to be part of the welcome for our online recorded service, an usher will direct you to a designated area where you may wave and greet people in front of the camera.
- Contact us (651-484-2226) if you develop COVID symptoms within two weeks of being with us today.

Announcements and calendar information are on our new website, **peaceumc.com.**Current and recent video worship experiences are also posted there.

Check it out!

#### Mindfulness Practice Prayer: Hearing the Shepherd's Voice

Find a comfortable place to sit, place your feet solidly on the ground and your hands comfortably in your lap. Quietly take deep breaths in and out until tension and anxiety leave your body. When you are relaxed, pray this meditation prayer:

When life becomes a pandemic of violence, I hear the voice of Loving Kindness so I may transform my life with its peace.

When life is a pandemic of dis-ease, I hear the voice of Nurturing Care so I may transform my life with its health.

When life is a pandemic of racial division, I hear the voice of Compassion so I may transform my life with its wholeness.

When I hear the voice of Loving Kindness, Nurturing Care and Compassion, my life transforms the world with peace, health and wholeness.

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