

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

November 1, 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: *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Robert Lowry, arr. Janet Vogt

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

Life is fragile;

**so we experience suffering and death,
so we experience pain and anxiety,
so we experience despair and brokenness,
even so, grace will find a way.**

For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 2

Life is fragile;

**even so, we experience value and dignity,
even so, we experience worth and beauty,
even so, we experience hope and resurrection,
since grace will find a way.**

For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 3

Opening Mindfulness Practice: Sitting with Christ, the Resurrection and Life
Music: *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Robert Lowry, arr. David Tidball

May I be peaceful, happy, and light in body and spirit.
May I be safe and free from injury.
May I be free from anger, afflictions, fear, and anxiety.

May I learn to look at myself with the eyes of understanding and love.
May I be able to recognize and touch the seeds of joy and happiness in myself.
May I learn to identify and see the sources of anger, craving, and delusion in myself.

May I know how to nourish the seeds of joy in myself every day.
May I be able to live fresh, solid, and free.
May I be free from attachment and aversion, but not indifferent.

May I be able to truly love myself.

Music: *How Can I Keep from Singing?* Robert Lowry, arr. David Tidball

Engaging Our Faith

Reflection I - Come Like a Child

Music: *How Firm a Foundation* - Words: "K" in Rippon's A Selection of Hymns, 1787
Music: Early USA Melody – stanza 1

Sacred Story: John 11:20-32

20 Martha heard Jesus was coming near Bethany and went out to meet him. Mary remained in the house.

21 Martha said, "Master, if you'd been here, my brother wouldn't have died.

22 Even now, I know that whatever you ask, God will give you."

23 Jesus said, "Your brother will be raised up."

24 Martha replied, "I know that he will be raised up in the resurrection at the last day."

25 Jesus said to her "I am, right now, Resurrection and Life. The one who believes in me, even though he or she dies, will live. 26 And everyone living and believing in me will not die in this age. Do you believe this?"

27 "Yes, Master. All along I have believed that you are the Christ, the Chosen Heir of God, who comes into the world."

28 After saying this, she went to her sister Mary and whispered in her ear, "The Teacher is here and is asking for you."

29 The moment she heard that, she jumped up and ran out to him. Jesus had not yet entered Bethany but was still at the place where Martha had met him. 31 When her sympathizing Jewish friends saw Mary run off, they followed her, thinking she was on her way to the tomb to weep there.

32 Mary came to where Jesus was waiting and fell at his feet, saying, "Master, if only you had been here, my brother would not have died."

Music: *How Firm a Foundation* - Words: "K" in Rippon's A Selection of Hymns, 1787
Music: Early USA Melody – stanza 5

Reflection II - Growing in Christ
When Love Prevails – Pastor Gary Walpole

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 Prayer*
for modern and inclusive language by Gary Walpole

Hallowed

Engaging the Gifts of Life

Awakened to see that suffering is caused by my denial of death,

I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Aware that life is beautiful, fragile and worthy,

I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

Aware that love never ends,

I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.

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

Staff of Peace United Methodist Church

Pastor – Gary Walpole 651-387-4095

gary@peaceumc.com

Administrative Assistant–Cindy Tidball

admin@peaceumc.com 651-484-2226

Music Ministries Coordinator and Worship

Accompanist–David Tidball dave@peaceumc.com

651-484-2226 ext 12 or 651-633-6697

Custodian–Patavi Robinson

Prayer Chain–Carol Mills 651-490-5757

carolbrownmills@earthlink.net

Good Neighbor Meal–Pam Jacobson

pjjacobson22@gmail.com or 651-214-7701