

## 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 8, 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: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* - Ralph Vaughan Williams, arr. Lynn M. Trapp

Words of Welcome – 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  
that shows us a way to walk  
when life seems dark,  
that allows us to discern truth  
when life seems full of lies.

*For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 2*

There is amazing grace  
that is a way of life  
when it seems life is slowly draining away,  
that is a way of truth  
when it seems death lies close at hand.

*For the Fruits of This Creation, stanza 3*

Opening Mindfulness Practice: Sitting with Christ, the Way, Truth and Life  
Music: *Breath Prayer* – piano arrangement by David Tidball

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace. (breathe in)  
When I breathe out, I'll breathe out love. (breathe out)

Music: *Breath Prayer* – piano arrangement by David Tidball

## **Engaging Our Faith**

Reflection I - Come Like a Child

Music: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* - Words: George Herbert  
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, adapted by E. Harold Geer, arr. David Tidball

Sacred Story: John 14:1-27  
See insert

Music: *Come, My Way, My Truth, My Life* - Words: George Herbert  
Music: Ralph Vaughan Williams, adapted by E. Harold Geer, arr. David Tidball

Reflection II - Growing in Christ  
The Way We Walk – Pastor Gary Walpole

Musical Reflection: *Breath of God, Breath of Peace*  
Words: Adam M. L. Tice - Music: Sally Ann Morris

## **Grounding Our Faith**

*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 my decisions are nested deep within who I am, what I have received from my ancestors, and what I have been taught during my life, I am committed to practicing a new way of walking my life that brings peace and justice for myself and others.

**I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.**

Aware that true openness and inclusion begins with my own willingness to look deeply at my own faults and frailty, I am committed to listening to my own pain that keeps me from living a full and joyful life.

**I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.**

Aware that life involves growing pains, I am committed to looking graciously and deeply within myself as I seek an understanding of my own bias and exclusion.

**I place my faith in God through Jesus Christ.**

Music: *in the Singing* - Words: Shirley Erena Murray – Music: Carlton R. Young – stanza 1

#### Communion Prayer

Spirit of Life, you have danced through the universe even before the beginning. You have spun and swirled our world into existence. In due time, the music of your dance gave birth to our ancestors and all other life on this interconnected planet. **We come to give ourselves whole-heartedly to Life, to become willing participants in its grace-filled unfolding. We come because we are Life's children and want to dance the way Life dances.**

Come, all who hunger and thirst for God's love. Come, you who are yearning for Christ's presence. **We come, finding joy and fulfilment, as we participate in God's mission and message of delivering community-restoring justice.**

God of Life, pour out your holy Spirit upon us, and upon these which symbolize for us the bread of the field and the fruit of the vine. Let them represent for us the body of Christ and the life of Christ that we may embody for the world the justice of Christ living our lives by the peace of Christ.

**Sacred Spirit, make us one with Christ, one with each other, and one in ministry to all the world.**

Music: *in the Singing* - Words: Shirley Erena Murray – Music: Carlton R. Young – stanza 2

## **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

**Mindfulness Practice Prayer:  
*Breath Prayer***

*Our breathing is such a natural part of us that we often fail to pay attention to it. This may also be true of the ways that peace comes into our lives and of the ways that we share love with the world around us. As you practice this breath prayer meditation this week, along with paying attention to your breath, you may also, as you breathe in, pay attention to the ways that peace comes into your life, and as you breathe out, pay attention to the ways that you share your love with the world around you.*

When I breathe in, I'll breathe in peace.  
When I breathe out, I'll breath out love.

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