

South Church Concord NH



UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST

AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION  
AN EXTRAVAGANT WELCOME TO ALL

## ONLINE WORSHIP SUMMER 2020

**Pastor:** Jed Rardin

**Pianist:** Abigail Charbeneau

**Music Director:** Susan Berlenbach

**Memorial Bells Choir Director:** Carlene Ruesenberg

**Director of Christian Education:** Alison Nyhan

*Whoever you are, whatever your faith tradition, whatever creed you profess,  
whatever your age, ability, race, sexual orientation, gender expression you are  
welcome here!*

27 Pleasant Street \* Concord, NH \* 224-2521

[www.southchurchconcord.org](http://www.southchurchconcord.org)

# WE GATHER...

WORDS OF WELCOME

CENTERING MUSIC

CALL TO WORSHIP

God calls us this day to a life of courage and joy.

**With God, joy cracks through the bonds of our despair.**

With God, joy bursts forth in moments of quiet pleasure.

**With God, joy gilds the edges of even the most ordinary days.**

This is the day which our God has made;

**Let us rejoice and be glad in it.**

HYMN

PRAYER OF APPROACH

**God of the quiet places, God of the stormy seas,  
we gather together in your calming presence.**

**Silence the crashing waves of trouble in our hearts.**

**Grant us your gift of stillness, and in our stillness,**

**Remind us that you alone are God,**

**and that in your company there is peace:**

**a peace which passes all understanding. Amen.**

SINGING PRAISE

*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.*

# TO HEAR THE WORD

PRAYER FOR ILLUMINATION

**Holy God, oil the hinges of our heart's doors that they might swing gently and easily to welcome your Word into our lives.**

MUSICAL REFLECTION

READING OF SCRIPTURE

SERMON

HYMN

# TO PRAY TOGETHER

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER      *NEW ZEALAND PRAYER BOOK*

**Eternal Spirit Earth-Maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all. Loving God, in whom is heaven. The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the earth! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.**

# TO SHARE TOGETHER

Invitation and Call

My Friends, God has set the table with abundance.  
Let us share this joyful feast of the people of God.

In the United Church of Christ, there are no barriers to this table- neither gender nor race, neither background nor baptism, neither doubt nor faith, nor youth nor age, nor ability, nor status separates us from the love of God and the nurture of this community. May this common table be a rainbow flag of God's loving disposition. Come to the table, you who seek life and meaning in relationship to God and one another.

Great and gracious God, we thank you for your creation, for our lives, and the sustenance that you provide. For in you there is plenty for each and all, and in mutual love, we sustain and support one another on our walk with you.

You create the cosmos, every element, every plant and animal, and name them as your own. You provide a bounty of resources and call us to the sacred work of nurturing and sharing this beautiful, blue planet.

You liberated your people from bondage and fed them with daily manna and scripture. You raised up prophets and teachers to proclaim your justice, mercy, and peace. And still you provide us with voices of truth in leaders, artists, and teachers today.

We rejoice in your gift of Jesus Christ, who lived among us, sharing our lives; who taught the good news of your grace for all, walking and eating and drinking with those on society's margins; Jesus, who taught us that the least among us are the apple of your eye.

In the cross and resurrection, we know that your love and mercy extends to us all. There is indeed plenty good room in your kingdom, and all are welcome at this table of peace. You have gathered us as your church; may we embody your forgiveness and fidelity. With your Holy Spirit, breathe life into our service, and fire us up to be your love in the world.

### **Prayer of Consecration**

Our church community is dispersed in space, yet we are one in Christ. In our many kitchens and living rooms, let us bring forth the food and drink we set aside today for our sacrament. Let us ask God's blessing upon these and upon us and upon those who are in our prayers this morning.

**Gentle Jesus, you prepare a table for us in the threatening presence of virus.  
Anoint our hearts, bless our bread, and make our cups overflow.  
Send your Spirit of life and love, power and mercy so that this Bread may be  
broken and gathered in love, and this Cup poured out in hope. Risen Christ, live in  
us, that we may live in you. Breathe on us, that we may breathe in you. Amen.**

### **We Remember**

We remember that on the night he was betrayed, just before he was arrested and executed, Jesus sat at table with his disciples for the feast of Passover.

Jesus took the bread, and after giving thanks, he broke it and gave it to the disciples, and said, "Take, eat, this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

In the same way, Jesus took the cup also after supper; he gave it to them and said, "This cup is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

And so today, in wonder, we proclaim:

**Christ has died, Christ is risen. Christ will come again.**

### **Sharing the elements**

We are one in Christ in the bread we share. Let us receive the Bread of Heaven.

We are one in Christ in the cup we share. Let us receive the Cup of Blessing.

### **Prayer of Thanksgiving**

Thank you, God, for this meal of grace, and for Christ's love that conquers death, distance, and difference. In you alone is life abundant, not contained in human ceremony nor trapped behind walls, nor limited by space or time. Thank you for calling us into the unknown, calling us to listen and follow, to lead and be led, to feed and be fed.

Amen.

## TO RENEW COMMITMENT

### OFFERING OUR GIFTS TO GOD

Offertory

Sung Response *sung twice*

***Here are our hearts. Here are our hands.  
Here are our lives. Use them as you can.  
Show us those who hurt. Show us those in need.  
Show us how to serve. Teach us how to see.***

\*Prayer of Dedication

## TO SERVE THE WORLD

\*HYMN

\*BENEDICTION

\*PASSING OF THE PEACE

May the Peace of Christ be with you; **and also with you.**

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WORSHIP SOURCES

Call to Worship: Flames of the Spirit, pg 66, #38. Litany: Flames of the Spirit, pg 59, #8. (adapted).  
Prayer of Approach adapted from Chalice Worship p.275.

## ANNOUNCEMENTS

**MOMENT OF MISSION** During the month of August, the Faith in Action committee is asking for donations to support the UCC Strengthen the Church mission. The funds raised support leadership development, new churches, youth ministry and innovation in existing congregations. Your support will help the UCC fulfill its commitment to creating a just world for all by investing in new ministries and practices that meet the emerging needs of local communities. The UCC will grow stronger by strengthening each of its local conferences.

**RACIAL JUSTICE The March Goes On . . .** We invite members of South Church to “gather” in spirit over the summer as we study racial injustice in our culture. We’ve chosen a few simple options that will “prime the pump” for broader discussion in September. We invite you to read *How to be an Antiracist* by Ibram X. Kendi. We encourage you to watch the movie *Harriet* and the documentary *John Lewis: Good Trouble* [https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyl-GY1\\_sG0](https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=lyl-GY1_sG0)

**TUESDAY NIGHT BIBLE STUDY** Our Tuesday night Bible Study has a new link and password...  
<https://nh-dhhs.zoom.us/j/97155732846?pwd=UUJSL0dEclEvSjB5SjZlZUzYnp6dz09>  
Meeting ID: 971 5573 2846/ Password: 436054

**FAMILY PROMISE UPDATE** Family Promise was not able to secure a volunteer organization to host the week of August 2, so Temple Beth Jacob and South Church have stepped up. If you would like to provide a meal, please contact Peggy Scott at 978-258-8275 or [ps\\_scott@comcast.net](mailto:ps_scott@comcast.net) She will send you the link to the Signup Genius. If you do not feel comfortable preparing a meal, you can also donate to a Visa Gift card in any amount via the Signup Genius.

**75th NAGASAKI & HIROSHIMA REMEMBRANCE EVENT** On this anniversary of the atomic bombings of Hiroshima and Nagasaki, you’re invited to gather with American and International peace groups, for a live streamed remembrance on **Friday, August 7** from 6:30p.m. to 8p.m. The speaker will be Masako Wada, who as a young girl in Nagasaki survived the bombing. For more information check out [www.facebook.com/NHPeaceAction/](http://www.facebook.com/NHPeaceAction/)

**SUMMER SERVICES** - Jed will be on vacation in August. We will be having guest preachers each Sunday at 9:00 a.m. <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88653759784>  
August 2nd - Becky Josephson "Hiroshima Remembrance Day"  
August 9th - Gyme Hardy "Washing Our Windows"  
August 16th - Derek Waldron "The Mighty Shall Fall"  
August 23rd - Israel Cawley "The Hope Among Us"  
August 30th - Rev. Jared Rardin TBD

**OFFERING** Virtual offering plate: [bit.do/southchurch](http://bit.do/southchurch) Other options include mailing your offering to the church or dropping it in our mailbox to the right of the side door.

**OFFERING ENVELOPES** The envelopes for the upcoming fiscal year are here! You can pick up your envelopes in the church entryway by the church parking lot during office hours.

**CAMEL PROJECT** The Genesis Women's Circle spearheads the "CAMEL Project," which is a letter writing initiative, where we keep in touch with "College and Military through Emails and Letters." If you think your college student would enjoy hearing news from South Church throughout the school year, please send Deb Lincoln your student's college email, "snail mail" address and birth date so we can send friendly letters, birthday wishes and a Valentine goody package from their South Church family.

**SUMMER OFFICE HOURS**

The office will be closed for vacations on August 10, 11 & 31; September 1; and September 7 for Labor Day. We will resume our regular hours on Tuesday, September 8 from 8a.m. to 4p.m.

**EMAIL SCAMS** The staff has been made aware that a few members of our congregation have had their email account with Comcast hacked. You may have received an email from members of South Church with the subject line: "Humble Request." This is a phishing scam. They did not send these messages. The hacker that broadcasted the messages stole their contacts, leaving them unable to contact you. But don't respond to the hacker. Your money will be stolen. They have changed their password with the help of Comcast. Thank you to everyone who telephoned, texted or emailed to let them know there was something wrong.

## *I Sing the Mighty Power of God*

1. I sing the might-y power of God  
that made the moun-tains rise,  
That spread the flow-ing seas a-broad,  
and built the loft-y skies.  
I sing the wis-dom that or-dained  
the sun to rule the day;  
The moon shines full at God's com-mand,  
and all the stars o-bey.
2. I sing the good-ness of our God  
that filled the earth with food;  
God formed the crea-tures with a word,  
and then pro-nounced them good.  
Oh, how your won-ders are dis-played,  
wher-e'er I turn my eye:  
If I sur-vey the ground I tread,  
or gaze up-on the sky!
3. On earth there's not a plant or flower  
but makes your glo-ry known.  
The clouds a-rise and spread their showers  
by or-der from your throne.  
All life is but a gift from you  
and ev-er in your care;  
Wher-ev-er peo-ple gath-er, you,  
O God, are pres-ent there.

*Let Us Break Bread together On our Knees*

1. Let us break bread to-gether on our knees;

let us break bread to-gether on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,

My God, have mer-cy on me.

2. Let us drink wine to-gether on our knees;

let us drink wine to-gether on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,

My God, have mer-cy on me.

3. Let us praise God to-gether on our knees;

let us praise God to-gether on our knees.

When I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,

My God, have mer-cy on me.

## Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

1. Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore you, God of glo-ry, God of love;  
Hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore you, open-ing to the sun a-bove.  
Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, drive the storms of doubt a-way;  
Giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
2. All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re-lect  
your rays,  
Stars and an-gels sing a-round you, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.  
Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing  
Sea,  
Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what your praise  
should be.
3. You are giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blessed,  
Well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!  
Lov-ing Spir-it, Fa-ther; Moth-er, all who love be-long to you;  
Teach us how to love each oth-er, by that love our joy re-new.
4. Mor-tals, join the might-y cho-rus which the morn-ing stars be-gan;  
Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re-con-cil-ing race and clan.  
Ev-er sing-ing, move we for-ward, faith-ful in the midst of strife,  
Joy-ful mu-sic leads us on-ward in the tri-umph song of life.