



**First Congregational Church of Walpole, UCC
Second Sunday After Epiphany 10:00 a.m.
Sunday, January 16, 2022**

*Power without love is reckless and abusive, and love without power is sentimental and anemic.
Power at its best is love implementing the demands of justice, and justice at its best is power
correcting everything that stands against love.* — Dr. Martin Luther King, Jr.

GATHERING MUSIC

PRELUDE *Precious Lord, Take My Hand* Thomas A. Dorsey .

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT *Come into His presence singing Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia* anon.

CALL TO WORSHIP (Based on Psalm 36)

Leader: Your steadfast love, O God, extends to the heavens, your faithfulness to the clouds.

People: **Your righteousness is like the mountains of God; your judgments are like the great deep; human and beast you save, O Creator.**

Leader: How precious is your steadfast love, O God! Your children take refuge
in the shadow of your wings.

People: **They feast on the abundance of your house,
and you give them drink from the river of your delights.**

All: **O Fountain of Life; in your light, we see light. Continue your steadfast love to those
who know you, and your salvation to the upright of heart!**

HYMN* TWC#187 v. 1,2,3 *Jesus Come! For We Invite You*

*Jesus, come! for we invite you,
guest and master, friend, and Lord;
now, as once at Cana's wedding,
speak, and let us hear your word:
lead us through our need or doubting,
hope be born, and joy restored.*

*Jesus, come! transform our pleasures,
guide us into paths unknown;
bring your gifts, command your servants,
let us trust in you alone:
though your hand may work in secret,
all shall see what you have done.*

*Jesus, come in new creation,
heaven brought near in power divine;
give your unexpected glory,
changing water into wine:
rouse the faith of your disciples--
come, our first and greatest Sign!*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION (unison)*

Almighty God, your spirit is wherever we turn. Your Word is wherever we seek it. You speak to us in the humming cars on the highway and in the sheer silence after a storm. Your glory is written upon the sunrise, the sunset, and the gleam in a child's eye. You offer us wonders every waking moment and visions in our sleep. Too often we go about our lives as if your spirit were absent from the world. Too often we ignore your presence in creation and in the people around us. Forgive us, we pray. Open our hearts to your guidance and fill us with the reverence and awe to heal our numb souls. Allow us to know your presence as we open our hearts to you in this silence...

WORDS OF ASSURANCE*

SHARING THE PEACE OF CHRIST*

Leader: May the peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also, with you.**

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

THE LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

All Sing: *Amen, Amen, Amen.*

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Isaiah 62:1-5; John 2:1-11

SCRIPTURE RESPONSE:

Leader: For the Word in Scripture, for the Word among us,
for the Word within us:

All: Thanks be to God!

SUNG RESPONSE (All sing 2 Times) Psalm 119: 105

*Thy word is a lamp unto my feet,
And a light unto my path*

THE SERMON

HYMN* TWC#370 *God of Our Life*
*God of our life, through all the circling years,
We trust in You;
In all the past, through all our hopes and fears,
Your hand we view.
With each new day, when morning lifts the veil,
We own your mercies, Lord, which never fail.*

*God of the past, our times are in your hand;
With us abide.
Lead us by faith to hope's true Promised Land;
Be now our Guide.
With you to bless, the darkness shines as light,
And faith's fair vision changes into sight.*

*God of the coming years, through paths unknown
We follow you;
When we are strong, Lord, leave us not alone;
Our faith re new.
Be now for us in life our daily Bread,
Our heart's true home when all our years have sped.*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

OFFERTORY MUSIC *From A Distant Land* traditional Puerto Rican
-- Bennett and Marilyn Shriver

DOXOLOGY* (Old Hundredth)

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, the Word in flesh born low;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (unison)*

O God, we are grateful for the good things you give us. We offer thanks for the opportunity and ability to give. We ask your blessing on these gifts, and all who give. Inspire us to be good stewards and faithful disciples as we strive to minister in your name. All this we pray in the name of Christ. Amen.

HYMN* TWC#739 Pass It On

*It only takes a spark to get a fire going,
And soon all those around can warm up in its glowing;
That's how it is with God's Love,
Once you've experienced it,
Your spread the love to everyone
You want to pass it on.*

*What a wondrous time is spring,
When all the trees are budding
The birds begin to sing, the flowers start their blooming;
That's how it is with God's love,
Once you've experienced it.
You want to sing, it's fresh like spring,
You want to pass it on.*

*I wish for you my friend
This happiness that I've found;
You can depend on him
It matters not where you're bound,
I'll shout it from the mountain top
I want the world to know*

BENEDICTION*

BENEDICTION RESPONSE "GO NOW IN PEACE" *

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid. God will go with you each hour of every day.
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true. Know He will guide you in all you do.
Go now in love, and show you believe. Reach out to others so all the world can see.
God will be there watching from above. Go now in peace, in faith, and in love.*

POSTLUDE

*Those who are comfortably able, please stand.

Pastor: The Reverend Richard Malmberg

Music Director: Amy Cann **Zoom Director:** Paul Looney

Liturgist: Don Sellarole

Scripture reader: Mike Delaney

Ushers and Greeters: George and Linda Jeffrey

Church Staff:

Office Administrator: Jane Vesper Treasurer: Tracey Martin

Church Office Hours M.- F. 9 a.m.-12 noon

Telephone: 603-756-4075

Email: walpolechurch@yahoo.com. Website: www.walpolenhucc.org

PRAYER REQUESTS

Please pray for the following people: **Minna Good, Phyllis Pickering,
Sue Durgin, Bob Rhodes.**

Members living in retirement homes.

Patsy Campbell, Gina Nason, Rick Prentiss, Virginia Putnam

Maplewood, 201 River Road, Westmorland, NH 03467

Our sister church in Chiredzi, Zimbabwe

Birthdays This Week

Leroy Watson 1/18, Pamela Brown 1/20

Ginny Galloway 1/22

Anniversaries This Week

Jason and Tara Bemis 1/19

If you have difficulty hearing the zoom service, try attaching headphones to your computer.

Scriptures for January 16, 2022

Isaiah 62:1-5

For Zion's sake I will not keep silent, and for Jerusalem's sake I will not rest, until her vindication shines out like the dawn, and her salvation like a burning torch. The nations shall see your vindication, and all the kings your glory; and you shall be called by a new name that the mouth of the Lord will give. You shall be a crown of beauty in the hand of the Lord, and a royal diadem in the hand of your God. You shall no more be termed Forsaken, and your land shall no more be termed Desolate; but you shall be called My Delight Is in Her, and your land Married; for the Lord delights in you, and your land shall be married. For as a young man marries a young woman, so shall your builder marry you, and as the bridegroom rejoices over the bride, so shall your God rejoice over you.

John 2:1-11

On the third day there was a wedding in Cana of Galilee, and the mother of Jesus was there. Jesus and his disciples had also been invited to the wedding. When the wine gave out, the mother of Jesus said to him, "They have no wine." And Jesus said to her, "Woman, what concern is that to you and to me? My hour has not yet come." His mother said to the servants, "Do whatever he tells you." Now standing there were six stone water jars for the Jewish rites of purification, each holding twenty or thirty gallons. Jesus said to them, "Fill the jars with water." And they filled them up to the brim. He said to them, "Now draw some out, and take it to the chief steward." So, they took it. When the steward tasted the water that had become wine and did not know where it came from (though the servants who had drawn the water knew), the steward called the bridegroom and said to him, "Everyone serves the good wine first, and then the inferior wine after the guests have become drunk. But you have kept the good wine until now." Jesus did this, the first of his signs, in Cana of Galilee, and revealed his glory; and his disciples believed in him.