



**First Congregational Church of Walpole, UCC
May 22, 2022, 10:00 a.m.
Sixth Sunday in Eastertide**

Faith includes noticing the mess, the emptiness and discomfort, and letting it be there until some light returns.

—Anne Lamott

I prayed for twenty years but received no answer until I prayed with my legs.

—Frederick Douglass

GATHERING MUSIC / PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT

CALL TO WORSHIP: (based on Psalm (67))

Leader: May God be gracious to us and bless us.

May the Holy One's face shine upon us.

**People: May God's way be known upon the earth,
and saving power among the nations.**

Leader: Let the peoples praise you, God. Let all the peoples praise you.

**People: Let the nations be glad and sing for joy. You judge the
people with equity, and you guide the nations upon earth.**

Leader: Let the people praise you, God; let all the people praise you.

The earth has yielded its increase; God, has blessed us.

**All: May God continue to bless us; let the ends of the
earth revere the Creator.**

***HYMN** TWC# 436 *Jesu, Jesu Fill Us with Your Love*

*Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve
the neighbors we have from you.*

*Kneels at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,
Master who acts as a slave to them. (Refrain)*

*Neighbors are rich and poor,
neighbors are black and white,
neighbors are near and far away. (Refrain)*

*These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love,
all these are neighbors to us and you. (Refrain)*

*Loving puts us on our knees,
serving as though we are slaves,
this is the way we should live with you. (Refrain)*

*Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. (Refrain)*

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION** (unison)

God of all, you are with us every moment. We seek to discern your call. We hope to follow you the way everlasting. Our sin causes us to stumble. We confess that we have ignored your commandments. We have not loved you with our whole hearts. We have not loved one another as you have loved us. We have neglected to do good, and we have done wrong when it suited our purposes. Forgive us we pray. Give us strength and courage to follow where you lead, and to do what is pleasing in your sight. Open our hearts to your healing love, as we offer you our 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

LORD'S PRAYER: (trespasses)

JOYS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

(Sung: *Amen*)

SCRIPTURE LESSONS: Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5; John 14:23–29

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 (2 Times)

Psalm 119:105

Thy word is a lamp unto my feet, and a light unto my path.

SERMON

***HYMN** TWC #568 *Take My Life and Let It Be Consecrated*

*Take my life and let it be
consecrated, Lord, to thee;
take my hands and let them move
at the impulse of thy love,
at the impulse of thy love.*

*Take my feet and let them be
swift and beautiful for thee;
take my voice and let me sing
always, only, for my King,
always, only, for my King.*

*Take my lips and let them be
filled with messages for thee;
take my silver and my gold,
not a mite would I withhold,
not a mite would I withhold.*

*Take my love, my God, I pour
at thy feet its treasure store;
take myself and I will be
ever, only, all for thee,
ever, only, all for thee.*

CALL TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***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)

God, with grateful hearts we return this portion of the blessings you have given. We pray that you would bless this offering and all who give of time, talent, and treasure. Give us wisdom and compassion to serve you with a spirit of love. Inspire our work and words, that your light may shine from this place. In Jesus' name we pray. Amen.

***HYMN TWC #687** *Shall We Gather at the River*

*Shall we gather at the river,
where bright angel feet have trod,
with its crystal tide forever
flowing by the throne of God?*

[Refrain:]

*Yes, we'll gather at the river,
the beautiful, the beautiful river,
gather with the saints at the river
that flows by the throne of God.*

*Ere we reach the shining river,
lay we every burden down;
grace our spirits will deliver,
and provide a robe and crown. (Refrain)*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river,
soon our pilgrimage will cease;
soon our happy hearts will quiver
with the melody of peace. (Refrain)*

***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: Jennifer Hanrahan
Scripture reader: Becky Pearson
Ushers and Greeters: Tom Miller and Dale Woodward
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: **Sue Durgin, Bob Rhodes, Carole Hill**

Ukraine Relief: cwsglobal.org

Birthdays This Week

Marjorie McGill 5/23, Marilyn Shriver 5/23

Altar Flowers

The altar flowers are given by Tom and Chris Miller in loving memory of Joan Swett.

Hearing assists are still available for the worship service. If you would like to use headphones, please ask an usher to assist you.

May 22, 2022, Sixth Sunday in Eastertide Readings

First Scripture Lesson: Revelation 21:10, 22–22:5

And in the spirit he carried me away to a great, high mountain and showed me the holy city Jerusalem coming down out of heaven from God.

I saw no temple in the city, for its temple is the Lord God the Almighty and the Lamb. And the city has no need of sun or moon to shine on it, for the glory of God is its light, and its lamp is the Lamb. The nations will walk by its light, and the kings of the earth will bring their glory into it. Its gates will never be shut by day—and there will be no night there. People will bring into it the glory and the honor of the nations. But nothing unclean will enter it, nor anyone who practices abomination or falsehood, but only those who are written in the Lamb's book of life. Then the angel showed me the river of the water of life, bright as crystal, flowing from the throne of God and of the Lamb through the middle of the street of the city. On either side of the river is the tree of life with its twelve kinds of fruit, producing its fruit each month; and the leaves of the tree are for the healing of the nations. Nothing accursed will be found there anymore. But the throne of God and of the Lamb will be in it, and his servants will worship him; they will see his face, and his name will be on their foreheads. And there will be no more night; they need no light of lamp or sun, for the Lord God will be their light, and they will reign forever and ever.

John 14:23–29

Jesus answered him, "Those who love me will keep my word, and my Father will love them, and we will come to them and make our home with them. Whoever does not love me does not keep my words; and the word that you hear is not mine but is from the Father who sent me.

"I have said these things to you while I am still with you. But the Advocate, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, will teach you everything, and remind you of all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you. I do not give to you as the world gives. Do not let your hearts be troubled, and do not let them be afraid. You heard me say to you, 'I am going away, and I am coming to you.' If you loved me, you would rejoice that I am going to the Father, because the Father is greater than I. And now I have told you this before it occurs, so that when it does occur, you may believe.

