

5th Sunday of Easter

May 15, 2022

10:00 A.M.



(You are invited to a time of quiet preparation for worship during the Prelude.)

Prelude Amber Waves of Grain Jeanne Cotter

Ring of the Bell

Welcome and Informal Moments

This is the day the Lord has made... Let us rejoice and be glad in it. Psalm 118:24

Musical Introit Cloudmaker Jeanne Cotter

Call to Worship

One: Celebrate our God, from the plains to the mountains!

Many: Celebrate our God, from the waters and hills.

One: Sing to our God who designed creation.

Many: Fill the air with song to the One who painted the world with love.

One: Let us praise our God, the author of grace.

Many: Let us worship our God, the composer of joy. Amen.

*Gathering Hymn *Come, Thou Almighty King* No. 9

***Unison Prayer of Invocation**

Spirit of Joy, we come to this time knowing your presence dwells with us at all times. We celebrate your name, your grace, your love in this space. We proclaim our excitement that together we glorify your name through sharing your love. May today be the start of a new chapter of our love for you and our love for our neighbors. Amen.

Choral Anthem Lead Me, Lord Samuel Wesley

Scripture Acts 11:1-18 page 99

Morning Message Rev. Dr. Amy Lignitz Harken

*Hymn *The Gift of Love* No. 68

Pastoral Prayer and Lord's Prayer

Our father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come. Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread. And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil: For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering Invitation

Offertory Music

Wild Roses

Jeanne Cotter

*Doxology

No. 46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow.
Praise God, all creatures here below.
Praise God for all that Love has done
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

***Blessing for the Offering:**

Loving God, we glorify you by sharing our gifts of love with this community. We celebrate your presence by caring for your creation. May these offerings [today](#) nourish a world craving more love, peace, justice, and hope. Amen

*Closing Hymn

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

No. 353

*Benediction

Sung Benediction

*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

Mighty River

Jeanne Cotter



**All who are able may stand.*

Those serving you today:

Bell Ringer: *Brad Adler*

Ushers: *Ann Dunlevy*

Reader:

Flowers: *Ronald Sanchez*

Coffee Hour: *Nominating Committee*

Interim Minister: *Rev. Dr. Amy Lignitz Harken*

Organist: *Joel Pierce*

Office Administrator: *Angela Richards*

Sexton: *Mary McKinney*

*Permission to podcast/stream the music in this service obtained from
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Coming Up This Week:

Sunday May 15th: St. Philip's Open House 2-4pm

Sunday May 15th: Habitat for Humanity Walk 1-3pm

Sunday, May 15th: Bible Study via Zoom at 4 pm

Monday May 17th: Game night, 6-8:30 pm

Wednesday, May 18th: Organ Society Meeting, 9:30 am,

Wednesday, May 18th: Feed our Scholars -packing boxes, 10:30 am

Sunday, May 24th: Worship 10am

Sunday May 24th: Bible Study via Zoom at 4 pm

Supporting the Ministry of our Church

Thank you for your continued support in sustaining our ministries! Offerings can be mailed to the church at: First Congregational Church, P.O. Box 350, Wiscasset, ME 04578. Thank you!

Sign-Up Online to Support our Worship Experience!

Please sign up to usher, read scripture, or provide flowers for our worship. You can sign up online at: <https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10c0c48aea82aa3f8ce9-church> or by calling the church office at 207-882-7544. Please sign up by 9am on Thursday.

Current In-Person Worship Protocol: Masks are required. Lincoln County is Currently "High Risk"

The church's Office Administrator, Angie Richards, has announced she is departing her position in order to accept another important opportunity. She is resigning from both her position here at First Congregational Church and at St. Philip's Episcopal Church. Her final day at FCCW will be May 19. We are sad to see Angie go but wish her the best in all things. The church is seeking to fill the position of office administrator as soon as a suitable candidate is found.



Acts 11:1-18

1 Now the apostles and the believers who were in Judea heard that the Gentiles had also accepted the word of God.

2 So when Peter went up to Jerusalem, the circumcised believers criticized him,

3 saying, "Why did you go to uncircumcised men and eat with them?"

4 Then Peter began to explain it to them, step by step, saying,

5 "I was in the city of Joppa praying, and in a trance I saw a vision. There was something like a large sheet coming down from heaven, being lowered by its four corners; and it came close to me.

6 As I looked at it closely I saw four-footed animals, beasts of prey, reptiles, and birds of the air.

7 I also heard a voice saying to me, "Get up, Peter; kill and eat."

8 But I replied, "By no means, Lord; for nothing profane or unclean has ever entered my mouth."

9 But a second time the voice answered from heaven, "What God has made clean, you must not call profane."

10 This happened three times; then everything was pulled up again to heaven.

11 At that very moment three men, sent to me from Caesarea, arrived at the house where we were.

12 The Spirit told me to go with them and not to make a distinction between them and us. These six brothers also accompanied me, and we entered the man's house.

13 He told us how he had seen the angel standing in his house and saying, "Send to Joppa and bring Simon, who is called Peter;

14 he will give you a message by which you and your entire household will be saved."

15 And as I began to speak, the Holy Spirit fell upon them just as it had upon us at the beginning.

16 And I remembered the word of the Lord, how he had said, "John baptized with water, but you will be baptized with the Holy Spirit."

17 If then God gave them the same gift that he gave us when we believed in the Lord Jesus Christ, who was I that I could hinder God?"

18 When they heard this, they were silenced. And they praised God, saying, "Then God has given even to the Gentiles the repentance that leads to life."

Come, Thou Almighty King

9

1. Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, by heaven and
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4. To thee, great One - in - Three, e - ter - nal

name to sing; help us to praise: Sov - er - eign, all
 earth a - dored; our prayer at - tend: come, and thy
 wit - ness bear in this glad hour! Thou who al -
 prais - es be hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - er - eign

glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

come, and reign o - ver us, An - cient of Days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

WORDS: Anon., English, c. 1757, alt.
 MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769

ITALIAN HYMN
 664.6664

This text is considered to be the oldest English-language Christian hymn in this typically German-chorale meter. It has been sung with this tune, composed for it by violinist Giardini, since 1769.

PRAISE TO GOD

Though I May Speak

(The Gift of Love)

68

1. Though I may speak with brav - est fire, and have the
2. Though I may give all I pos - sess, and striv - ing
3. Come, Spir - it, come, our hearts con - trol, our spir - its

gift to all in - spire, and have not love, my words are
so my love pro - fess, but not be given by love with -
long to be made whole. Let in - ward love guide ev - ery

vain, as sound - ing brass, and hope - less gain.
in, the prof - it soon turns strange - ly thin.
deed; by this we wor - ship, and are freed.

The musical score consists of three systems, each with a vocal line (treble clef) and a piano accompaniment line (bass clef). The key signature is one sharp (F#) and the time signature is 2/2. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line of each system.

WORDS: Hal H. Hopson, 1972

MUSIC: Traditional English melody; adapt. Hal H. Hopson, 1971

Hal Hopson's paraphrase of I Corinthians 13 and his setting of a traditional English tune have made this a well-loved hymn in a short twenty-five years.

GIFT OF LOVE
LM

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353 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
 2. Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4. So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quers strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new pow'r and strength for ac-tion, make us part-ners, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1981, alt.
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1855

BEECHER
 87.87D

John Zundel, organist of Plymouth Congregational Church, Brooklyn NY,
 named this tune for his pastor, the celebrated preacher Henry Ward Beecher.
 Together they published the *Plymouth Hymnal* in 1855.

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