

7TH SUNDAY OF EASTER

MAY 29, 2022

Hybrid Service at 9:30 am: In-person and online via Zoom



First Congregational Church of Camden, United Church of Christ

Growing in Faith, Centered in Christ, Committed to Community

We are an Open and Affirming Congregation embracing diversity
and affirming the worth and dignity of every person.

We welcome everyone to share in all aspects of our church life.

55 Elm Street, Camden, Maine 04843 207.236.4821 phone 207.236.4822 fax

www.camdenucc.org Email: <mailto:churchoffice@camdenucc.org>

Home of Boy Scout Troop & Pack 200, Girl Scout Troop 1341

If you are joining on Zoom during the service please **keep your mics muted** during the service.

THIS AVOIDS THE SERVICE BEING INTERRUPTED WHENEVER YOU MOVE OR SPEAK AT HOME.

Please **DON'T** click the green Share Screen icon, that's for the **HOST!**

THE SERVICE OF WELCOME

(* indicates congregation stands, if comfortable doing so)

PRELUDE: *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee* — Joel Raney
♪ Matt Mainster, piano

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Patty Fox

* RESPONSIVE CALL TO WORSHIP *from Iona Abbey Worship Book*

Deb Endl

Leader: The world belongs to God,

People: the earth and all its people.

Leader: How good it is, how wonderful,

People: to live together in unity.

Leader: Love and faith come together;

People: justice and peace join hands.

Leader: If Christ's disciples keep silent,

People: these stones would shout aloud.

Leader: Open our lips, O God,

All: and our mouths shall proclaim your praise.

* HYMN #284 *Gather Us In*

(All joining us on Zoom receive a PDF link to words & music for all today's hymns. In the sanctuary, we use the hymnals.)

* UNISON PRAYER OF INVOCATION *from Iona Abbey Worship Book*

Deb Endl

Jesus, you have set before us a great hope that your kingdom will come on earth, and have taught us to pray for its coming. Make us ready to celebrate the signs of its dawning, and to pray and work for the perfect day when your will shall be done on earth as it is in heaven. Amen.

* GLORIA

Glory to our Creator

and to the Christ

and to their gift of love,

who is Spirit now among us,

and throughout all creation:

world without end,

Amen, amen.

* THE PASSING OF CHRIST'S PEACE

Patty Fox

Leader: The Peace of Christ be always with you.

People: And also with you.

THE SERVICE OF THE WORD

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Joseph Coté

FROM THE EARLY CHURCH Acts of the Apostles 16:16-34

Deb Endl

One day as we were going to the place of prayer, we met a womanservant who had a spirit of divination and brought her owners a great deal of money by fortune-telling. While she followed Paul and us, she would cry out, "These men are slaves of the Most High God, who proclaim to you the way of salvation." She kept doing this for many days. But Paul, very much annoyed, turned and said to the spirit, "I order you in the name of Jesus Christ to come out of her." And it came out that very hour.

But when her owners saw that their hope of making money was gone, they seized Paul and Silas and dragged them into the marketplace before the authorities. When they had brought them before the magistrates, they said, "These men are disturbing our city; they are Jews, and are advocating customs that are not lawful for us as Romans to adopt or observe." The crowd joined in attacking them, and the magistrates had them stripped of their clothing and ordered them to be beaten with rods. After they had given them a severe flogging, they threw them into prison and ordered the jailer to keep them securely. Following these instructions, he put them in the innermost cell and fastened their feet in the stocks.

About midnight Paul and Silas were praying and singing hymns to God, and the prisoners were listening to them. Suddenly there was an earthquake so violent that the foundations of the prison were shaken, and immediately all the doors were opened and everyone's chains were unfastened. When the jailer woke up and saw the prison doors wide open, he drew his sword and was about to kill himself, since he supposed that the prisoners had escaped. But Paul shouted in a loud voice, "Do not harm yourself, for we are all here." The jailer called for lights, and rushing in, he fell down trembling before Paul and Silas. Then he brought them outside and said, "Sirs, what must I do to be saved?" They answered, "Believe in the Lord Jesus, and you will be saved, you and your household." They spoke the word of the Lord to him and to all who were in his house. At the same hour of the night the jailer took them and washed their wounds; then he and his entire family were baptized without delay. Bringing them up into the house and setting food before them, the jailer and his entire household rejoiced that he had become a believer in God.

GOSPEL

John 17:20-26

"I ask not only on behalf of these but also on behalf of those who will believe in me through their word, that they may all be one. As you, Father-Mother, are in me and I am in you, may they also be in us, so that the world may believe that you have sent me. The glory that you have given me I have given them, so that they may be one, as we are one, I in them and you in me, that they may become completely one, so that the world may know that you have sent me and have loved them even as you have loved me. Father-Motheer, I desire that those also, whom you have given me, may be with me where I am, to see my glory, which you have given me because you loved me before the foundation of the world.

"Righteous Father-Mother, the world does not know you, but I know you, and these know that you have sent me. I made your name known to them, and I will make it known, so that the love with which you have loved me may be in them and I in them."

SERMON

That They May Be One

Ute Molitor

THE SERVICE OF GRATITUDE

* SPECIAL MUSIC VIDEO

To My People: An Ode to Humanity

Musicians Nimo Patel, Chad Harper, Nick Dalton and film maker Ellie Walton

[To My People: An Ode to Humanity | KarmaTube](#)

OUR TIME OF PRAYER

Patty Fox

Please send your joys and concerns to Patty at patty@camdenucc.org or leave a message on Patty's voice mail (236-4821, option 5). During the worship time, you can write a prayer in via the chat function at the bottom of the screen. Please only share if you have permission by the person you wish to pray for. Please only use first name and keep personal information to a minimum as this will be available publicly.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Philip Newell, Casa del Sol)

Ground of all being, Mother of life, Father of the Universe, Your name is sacred, beyond speaking. May we know your presence, may your longings be our longings in heart and in action. May there be food for the human family today and for the whole earth community. Forgive us the falseness of what we have done, as we forgive those who have been untrue to us. Do not forsake us in our time of conflict, but lead us into new beginnings. For the light of life, the vitality of life, and the glory of life are yours now and forever. Amen.

OFFERTORY INVITATION

Patty Fox

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Oh, Come Let Us Sing* — Schoenfeld
♪ Sanctuary Choir

* DOXOLOGY

*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures high and low.
Praise God in Jesus fully known.
Creator, Christ and Spirit one. Amen.*

* UNISON PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Deb Endl

Uniting God, you call us to embrace our shared belonging in you, our source of life and love. We bring our offerings praying that they may serve your purposes of sustaining and drawing us together in hope. We pray especially for all who struggle at this particular time. In Christ's name we pray. Amen.

THE SERVICE OF BLESSING

* HYMN #2 *Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee*

* BENEDICTION

Ute Molitor

* SUNG BENEDICTION

*Go my children, with my blessing, never alone; Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river I have made you mine forever, Go my children, with my blessing, you are my own.*

POSTLUDE

Fanfare on "Old One Hundredth" — Fred Bock
♪ Matt Mainster, organ

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OUR THANKS TO TODAY'S VOLUNTEERS!

Children's Talk: Joseph Coté

Deacon on Site: Terri Mackenzie

Liturgist: Deb Endl

Greeters: Ann Rafferty, Zella Walker

Deacon on Site/Zoom: Judy Cucinotta

Coffee Hour Coordinator: Fred Bucklin

Ushers: Melvin Achorn, Scott Achorn

IT & Tech Support: Carl Trapani

Quilted "Prayers for Ukraine" behind Altar: Designed, pieced & quilted by Jan Kelsey

OUR CHURCH MINISTERS & STAFF

Rev. Dr. Ute S. Molitor, Senior Minister

Rev. Patty Fox, Associate Minister

Jeanne Denny, Shields Mission Project Administrator

Elizabeth Lally, Early Christian Education Leader

Emily Bennett & Lara Webb, Sunday School Caregivers

Matthew Mainster, Minister of Music

Tabitha Woodbury, Full Charge Bookkeeper

Becky Brace, Office Manager

Melissa Chapman, Manager, Heavenly Threads Thrift Shop

Kristy McKenney, Assistant Manager, Heavenly Threads Thrift Shop

Beth Gerrish, Elaine Bisbee, Susan Neisingh, Patti McGowan, Heavenly Threads Inventory Specialists

Gayle Palmer, Manager, SOS Room

Ryan Berry, Custodian of Buildings & Grounds