

Worship Guide

May 9, 2021: The Sixth Sunday of Easter



GREETING AND INTRODUCTION

Are you looking for the joy that completes your life?
Are you hoping for the love that makes a difference
and gives you a great purpose?
Then welcome to the house of God!
Welcome to the love of God!

OPENING HYMN: *Blest Be the Tie That Binds* UMH #557

*Blest be the tie that binds
Our hearts in Christian love;
The fellowship of kindred minds
Is like to that above.*

*Before our Father's throne,
We pour our ardent prayers;
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one,
Our comforts, and our cares.*

*We share our mutual woes,
Our mutual burdens bear;
And often for each other flows
The sympathizing tear.*

*When we asunder part,
It gives us inward pain;
But we shall still be joined in heart,
And hope to meet again.*

OPENING PRAYER

God of songs and marvels, old and new, your powerful love for this world continues to astound us. In these last days of Easter, we gather to recall the love that brought Jesus into this world and into our lives: as savior, friend and brother. We thank you for welcoming us into your household and for trusting us with your marvelous work to draw all people into the spacious home of your love. Amen.

SCRIPTURE LESSONS

New Testament Reading: Acts 10: 44-48
Epistle: 1 John 5:1-6
Gospel Lesson: John 15: 9-17

SERMON:

Gene Rouse

HYMN OF RESPONSE: *What a Friend We Have in Jesus UMH #526*

*1 What a friend we have in Jesus,
all our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry
everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit,
O what needless pain we bear,
all because we do not carry
everything to God in prayer!*

*2 Have we trials and temptations?
Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged;
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Can we find a friend so faithful
who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness;
take it to the Lord in prayer!*

*3 Are we weak and heavy laden,
cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge--
take it to the Lord in prayer!
Do your friends despise, forsake you?
Take it to the Lord in prayer!
In his arms he'll take and shield you;
you will find a solace there.*

SONG BEFORE & AFTER TIME OF PRAYER: *Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying*
Lord, listen to your children praying, Lord, send your Spirit in this place
Lord, listen to your children praying, Send us love, send us power, send us grace .

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE (after each time of silence, we'll finish with the words "Lord in your mercy" and you are invited to respond, "**Hear our prayer.**")

Together let us pray:

For the people of this congregation....

For those who suffer and those in trouble....

For the concerns of this local community....

For the world, it's peoples, and it's leaders....

For the Church universal- it's leaders, it's members, and it's mission....

In communion with the saints...

OFFERING

This is an opportunity to share the goodness that has been given to you. Consider sending an offering to PO Box 630, Skowhegan, ME 04976. You are also invited to support an organization or church in our local community that is making a positive difference in people's lives.

CLOSING HYMN: My Life Flows On Faith We Sing #2212

*My life flows on in endless song,
above earth's lamentation.
I hear the clear, though faroff hymn
that hails a new creation.*

Refrain:

*No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I'm clinging.
Since love is Lord of heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?*

*2. Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear that music ringing.
It finds an echo in my soul.
How can I keep from singing?
(Refrain)*

*3. What though my joys and comforts die?
I know my Savior liveth.
What though the darkness gather round?
Songs in the night he giveth.
(Refrain)*

*4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
a fountain ever springing!
All things are mine since I am his!
How can I keep from singing?
(Refrain)*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

BENEDICTION

Go in joy and faithfulness, knowing that you,
the chosen friends of Jesus, abide in Jesus' love
and bear the gift of this love to the world. Amen.

ANNOUNCEMENTS:

CLOTHING CLOSET

The Clothing Closet is open on Wednesdays 9 AM to NOON and 5 PM to 7 PM

FREE DRIVE THRU COMMUNITY MEALS

Free meals for curbside pick up.

The 2nd and 4th Tuesday of each month

Call the church @ 207-474-3915

Leave your name and number of meals

Pick up time is between 5-6PM that evening.

Next meal is Tuesday, May 11th Pasta Salad and Dessert