



**NEWTON
CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**
God is still speaking,

An Open and Affirming Congregation

*No matter who you are, or where you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

Virtual Worship • June 7, 2020 • 10:00am • Trinity Sunday

Digital Bulletin

This document is prepared so you can join our Sunday morning live-stream worship via our Facebook page (facebook.com/NewtonUCC) or call in via Zoom (Dial 312-626-6799, when prompted enter Meeting ID: 624 681 423 followed by #) or worship on your own at a time convenient for you (visit our Facebook page or website—uccnewton.org).

We are new to online and streaming worship at Congregational UCC and still working on smoothing out a few “hiccups” and technical difficulties. Of course, there is nothing that compares to being physically present with one another in worship, and yet this is what we need to do to “love our neighbors” during the current national emergency.

We apologize in advance for any problems that you may encounter in connecting to the service and welcome your feedback on how to improve the virtual worship experience over the coming weeks when we will not be able to worship in our sanctuary.

PREPARING FOR VIRTUAL WORSHIP

As you prepare to join in online worship with us, in addition to making whatever technical preparations you need to make, consider how to prepare your personal space for worship:

- Prepare a piece of bread or a cracker and a small glass of grape juice or wine (if you do not have these items on hand, you may use any “nibble” and “sip” that is convenient for you)
- Silence your phone and eliminate distractions
- Light a candle or some incense
- Open your Bible or browser to Matthew 28:16-20
- Position your body in a posture of worship and prayer

“Teach them to carry out everything I have commanded you.”

Matthew 28:20a

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

REMEMBERING WHO WE ARE

One: As we prepare ourselves to join together in worship,
let us remind ourselves who we are
as members and friends of Congregational United Church of Christ.

**All: We are a community of God’s beloved
dedicated to following the teachings of Jesus as we live our faith
by loving and serving all of God’s creation
and striving for justice and peace
throughout our community, our nation, and the world.**

THE BREATH OF GOD

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade.

All: Beloved human beings, children of God, all made in the divine image.

One: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade.

All: Beautiful black beings whose divine breath was cut off by the virus of racism.

One: George Floyd, Breonna Taylor, Ahmaud Arbery, Tony McDade.

All: Messengers of the divine whose murders have fueled a fire for justice.

One: Creator, Redeemer, Sustainer, give us eyes to see the ugliness and the sinfulness
of the racism that infects each and every part of our society.

**All: Let us not give in to the temptation of white supremacy
that entices us to look away.**

One: Give us hearts to feel the pain and the despair of this moment.

**All: Withhold your comfort that this feeling of grief
might reach our depths and touch our cores and forever change us.**

One: May the horrific deaths of these beloved and countless others
whose lives have been stolen by the violence of racism
finally wake us up that we might rise as faithful followers of your way

**All: speaking where we have wrongfully been silent
and acting boldly and bravely to realize your justice, your peace
through eradicating racism and white supremacy
and establishing equity for each and for all here and now.
We pray in the name of Jesus,
whose life was stolen by state-sanctioned violence. Amen.**

OPENING HYMN 658

Restless Weaver

Beach Spring

*Rest-less Weav-er, ev-er spin-ning threads of jus-tice and sha-lom;
dream-ing pat-terns of cre-a-tion where all crea-tures find a home;
gath-ering up life’s var-ied fi-bers—ev-ery tex-ture, ev-ery hue:
grant us your cre-a-tive vis-ion. With us weave your world a-new.*

*Where earth's frag-ile web is rav-eling help us mend each bro-ken strand.
Bless our ur-gent, bold en-deav-ors cleans-ing water, air, and land.
Through the Spir-it's in-spi-ra-tion—of-fering health where once was pain—
strength-en us to be the stew-ards of your world knit whole a-gain.*

*When our vio-lent lust for pow-er ends in lives a-bused and torn,
from com-pass-ion's stur-dy fab-ric fash-ion hope and trust re-born.
Where in-jus-tice rules as ty-rant, give us cour-age, God, to dare
live our dreams of trans-for-ma-tion. Make our lives in-car-nate prayer.*

*Rest-less Weav-er, still con-ceiv-ing new life—now and yet to be—
bind-ing all your vast cre-a-tion in one liv-ing tap-es-try:
you have called us to be weav-ers. Let your love guide all we do.
With your Reign of Peace our pat-tern, we will weave your world a-new.*

CALL TO PRAYER

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND RECONCILIATION

One: Holy One, our nation is hurting; our world, your world is hurting.
Through our love of military might and our trust in violence,
we are destroying one another and your beautiful creation.
This is reality; these are the facts.
Yet it is also true that people across this state and throughout this nation
are rising up for justice, for peace.
They are facing the violence of tear gas, rubber bullets, and even live ammunition
putting their lives on the line as they come together
to demand change, to demand justice, to demand “Black Lives Matter!”

All: **Strengthen us and empower us as we join these faithful witnesses
waging peace rather than war.
Guide us as we speak truth to those in positions of power
demanding that they provide for the safety and well-being of all our people,
especially those with black and brown bodies.
Bless us as we join together with peacemakers
across all the barriers that would divide us
to realize your realm of peace and justice for all.
We pray in the name of Jesus, the Prince of Peace,
in whose nonviolent footsteps we follow. Amen.**

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

SHARING OF GOD'S PEACE

One: The peace of God be with you.
All: **And also with you.**

HYMN 677

Let There Be Peace on Earth
**Let there be peace on earth, and let it be-gin with me;
let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.
With God our cre-a-tor, child-ren all are we.
Let us walk with each oth-er in per-fect har-mo-ny.**

World Peace

*Let peace be-gin with me; let this be the mo-ment now.
With ev-ery step I take, let this be my sol-emn vow:
to take each mo-ment and live each mo-ment in peace e-ter-nal-ly.
Let there be peace on earth, and let it be-gin with me.*

A TIME WITH CHILDREN

SCRIPTURE *Matthew 28:16-20*

GLORIA PATRI Greatorex
*Glo-ry to the Cre-a-tor, the Christ, the Ho-ly Spir-it, Three-in-One;
as it was in the be-gin-ning, is now and ever shall be,
world with-out end. A-men. A-men.*

SERMON *Making Disciples* Rev. Jessica Petersen

PAUSE

(What did you hear yourself saying as you were listening to the presentation of the scripture and the sermon? How is God speaking to you today?)

HYMN 425 *Let Us Break Bread Together* Let Us Break Bread

*Let us break bread to-geth-er on our knees;
let us break bread to-geth-er on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O God, have mer-cy on me.*

*Let us drink wine to-geth-er on our knees;
let us drink wine to-geth-er on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O God, have mer-cy on me.*

*Let us praise God to-geth-er on our knees;
let us praise God to-geth-er on our knees;
when I fall on my knees, with my face to the ris-ing sun,
O God, have mer-cy on me.*

HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

THANKSGIVING PRAYER

One: God be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Swing wide the doors your hearts.

All: We open them up to God.

One: Let us give thanks to our amazing God.

All: It is right and good to give God thanks and praise.

One: We thank you, O God, and we praise you
for you have provided for all the worlds that ever were or will be
by giving yourself to them, to us in love.

If we go to the heights of the mountains,
or if we make the grave our bed, you are with us.
If we go to the depths of the sea, your right hand holds us fast.
We thank you for your ever-abiding presence that infuses all of creation.

All: We thank you, O God, and we praise you.

One: We thank you, Loving Spirit, for your teachers, your preachers,
your prophets, your messengers who proclaimed your way of love and justice,
who continue to call us to live according to your way even this day.

All: We thank you, O God, and we praise you.

One: We thank you for Jesus, who shows us most fully who you are:
a God of love, a God of justice, a God of peace.
Through his words and through his actions,
he has shown us what it looks like to live fully, faithfully, and authentically
as a human member of your creation.
We thank you that you stamped his death, his execution with victory
and that Life, not Death, that Love, not Fear, was the final word.

All: We thank you, O God, and we praise you.

One: We thank you for your life-giving spirit that calls us to come together as the church,
to follow in the way of Jesus, to show forth your love
that all might experience the good gifts of your creation,
to co-create with you and one another the just world for which you long.

All: We thank you, O God, and we praise you.

One: As we now prepare to come to your table,
we recall that story of our tradition so rich with meaning.
On the night of his arrest, Jesus took bread,
and after giving thanks to you, he broke it, and gave it to his disciples, saying:
Take, eat. This is my body, given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.
In the same way he took the cup, saying:
This is the cup of the new covenant poured out in my blood for you and for many.
Whenever you drink it, do this in remembrance of me.
We ask now that you bless this bread and this cup,
and bless those of us gathered to share this meal at your table of grace,
that we might be nourished by that same unbounded love
shared forth by our crucified and risen savior.
We pray in the name of Jesus, who taught us to pray...

PRAYER OF OUR SAVIOR (**Options for "Father" include "Mother," "Creator," "Parent."*)

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.

Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

POST-COMMUNION PRAYER (unison)

We thank you, O God, for the gift of your table,
for the gift of your relentless love that persists and guides us
even through our greatest struggles.
Held in the safety and security of your love,
empower us and inspire us to live more faithfully
loving more fully even as we have first been loved. Amen.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

OFFERTORY

DOXOLOGY

Lasst Uns Erfreuen

*Praise God from whom all bles-sings flow,
praise God all crea-tures here be-low. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Praise God for all that love has done,
Cre-a-tor, Christ, and Spir-it, One. Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!
Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia! Al-le-lu-ia!*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

Lead Us from Death to Life

World Peace Prayer

Refrain:

*Lead us from death to life, from false-hood to truth,
from de-spair to hope, from fear to trust.
Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace;
let peace fill our hearts, let peace fill our world,
let peace fill our u-ni-verse.*

*Still all the an-gry cries, still all the an-gry guns,
still now your peo-ple die, earth's sons and daugh-ters.
Let jus-tice roll, let mer-cy poor down,
come and teach us your way of com-pas-sion.*

Refrain

*So man-y lone-ly hearts, so man-y bro-ken lives,
long-ing for love to break in-to their an-guish.
Come, teach us love, come, teach us peace,
come and teach us your way of com-pas-sion.*

Refrain

*Let jus-tice ev-er roll, let mer-cy fill the earth,
let us be-gin to grow in-to your peo-ple.
We can be love, we can bring peace,
we can still be your way of com-pas-sion.*

Refrain

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Hymns reprinted and streamed under ONE LICENSE #A-731412.

“Restless Weaver” (Words: © 1995 Chalice Press. All rights reserved.)

“Let There Be Peace on Earth” (Words, Music: © 1955, renewed 1983 Jan-Lee Music. All rights reserved.)

“Let Us Break Bread Together” (Arr.: © 1965 The United Methodist Publishing House. All rights reserved.)

“Lead Us from Death to Life” (Words, Music: © 1985 GIA Publications, Inc. All rights reserved.)

All other pieces are in the Public Domain.

Hymn numbers are from “Chalice Hymnal.”