



June 12, 2022  
*Morning Worship and Children's Programs at 10:00 AM*

### ***United Church of Strafford***

230 Justin Morrill Highway  
PO Box 124, Strafford, VT 05072  
802-765-4585(church) 765-2710(parsonage)  
Email: [unitedchurchofstrafford@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchofstrafford@gmail.com)  
[rev.thomas.cary.kinder@gmail.com](mailto:rev.thomas.cary.kinder@gmail.com)  
For Pastoral Care: [revdeadra@gmail.com](mailto:revdeadra@gmail.com)  
Website: [unitedchurchofstrafford.com](http://unitedchurchofstrafford.com)

### ***Our Church Covenant***

*We gather together with freedom of conscience  
in a community of love and inquiry.  
All are welcome, without exception.*

*We practice Christianity with faith and compassion.  
We covenant with one another to embody the love of Christ,  
to nurture contemplation and action,  
and to offer our gifts, talents and energies as we are able.*

### ***United Church of Strafford, Vermont***

June 12, 2022

First Sunday after Pentecost, Trinity Sunday  
MH=Methodist Hymnal; PH=Pilgrim Hymnal

“Most important of all, do everything you can to nurture your spiritual intelligence. It is your only genuine source of hope, direction, meaning, and comfort.”

“Philippians 2:5: ‘Let the same mind be in you that was in Christ Jesus.’ The words call us up short as to what we are actually supposed to be doing on this path: not just admiring Jesus, but acquiring his consciousness.”

“Meditation is the tool you use to “upgrade your operating system,” to move...into the more spacious heart awareness that sustains the wisdom way of knowing.” (Quotes from Cynthia Bourgeault in her books *The Wisdom Way of Knowing* and *Wisdom Jesus*)

#### **Gathering Music**

Annemieke McLane

#### **Silent Prayer of Invocation**

Pastor Tom Kinder

#### **Prelude “June/Barcarolle” P.I. Tchaikovsky**

#### **Blessing and Lighting the Peace Candle**

Leader: In him was life, and the life was the light of the world.

People: **The light shines in the darkness,  
and the darkness does not overcome it.**

Leader: Let us pray for peace and the things that make for peace as we light the peace candle.

#### **Introit “Lo, I Am with You” J. Bell**

#### **Welcome and Announcements**

#### **Call to Worship**

*page one*

**Responsive Reading** *adapted from Proverbs 8*

Leader: Does not wisdom call,  
and does not understanding raise her voice?

People: **On the heights, beside the way,  
at the crossroads she takes her stand;**

Leader: Beside the gates in front of the town,  
at the entrance of the portals she cries out:

People: **To you, O people, I call,  
and my cry is to all that live.**

Leader: I was the first of all God's works,  
created before the beginning of the universe.

People: **I was at God's side like a master worker  
when God assigned to the sea its limit,  
so that the waters did not transgress their bounds.**

Leader: When God marked out the foundations of the earth,  
I was at God's side, and God delighted in me.

People: **I rejoiced in the world we shaped,  
and in the human race at its conception.**

Leader: And now, my children, listen to me:  
happy are those who keep my ways.

People: **I show the right way, I show the path of justice.  
Hear instruction and be wise.**

Leader: Happy are all who listen to me,  
watching daily at my gates, waiting beside my doors.

People: **Do not neglect wisdom,  
for whoever finds me finds life  
and lives in the grace of God.**

**\*Hymn** God Marked a Line and Told the Sea *hymn folder*

**Children's Time and Lord's Prayer** *from Acts 4:31-35*

**Anthem** "What Does the Lord Require"

**Scripture** Acts 4:31-35; I John 3:14, 16-17; John 16:12-15

**Sermon** Does Not Wisdom Call?

**\*Hymn** PH# 434 God Send a Church Whose Aim 'Twill Be  
*Please sing "God send a church" instead of "God send us men."*

**Sharing of Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests and Reflections**

*Reflection Questions:* Wisdom says with urgency, "To you, O people, I call, and my cry is to all that live." Where have you heard wisdom in the past? Where do you hear wisdom today, and what is it saying? How can we help others to hear and heed it?

**Time of Prayer**

**Call to Offering**

**\*Benediction**

**\*Sung Benediction Response**

MH #439 We Utter Our Cry vv 1, 2, 3, 5, 6

**Silent Prayer** *We invite you to end the service in a spirit of prayer.*

**Postlude** "Takk/Gratitude," Op. 62 No. 2 E. Grieg

**Video recorded services, bulletins and newsletters** are available  
on our website [unitedchurchofstrafford.com](http://unitedchurchofstrafford.com).

See us on **Facebook** at United Church of Strafford  
Sign up for **weekly emails** about upcoming worship and other news  
[at unitedchurchofstrafford@gmail.com](mailto:unitedchurchofstrafford@gmail.com)

**Pastoral Care** The Rev. Deadra Ashton is now our Pastoral Care Provider. If you are in need of spiritual direction or of individual, couples or family pastoral counseling, please be in touch with Deadra at [revdeadra@gmail.com](mailto:revdeadra@gmail.com) or by leaving a message on the church phone at 765-4585.

*page three*

**Sing for Peace June 25** People of all ages and musical experience levels are welcome at “Sing for Peace” day, Saturday, June 25, led by conductor Jessie Pierpont and UCS Musical Director Annemieke McLane. Open to all ages and musical experience levels. The choral workshop is from 10:30 am-2:30 pm, with an hour lunch break/social time noon-1 pm. Free but donations welcome for the church’s Manheim Fund for the Arts. Jessie and Annemieke will lead this choral workshop focusing on inclusive and collaborative music-making, promoting leadership, and healthy pedagogical singing techniques. We will encourage mutual inspiration and actively participate in a global mission to promote peace and unity among the Strafford community and beyond. Repertoire will include Ola Gjeilo’s “Ubi Caritas” and Kurt Bestor’s “Prayer of the Children” and shorter songs/rounds. Please email or speak with Annemieke to let her know if you will be there!

### **Spiritual Exploration and Childcare for the Children**

The Spiritual Exploration time for children is over for the year, but we still welcome children of all ages to the United Church of Strafford! Childcare is available during the church service, provided by teens and adults for children second grade and younger. Older children are welcome to stay with their families during the service itself (as are youngers, if they prefer).

**Heartfulness Contemplative Training Circle** gathers on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM in person and by Zoom and offers an informal meditation all other evenings at 7:30 PM. You are invited to be part of the circle anytime. Please see our website Welcome page for details and the different Zoom links for the two standing events.

**Next Concerts** Held on Fridays (except where noted), 7:00-8:15 PM. Admission by donation, 20% goes to the church’s Manheim Fund for the Arts.

June 17<sup>th</sup> Hanover Highschool talents Ian Goldberg, clarinet,  
Miriam Herron, cello

June 25 10:30-2:30 Singing workshop (see announcement above)

August 12<sup>th</sup> Jack Langdon, organ recital page four

**Would You Like to Be a Reader?** Please let Jane Prescott or Tom know if you would like to read during worship in person or on Zoom.

**Update on Mask Wearing at Church** The Steering Committee keeps an eye on what is happening with Covid numbers in our community and area. Unfortunately, the numbers are still ticking up in the latest surge. We feel we need to be cautious, so we recommended to the church Council to **continue the mask requirement in church for the time being**. Every other pew will continue to be roped off for now. We also recommended that we resume having **refreshments outside after church** as we did last summer and fall, weather permitting! *from The Steering Committee*

**Fulfilling Our Vision** The Fulfilling Our Vision committee depends on people joining in when they are interested in specific projects. We are resuming our focus on anti-racism and becoming officially Open to and Affirming of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. The vision we are fulfilling is our Future Directions Statement that you can find on the pew card or Welcome page of our website. It says in part, “The United Church of Strafford aspires to be a community of open hearts and minds embracing differences and diverse traditions, extending faithful Christ-like love and support to all, reaching out especially to those in need. We intend to be a force, not merely a presence, effecting positive social change for peace, justice and the care of God’s creation.” Please speak with Tom if you are interested in participating.

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on life’s journey,  
you are welcome here!*

### **Haiku by Mel Goertz:**

With each sweep of wind  
and splash of rain,  
white apple trees are turning green.

*page five*