



June 5, 2022
Morning Worship and Children's Programs at 10:00 AM

United Church of Strafford

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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 5, 2022

Pentecost

MH=Methodist Hymnal; PH=Pilgrim Hymnal

“It is possible to have a new kind of world, a world where there will be more compassion, more gentleness, more caring, more laughter, more joy for all of God’s creation, because that is God’s dream. And God says, ‘Help me, help me, help me realize my dream.’”
Archbishop Desmond Tutu from the Forward to The Green Bible

“God’s helping presence is everywhere, and at every turning point. The gifts of the Holy Spirit empower us to accomplish more than we could ask or imagine. As urgent as our crisis is, God offers us the courage we need to address the greatest moral challenge humanity has ever faced. With God’s help, we can do this, together.” *Jim Antal from the Preface to Climate Church, Climate World.*

Gathering Music

Annemieke McLane

Silent Prayer of Invocation

Pastor Tom Kinder

Prelude French Suite V, Allemande J.S. Bach

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 “Hava Nashira” Sing Hallelujah! Hebrew

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

page one

***Future Directions Vision as a Unison Reading** *from the pew card*

***Hymn** PH #68 I Sing the Mighty Power of God
And everywhere that we can be, Thou, God, art present there.

Children's Time and Lord's Prayer *from Acts 2:1-17, 40-47*

*The Lord's Prayer: Maori & Polynesia
from the New Zealand Book of Prayer*

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver,
Source of all that is and that shall be,
Father and Mother of us all,
Loving God, in whom is heaven:

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe;
The way of your justice be followed
by the peoples of the world;
Your heavenly will be done by all created beings;
Your commonwealth of peace and freedom
sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us.
In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us.
In times of temptation and test, strengthen us.
From trials too great to endure, spare us.
From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love,
now and forever. Amen.

Anthem "I Will Sing with the Spirit" J. Rutter

Scripture from Psalm 104; Isaiah 43:1-3a, 18-21
Rev. Deadra Ashton, Reader

page two

Sermon I Am About To Do a New Thing

***Hymn** When Christ Left Earth *hymn folder*

Sharing of Joys, Concerns, Prayer Requests and Reflections

Reflection Questions: Pentecost is a day to see visions and dream dreams and to prophesy what new thing God is about to do. What vision or dream is the Spirit giving you, what new thing may it be about to do, or about to help you or us do?

Time of Prayer

Call to Offering

***Benediction**

***Sung Benediction Response** MH #333 I'm Goin' a Sing When
the Spirit Says Sing 1. I'm goin' a sing... 2. I'm goin' a march...
3. I'm goin' a weep... 4. I'm goin' a hope... 5. I'm goin' a pray...

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

Postlude "He's Got the Whole World in His Hands"

African-American Spiritual

Video recorded services, bulletins and newsletters are available
on our website 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 or by leaving a message on the church phone at 765-4585.

page three

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).

Have you always wanted to run a rummage sale? This could be your opportunity! For many, many years (decades), the United Church of Strafford has sponsored a summer rummage sale. It has been a joy to work on—a wonderful fundraiser for this community church, an unparalleled chance to recycle, a great shopping deal, and a weeklong community connection with dozens and dozens of volunteers (to whom we are eternally grateful!) For the past two summers, Covid made the rummage sale impossible. Now, it seems that the chief obstacle to the rummage sale is aging backs! We would love to have some younger folks take on this great tradition. If you have any interest, we would much appreciate chatting with you and passing on our rummage sale experience! With gratitude, June Solsaa, Danette Harris, Joey Hawkins, Ingrid Webb

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 17th Hanover Highschool talents Ian Goldberg, clarinet, Miriam Herron, cello

June 25 10:30-2:30 Singing workshop led by Jessica Pierpont, McGill. Sign up with Annemieke McLane.

August 12th 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:

The Doves stay out late.
They are watching the sun set
behind the mountain.

page five