

Benediction

Rev. Lee Ireland

The Light has splintered our darkness. God has called us to dance. We go forth to answer with our lives. Let us do so with love. Amen.

Benediction Response

“Go Now In Peace”

Postlude

"Sent Forth by God's Blessing "

(Ash Grove) arr. Dale Wood

Participants

Minister:

Rev. Lee A. Ireland

Liturgist:

Ellen Kerr

Organist:

Sue Stottlemeyer

Flute:

Janice Kimball

Children's Message:

Rachel Measimer

Videographer:

Richard Stottlemeyer

Video Editor:

Lisa Gorman

The Groton Congregational Ladies Choir

The Groton Congregational Choir

The Groton Congregational Church

An Open and Affirming Church

Founded in 1702



February 7, 2021

First Congregational Church of Groton, United Church of Christ
The Order of Morning Worship
February 7, 2021

Prelude "Be Still and Know That I Am God" Choir

Welcome Ellen Kerr

Call to Worship

One: Today, the words of God come to us, in love,

All: inviting us to not be afraid, but to place our faith in God.

One: Today, the word of God comes to us, in faith,

All: inviting us to trust in the One who knows us, to place our hope in the One who saves us.

One: Today, the Word of God comes to us, in hope,

All: inviting us to be gracious in our love and in our service to others. Let us give thanks for this day and the gifts of creation to guide us in our ways of living and worshipping our God.

Prayer of Confession

Forgive us, Lord when we are struggling with life, searching for answers in vain, relying on our own strength and failing again. Remind us, Lord that you are the strength upon whom we can call, the power to endure, the answer that we seek, the one in whose arms we can safely fall. Forgive us, Lord when we forget. Nudge us even more to help us hear your voice that is calling to us to be your messengers in the world and help make your love real. Be with us now as we quietly come together to worship.

Words of Assurance

Rev. Lee Ireland

God's love never ends! With this good news, we know we are forgiven; with this blessing, we know that we are healed.

All: Now, we can bear all things, believe all things, hope all things, endure all things. Thanks be to God! Amen.

HYMN "Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service" CH # 461, verses 1 and 4

Offertory

Offertory Anthem "Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether "

Prayer of Dedication (unison)

Refreshed by living waters, renewed by living bread, may we, your sons, and daughters, by your own hand be led. Accept the gifts we offer and receive the lives we give. Unite us in your service; may seeds of justice live!

Children's Message

Rachel Measimer

Joys & Concerns of the Church in Prayer

Prayer Time in Silence & Pastoral Prayer & Lord's Prayer

HYMN

"Spirit of the Living God "

CH #259, sing thru once

Hebrew Bible Reading:

Isa 40: 21-31; Ps 147: 1-11, 20C

Ellen Kerr

New Testament Reading:

Mark 1:29-39

Rev. Lee Ireland

Sermon:

"On Eagles' Wings"

Rev. Lee Ireland

Communion Interlude

"Wonderous Love" Flute & Piano duet with Janice Kimball

Service of Holy Communion

INVITATION

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING OF THE BREAD AND THE CUP

Unison Prayer of Thanksgiving: (Unison)

Gracious God, we give you thanks for the gift of this mystery in which you have given yourself to us. Grant that we may go into the world in the strength of your Spirit, to give ourselves for others, in the name of Jesus Christ our Lord. Amen.

HYMN

"On Eagles' Wings"

CH #77 All verses