

**Benediction Response** "Go Now in Peace"

*Go now in peace. Never be afraid.  
God will go with you each hour of every day.  
Go now in faith, steadfast, strong, and true.  
Know He will guide you in all you do.  
Go now in love, and show you believe.  
Reach out to others so all the world can see.  
God will be there, watching from above.  
Go now in peace, in faith and in love*

**Postlude** "In Christ there is No East or West"

**This Week's Participants:**

Bridge Pastor:	Rev. Lee Ireland
Organist:	Sue Stottlemyer
Flutist:	Janice Kimball
Lay Reader:	Lyn Potter
Youth Director	Rachel Measimer
Videographer:	Richard Stottlemyer
Video Editor:	Lisa Gorman
The Groton Congregational Choir & Handbell Choir	

**Announcements:**

**Women's Fellowship Ham and Potatoes Grab-n-Go** Dinner Friday, May 14<sup>th</sup>. To reserve your dinners please call or email the office no later than May 9<sup>th</sup>. Bring exact change.

**Stewardship invites** you to come by the church on Mother's Day and take a flower – give it to your mother, that "like a mother" person, keep it for yourself or pass it on to a mom friend.

**Zoom Meetings**

- 1- Don't forget about our Zoom Coffee Hour at 11:30am on May 9<sup>th</sup>
  - 2- Our weekly Wednesday Prayer Meeting at 5:30pm and Bible Study at 6:30pm
- If you are not receiving our weekly Zoom invitations, please email the office.

## The Groton Congregational Church

United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Church  
Founded in 1702



**May 9, 2021**

The Groton Congregational Church, United Church of Christ  
The Order of Morning Worship  
May 9, 2021                  Worship 10 a.m.

Prelude                  “Salve Regina”                  Flute & Piano Duet

Welcome    Lyn Potter, Liturgist

**Call to Worship**

Leader:                  God speaks to the heart,  
**People:                  Offering compassion and hope.**  
Leader:                  God enlivens the mind,  
**People:                  Inviting curiosity and wonder.**  
Leader:                  God awakens all spirits,  
**People:                  Fostering sacred connection.**  
Leader:                  God nurtures our strength,  
**People:                  Creating unimagined possibilities.**  
Leader:                  God calls the whole world,  
**People:                  Inspiring extravagant love.**

**Invocation:**

**Creating Spirit, we join with the chorus of all of creation to celebrate your wondrous deeds. Fill us with your joy and train our ears for harmony, so that we may contribute to the world You are already creating. All this we pray in the name of Jesus, who revealed what is possible through love. Amen.**

**Gloria Patri                  “Glory Be to the Father”**

**Hymn                          “Let the Whole Creation Cry”                  CH#21 all verses**

Offering of Tithes and Gifts  
Offertory Anthem          “Love At Home”

Doxology                  “Paise God”    Choir

**Prayer of Dedication: (unison)**

**O God, we thank you that Christ has entrusted us with the task of feeding your people. Make us faithful and courageous in our ministry of love and may we use these gifts to your glory. Amen.**

**Children’s Message    Rachel Measimer**

Joys & Concerns of the Church in Prayer  
Prayer Time in Silence & Pastoral Prayer & Lord’s Prayer

**Hymn          “Come, Let Us Join with Faithful Souls”          New Century Hymnal #383**

Hebrew Bible Readings:          Psalm 98  
New Testament Readings:          John 15: 9-17; 1 John 5: 1-6

**Sermon          “I No Longer Call You Servants, but Friends”          Rev. Lee Ireland**

**Hymn “Let There be Peace on Earth”                          CH #677 all verses**

**Benediction:**

Friends, imagine what is possible. Imagine what our community would feel like if our own hearts embraced the unconditional love God has for us. Imagine what the nation would sound like if our words echoed the inclusive love God has for us. Imagine what the world would look like if our actions reflected the unwavering love God has for us. Let us go forth this day and share the love and peace of God with grateful hearts. Amen.