

**The First Church of Christ in Marblehead  
Old North Church, United Church of Christ  
An Open and Affirming Congregation**

**THE ORDER OF WORSHIP**

**October 16, 2022**

**Nineteenth Sunday After Pentecost**

**10:00am**

**GATHERING**

**PRELUDE**

Maria vanKalken, *organ*

**WELCOME AND CONCERNS**

Rev. Don Remick

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: We gather for worship tired from trying to make things work, tired from trying to accomplish more than is reasonable in a given day and worn out from believing that our lives can be anything different.

All: **Let us open our hearts to the possibility of change.**

One: Let us stop. And be still.

All: **Let us breathe deeply, inhaling the peace of God and finding a place in our hearts to rejoice and lift our voices in praise.**

\* **HYMN**

*God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens*

#67

**CENTERING**

**PRAYER OF INVOCATION (Unison)**

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

**Mothering God, You birthed us into this world. You sent us out to grow and learn, to make mistakes, to find our way. You have imprinted Your love on our hearts, and nothing can take that love from us. When the weight of the world becomes too much for us, quiet our minds. Call us back to our deepest knowledge: that You made us, that You love us, and that You are with us. In the silence, we listen for Your voice of love.**

**SILENT PRAYER**

**LORD'S PRAYER**

**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, and lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, forever and ever. Amen**

## PRAYER OF CONFESSION

One: There is a difference between guilt and shame. Guilt says “I have done something bad.” Shame says, “I *\*am\** bad.” We are beloved by God, always, no matter what. Nothing can change that. Grounded in that assurance, we confess the wrong we have done, so that we might reorient ourselves towards love. In the silence, we confess the ways, this week, that we have done wrong—the ways we have failed to receive and to share God’s love.

One: We are harsh, and clumsy, and easily distracted. We do evil that we did not mean to do; we fail to do the good that we wish to do.

**All: Forgive us for our sins.**

One: We become disoriented and lose sight of that which is most important.

**All: Redirect us to your ways.**

One: We are caught up in systems that we did not create and cannot control.

**All: Empower us to bring justice.**

**Loving God, receive our confessions, bring us your peace, and restore our hope, in Jesus’ name. Amen.**

## SILENT PRAYER

## ASSURANCE OF PARDON

One: God has written love on our hearts. We know God’s love in our bones, in the deepest parts of ourselves. We can always return to it, however far we have strayed.

**All: God forgives us, God forgets our sins, God guides us towards love. Thanks be to God!**

## \* CHORAL RESPONSE

**Glory to the Creator, and to the Christ, and to the Spirit One,  
As it was in the beginning, is now and ever shall be,  
World without end, Amen, Amen.**

## \* HYMN

*Come Teach Us, Spirit of Our God*

#226

## LISTENING

## SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 31: 27–34 Read by Katharine Redmond

The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will sow the house of Israel and the house of Judah with the seed of humans and the seed of animals. And just as I have watched over them to pluck up and break down, to overthrow, destroy, and bring evil, so I will watch over them to build and to plant, says the LORD. In those days they shall no longer say: “The parents have eaten sour

grapes, and the children's teeth are set on edge." But all shall die for their own sins; the teeth of everyone who eats sour grapes shall be set on edge. The days are surely coming, says the LORD, when I will make a new covenant with the house of Israel and the house of Judah. It will not be like the covenant that I made with their ancestors when I took them by the hand to bring them out of the land of Egypt—a covenant that they broke, though I was their husband, says the LORD. But this is the covenant that I will make with the house of Israel after those days, says the LORD: I will put my law within them, and I will write it on their hearts; and I will be their God, and they shall be my people. No longer shall they teach one another, or say to each other, "Know the LORD," for they shall all know me, from the least of them to the greatest, says the LORD; for I will forgive their iniquity, and remember their sin no more.

ANTHEM

*If Ye Love Me*  
Senior Choir

Thomas Tallis

SERMON

"The Old Clock"

Rev. Don Remick

SILENT PRAYER

PASTORAL PRAYER

RESPONDING

OFFERTORY

INVITATION

PRESENTATION OF OFFERINGS

*Swing Low, Sweet Chariot* arr. William Dawson  
Holly Cameron, *soprano*; Senior Choir

\* DOXOLOGY #46

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done;  
Creator, Christ and Spirit, One. Amen**

\* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

CHORAL RESPONSE

SENDING

\* HYMN

*Go Forth for God*

#352

\* BENEDICTION

\* RESPONSE (please join in singing)

#334, verse 4

**Grant us thy peace throughout our earthly life,  
Our balm in sorrow, and our stay in strife;  
Then, when thy voice shall bid our conflict cease,  
Call us, O Lord, to thine eternal peace. Amen**

POSTLUDE

Maria vanKalken, *organ*