

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

THE ORDER OF WORSHIP

August 2, 2020

Ninth Sunday after Pentecost

GATHERING

WELCOME

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

CALL TO WORSHIP

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

One: In the beginning
before time, before people,
before the world began,

ALL: God was.

One: Here and now,
among us, beside us,
enlisting the people of earth
for the purposes of heaven,

ALL: God is.

One: In the future,
when we have turned to dust
and all we know has found its fulfillment,

ALL: God will be.

One: Not denying the world, but delighting in it,
not condemning the world, but redeeming it,
through Jesus Christ,
by the power of the Holy Spirit,

ALL: God was. God is. God will be.

CENTERING

PRAYERS OF INVOCATION AND CONFESSION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

(from Psalm 145)

God, you are good to all, and your compassion is over all that you have made. You uphold all who are falling, and raise up all who are bowed down. You open your hand, satisfying the desire of every living thing. You are just in all your ways, and kind in all your doings. You are near to all who call on you. We call on you today, trusting in your nearness, as we pray in the words that Jesus taught us, saying:

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

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

Jesus modeled for us a life of balance: work and rest, community and solitude, prayer and action. Our lives are constantly thrown off balance, and so we neglect to do what God has called us to. Sometimes we neglect to love our neighbors as we love ourselves. Sometimes we forget the abundance that has been entrusted to us and so do not share what we could. Sometimes we are so hard at work that we fail to slow down and enjoy the beauty that God has prepared for us.

In the silence that follows, I invite us to examine our consciences, confess our sins, lay down our shame, and receive the mercy that God is so eager to give.

SILENT PRAYER

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

Beloved community,

Our God is gracious and merciful, slow to anger and abounding in steadfast love.

As we come to God, our spirits are restored, and our lives are realigned so that we might live as Jesus lived, filling our days with prayerful action and abundant joy and rest. Thanks be to God!

LISTENING

HYMN:

Break Thou the Bread of Life
Maria vanKalken, organ

#294

A MOMENT WITH OUR CHILDREN

Karen Kilty
Director of Children's Ministries

FIRST READING

Matthew 14-13-21

Read by Jill Dearborn

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, 'This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves.' Jesus said to them, 'They need not go away; you give them something to eat.' They replied, 'We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish.' And he said, 'Bring them here to me.' Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

GOSPEL LESSON

Loaves and Fishes Read by Katharine Redmond

Loaves and Fishes

This is not
the age of information.

This is *not*
the age of information.

Forget the news,
and the radio,
and the blurred screen.

This is the time of loaves
and fishes.

People are hungry,
and one good word is bread
for a thousand.

From The House of Belonging: poems by David Whyte
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<https://gratefulness.org/resource/loaves-and-fishes-a-poem/>

SERMON

“ More Than Enough”

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

RESPONDING

OFFERTORY MOMENT

DOXOLOGY

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

THE SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Rev. Lindsay Popperson

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

OFFERING OF THE BREAD

OFFERING OF THE CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

MOMENT OF REMEMBRANCE AND THANKSGIVING FOR JUDY JACOBI

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

SENDING

HYMN:

We Would Be Building
Maria vanKalken, organ

#411

BENEDICTION

Rev. Dr. Dennis Calhoun

POSTLUDE:

Somewhere Over the Rainbow
Holly Cameron, soprano: Maria vanKalken, piano
(recorded live in the sanctuary in 2019 at a Memorial Service)

H. Arlen