

A delegation of Southerners came to see Lincoln just before the outbreak of the Civil War, and told him that the cause of the South would prevail, for God was on their side.

Lincoln responded, "It is more important to know that we are on God's side."

Abraham Lincoln 19th C

Toward the end of his life Thoreau was urged to make his peace with God. "I did not know that we had ever quarreled," he replied.

Henry David Thoreau 19th C

"They would search for God and perhaps grope for God and find God----though indeed God is not far from each one of us. For, In God we live and move and have our being."

Paul in Athens Acts 17:27-28

Prayer Candles: Is there a person or relationship that needs a prayer?

Come forward and light an individual prayer candle before our worship begins!

Greeting One Another in Peace and Friendship Welcome and Announcements

The Prelude *Prelude on 'Restoration'* Southern Harmony, arr. Anderson

The Centering Silence

* **The Gathering Hymn** *We Gather Together* # 276

* The Call to Worship

L: We are children of God, created to cherish the world around us, nurture it and make it bear fruit.

P: **We are children of God, tillers of the soil, teachers of our youth and healers of ailing bodies.**

L: We are children of God, trusted to be guardians of our environment and builders of community.

P: **We are children of God, charged with bringing the image of our creator into our everyday lives.**

L: We are children of God, called to bring compassion and caring to those who suffer.

All: **We are children of God, and as God's children may we possess the determination and the courage to love and care for this amazing world, God's gift, and our home.**

The Gathering Prayer

Father, Mother God, we are your children, blessed with minds and hearts designed to make our world a habitat that sings your praises. Help us find ways to bring health and happiness to all your children. Where there is misery and fear, enable us to provide comfort and stability. Where there is anger and divisiveness, help us bring acceptance and peace. When fighting and gun shots threaten our cities, calm our fears and walk with us through gardens of serenity.

We are your children, O God, insist that we remember to whom we belong and in whose love we are eternally embraced. Amen

Worship Music

Imagine John Lennon
Tricia Griffith, *vocalist*; Dr. Laura Artesani, *piano*

A Time for the Child in Each of Us

Sing Our Children to Sunday School (*seated*) *Go Now In Peace* # 437 (*twice*)

Go now in peace, go now in peace, may the love of God surround you everywhere, everywhere you may go.

The Prayer Hymn *Open My Eyes, That I May See* # 586

The Silent Prayer and Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer (*unison*) Parker Palmer, *Quaker writer and teacher*

Heavenly Mother, heavenly Father, Holy and blessed is your true name.

We pray for your reign of peace to come, we pray that your good will be done, let heaven and earth become one.

Give us this day the bread we need, give it to those who have none.

Let forgiveness flow like a river through us, from each one to each one.

Lead us to holy innocence beyond the evil of our days.

Come swiftly Mother, Father, come!

For yours is the power and the glory and the mercy--

Forever your name is All in One. Amen

The Congregational Response *O Lord, hear my prayer* Taize Community

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord hear my prayer. When I call answer me.

O Lord, hear my prayer, O Lord, hear my prayer. Come and listen to me.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: All my hope comes from God.

The Lord is my song, the Lord is my praise: God, the well-spring of life.

The Offering Prayer of Dedication (*unison*)

So much justice yet to be established; so much pain yet to be healed.

So much peace yet to be realized; so much love yet to pour forth.

Accept, O God, the fruits of our labor. Amen

The Offering

The Offertory *Musette* J.S. Bach

* **The Doxology** **Let the whole creation cry, Alleluia!** # 21

"Glory be to God on high!" Alleluia!

Sun and moon, lift up your voice, Alleluia!

Night and stars in God rejoice, Alleluia!

The Scripture Reading *Genesis 1:1-2:4a*

The Sermon *In God's Image* Reverend Dr. Emily Taylor

* **The Parting Hymn** *God Is My Shepherd* # 79

* **The Benediction**

* **The Congregational Benediction** (*unison*)

May the Lord nurture in each of us the song of a lover,
the words of a poet, the inquisitiveness of a child
the determination of a prophet
and the dedication of a disciple. Go now in peace.

* **The Postlude**

Presto from Sonata in c minor

Pescetti

~Today~

Guest Minister: The Reverend Dr. Emily Taylor is a native of Waterville, Maine. Emily graduated with a Masters in Divinity in 2003 and a Doctorate of Ministry in 2010, both from Bangor Seminary. She is retired from her position as minister of the Union Congregational Church, UCC, Ellsworth Falls. Emily lives in Orono with her husband Joe.

Guest Vocalist: Tricia Griffith and her husband Thomas moved to Maine from Central New York in 2010. Tricia is a licensed massage therapist with an office here in Orono. She is also a gifted artist with a degree in graphic design and creates nature themed 3D art with recycled cardboard. We are grateful that Tricia volunteers as CUF's Head Usher almost every Sunday. Tricia and Thomas share their home with three *fur* kids.

Morning Worship 10:00 am The Sanctuary (Nursery, Sun. School)

Coffee Hour 11:00 am The Gathering Place

Buy your Music with a Mission tickets for Sept. 14 at Coffee Hour today!

Coming Up at CUF!

Deacons Meeting: Wednesday, Sept. 4th at 5:00 pm, Gathering Place

Book Group: Monday, Sept. 9th at 7:00 pm, Gathering Place

 **Saturday, September 14th at 7:00 pm**
Music with a Mission in the Sanctuary

"One Light Many Candles"

featuring Reverend Betty Stookey and Noel Paul Stookey

Proceeds will support the *Maine Multicultural Center*

Tickets \$25 advance purchase, \$30 at the door

Tickets available at the CUF office, The Store Ampersand, online at Eventbrite

Friday, September 27th at 6:00 pm

Come and celebrate Reverena Lorna Grenfell!

A potluck and much more in the CUF Vestry.

Dessert and beverages provided.

Please sign up on the signup sheet in the Gathering Place!

Summer Plate Offering: CUF's Mission to Our Community (Open Doors)

Please make checks payable to The Church of Universal Fellowship.

Memo your check or mark your envelope: Pledge or Open Doors

September Office Hours: Mo - Wed -Thu - Fri 9:00 am to 2:00 pm

The Church Office is closed on Labor Day, Monday, September 2nd



The Church of Universal Fellowship

... a house for all people

September 1, 2019 ~ Twelfth Sunday after Pentecost

Guest Minister

Reverend Dr. Emily Taylor
and members of the Congregation

Organist/Pianist

Dr. Laura Artesani

Worship Music

Tricia Griffith

Bulletin Cover

Black Eyed Susan by Beverly Antonitis

Head Usher

Tricia Griffith

Hospitality

Lori Smith

Nursery Care

Alyssa Urquhart

Sunday School

Raechelle Edmiston-Cyr

Offering Plate

Sonja Birthisel and Irene von Hoffmann

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An Open & Affirming Congregation