



June 11, 2023

Morning Worship and Children's Programs at 10:00

United Church of Strafford

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Our Church Covenant

*We gather together with freedom of conscience
in a community of love and inquiry.
All are welcome, without exception.*

*We practice Christianity with faith and compassion.
We covenant with one another to embody the love of Christ,
to nurture contemplation and action,
and to offer our gifts, talents and energies as we are able.*

United Church of Strafford, Vermont

June 11, 2023

Second Sunday after Pentecost, Story Sunday

MH=Methodist Hymnal; PH=Pilgrim Hymnal

“There are different kinds of gifts, but the same Spirit that gives them. There are different kinds of service, but the same Christ we serve. There are different kinds of working, but in all of them and in everyone it is the same God at work. Now to each one the manifestation of the Spirit is given for the common good. To one there is given through the Spirit the word of wisdom, to another the word of knowledge by means of the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by that one Spirit, to another miraculous powers, to another prophecy, to another distinguishing between spirits, to another speaking in different kinds of tongues, and to still another the interpretation of tongues. All these are the work of one and the same Spirit, and the Spirit distributes them to each individual according to the Spirit's purpose.”

I Corinthians 12: 4-11

Welcome and Announcements

Pastor Tom Kinder

Greeting and Call to Worship

Rachel Guaraldi

Opening Song “The Gathering of Spirits” Carrie Newcomer

Reflection on the Peace Candle

Blessing and Lighting the Peace Candle

Leader: In Christ was life, and the life was the light of the world.

**People: The light shines in the darkness,
and the darkness does not overcome it.**

Leader: Let us pray for peace and the things that make for peace
as we light the peace candle.

***Peace Song** “Circle Round for Freedom” (*see page three*)

page one

Puppet Story Gifts of the Spirit *adapted from Faith & Play*

Wondering Questions

***Song** “Magic Penny” (*page three*)

First Book Story *When God Made You* by Matthew Paul Turner

Second Book Story *Maybe God is Like That Too* by Jennifer Grant

Wondering Questions

Introduction to Prayer

Sharing of Joys, Concerns and Prayer Requests

Time of Prayer

***Song** “This Little Light of Mine” (*page four*)

Benediction

Closing Song “The Gathering of Spirits” Carrie Newcomer

** Those who are comfortably able may stand.*

Please stay for refreshments and neighborliness in the Parish Hall.

Past sermons are available on the back table.

Video recorded services, sermon texts and bulletins
are available on our website unitedchurchofstrafford.com.

See us on **Facebook** at United Church of Strafford

Sign up for **weekly emails** about upcoming worship and other news
at unitedchurchofstrafford@gmail.com

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey,
you are welcome here!*

You are invited to a graveside service for Dot Burden on June 24
at 10:00am at the Strafford Cemetery, the Rev. Deadra Ashton
officiating. A reception will follow in the Parish Hall. *page two*

Thank you to Rachel Guaraldi, Danette Harris and Joey Hawkins for
the gift of Story Sundays!

First Song, “Circle Round for Freedom”

Circle round for freedom, circle round for peace
For all of us imprisoned, circle for release
Circle for the planet, circle for each soul
For the children of our children: keep the Circle whole!

Second Song, “Magic Penny”

Love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

It's just like a magic penny,
Hold it tight and you won't have any.
Lend it, spend it, and you'll have so many
They'll roll all over the floor.

For love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

Money's dandy and we like to use it,
But love is better if you're open to it.
It's a treasure and you'll never lose it
So spread it round the world!

For love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

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page three

So let's go dancing till the break of day,
And if there's a piper, we can pay.
For love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

For love is something if you give it away,
Give it away, give it away.
Love is something if you give it away,
You end up having more.

Third Song, "This Little Light of Mine"

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine!
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine!
All around the world, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Won't let anyone "puff" it out
Won't let anyone "puff" it out
Won't let anyone "puff" it out
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Hide it under a bushel? no!
Hide it under a bushel? no!
Hide it under a bushel? no!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine!
Let it shine, let it shine, let it shine!

Next Story Sunday All ages are welcome to join us on "Story Sundays" led by Rachel Guaraldi. Rachel uses stories, as well as song, movement, and shared conversation to help everyone from youngest children to oldest adults explore some of the great spiritual questions. Please pass the word about this to anyone who might be interested of any faith or age. Story Sundays are held the second Sunday of the month (except July). The next is August 13th.

Heartfulness Contemplative Training Circle gathers on Thursday evenings at 7:00 PM by Zoom and offers an informal meditation all other evenings at 7:30 PM by Zoom. You are invited to be part of the circle. See our website Welcome page for details.

Fulfilling Our Vision The Fulfilling Our Vision committee is continuing our focus on exploring the question of whether our congregation will become officially Open to and Affirming of people of all sexual orientations and gender identities. The vision we are fulfilling is our Future Directions Statement that you can find on the pew card or on the Welcome page of our website.

Pastoral Care: Pastor Tom Kinder serves only one-third time and counseling, visits and funerals are not included in his ministry. Those in need can reach out to Deacons Becky Bailey (rbailey@sover.net), Debby Richie (dc.richie@hotmail.com), and Cameron Speth (cece@speth.com) or call the church number.

Next Concerts Admission by donation, 20% goes to the church's Manheim Fund for the Arts. Featuring pianist Annemieke McLane:
Friday, July 28th, 7:00 PM Piano Classics I
Friday, August 25th, 7:00 PM Piano Classics II

Haiku by Mel Goertz:

The midnight branches
of a Maple tree outlined
in a full moon sky.