

First Congregational UCC of Wellington

Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay, Pastor

Sunday, April 25, 2021
FOURTH SUNDAY OF EASTER
“LOVE IS A VERB”
REVEAL Worship Series



Prelude

Gathering Moment

Call to Worship

With grace flowing, the poet sings the opening lines of the famous prayer,
“The Lord is my shepherd. I shall not want.”

We hear the Psalmist’s contentment and wonder about our own.

Settled on the ground, with grass tickling their toes,
the psalmist rests,
“God makes me lie down in green pastures.
She leads me beside still waters.
She restores my soul.”

We hear their deep need for rest and wonder about our own.

With a deep sigh, the psalmist declares,
“Even though I walk through the darkest valley,
I fear no evil; for you are with me.
You prepare a table before me. You anoint me. My cup overflows.

We recognize their bold courage and wonder about our own.

Remembering God’s faithfulness, the psalmist finds words
to carry with them,
“Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
and I will dwell in the house of the Lord my whole life long.”

We hear their faithful trust and wonder about our own.

Holy Spirit of Rest and Renewal,
in this time of worship inspire us with words both ancient and new
so that we may find the words that connect us to You.

Amen and amen.

Opening Prayer

*God of love and light,
we come as witnesses of your glory and faithfulness,
amazed to discover your transformative love.
God, we desire for you to abide within us,
and for your grace to be revealed anew daily.
Be with us and awaken within us the call to love one another,
in the way it was made real through Jesus the Christ. Amen.*

Hymn

“Surely the Presence of the Lord”

*Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place
I can feel His mighty power and His grace
I can hear the brush of angel's wings
I see glory on each face
Surely the presence of the Lord is in this place*

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Reading of Scripture Acts 4:5-12 | John 10:11-18

One: God is still speaking.

Many: We are listening. Thanks be to God!

Sermon

“LOVE IS A VERB” Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. Lindsay

Hymn

“Victory in Jesus”

*I heard an old, old story,
How a Savior came from glory,
How He gave His life on Calvary
To save a wretch like me;
I heard about His groaning,
Of His precious blood's atoning,
Then I repented of my sins
And won the victory.*

*O victory in Jesus,
My Savior, forever.
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him,
He plunged me to victory,
Beneath the cleansing flood.*

*I heard about His healing,
Of His cleansing pow'r revealing.
How He made the lame to walk again
And caused the blind to see;
And then I cried, "Dear Jesus,
Come and heal my broken spirit,"
And somehow Jesus came and bro't
To me the victory.*

*O victory in Jesus,
My Savior, forever.
He sought me and bought me
With His redeeming blood;
He loved me ere I knew Him
And all my love is due Him,
He plunged me to victory,
Beneath the cleansing flood.*

Prayers of the People

Offering

God invites us to bring the fullness of who we are into worship and to share the fullness of who we are with the world. So it is God's holy invitation that asks us to pause and wonder what we want to offer of ourselves to the world. Time? Presence? Kindness? Financial support? Prayers?

In these moments of quiet and reflection:
what is it that you have to offer this day to bring about God's peace on Earth?

Prayer of Dedication

*God of abundant love,
We offer a portion of our time, spiritual gifts, and resources
as a sign of our love for you and the world.
O God, we give you our thanks for all that we have
and ask a special blessing on these offerings.
And God, we ask that our collective offering
be an expression of healing, that brings hope to a hurting world.
In the name of Jesus Christ, we pray. Amen.*

News of the Community

Hymn

"This Little Light of Mine"

*This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Oh, this little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine*

*This little light of mine
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine*

*All around the neighborhood
I'm going to let it shine
All around the neighborhood
I'm going to let it shine*

All around the neighborhood

*I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine*

*Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine
Hide it under a bushel? No!
I'm going to let it shine
Let it shine, all the time, let it shine.*

Benediction and Charge

*Go forth into this day and into the world in the name of God,
the one who creates you;
go in the name of the Jesus who shows us the way;
and go in the name of the Holy Spirit,
who is with us now and always.
Peace be with you. Amen.*

Fellowship on Zoom