

# SUNDAY WORSHIP

*Sunday • May 5, 2024*

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**Mission Statement:** As a community of faith, we welcome all who seek understanding. • As a community of hope, we offer friendship and comfort to those in need. • As a community of love, we provide caring support and shared fellowship to all.

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WE ARE A COMMUNITY CHURCH. OUR FRIENDS, NEIGHBORS AND MEMBERS COME FROM MANY PLACES AND MULTIPLE FAITH TRADITIONS. EVERYONE IS WELCOME TO FIND A SPIRITUAL SANCTUARY HERE.

## — WELCOME —

### CENTERING MUSIC

*Sharon Novak*

### CALL to WORSHIP

*by Nancy Townley, Ministry Matters*

One: God has called each one of us to serve,  
using the gifts we have been given.

People: *I don't know where to start.*

One: Place your trust in God's guidance.

People: *What if I fail?*

One: God is with you - place your trust in God's presence.

**ALL:** *Help us, O God, to trust in you and in your gracious gifts to me. Help me to serve others in your name.*

**AMEN.**

### \*SONG

*Sanctuary*

*Sharon Novak*

*Lord, prepare me to be a sanctuary, Pure and holy, tried and true.*

*With thanksgiving, I'll be a living, Sanctuary for You.*

## — PRAYING —

### PRAYERS of PEOPLE & SILENCE & 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 sins as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, the power, and glory forever.  
*Amen.*

## — REFLECTING —

### SCRIPTURE

*1 Corinthians 13:1-3*

### MESSAGE

*On Love*

*Sue Davidson*

### SONG 68

**Though I May Speak**

*Sharon Novak*

## — COMMUNION —

### CONFESSION (unison)

*Adapted from Nancy Townley's prayer*

God of great expectations, you know how easy it is for us to make excuses for inactivity. We love to run and hide when a task is set before us. We look at the expectation and think that we don't have the abilities, strength, or wisdom to accomplish this task. We think, too often, that we are doing these things all by ourselves. And we feel sorry for ourselves and angry that you expect so much from us. Forgive our ignorance and our stubbornness, O Lord. Help us understand that the opportunities for service that you offer to us also come with your abiding presence, love and support. It is your love which makes the impossible, possible. Turn us around and place us back on the path of joyful service. Let our work be part of the fulfillment of the mandate of Jesus Christ when he made his proclamation in the synagogue so long ago. For it is in His Name that we pray. *Amen.*

### ASSURANCE of PARDON & INVITATION to TABLE

### THE SURSUM CORDA and SANCTUS

One: God be with you.

People: *And also with you.*

One: Lift up your hearts.

People: *We lift them to the skies.*

One: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: *It is right to give thanks and praise.*

One: It is very meet, right, and our bounden duty, that we should at all times, and in all places, give thanks unto you, everlasting God. Therefore, with angels and archangels, and with all the company of heaven, we laud and magnify your glorious name, evermore praising you, and singing.

*All: Holy, holy, holy, Lord God Almighty,  
Early in the morning, our song shall rise to thee;  
Holy, holy, holy, Merciful and mighty,  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.  
— Nicaea 351*

### THE SHARING OF BREAD AND CUP\*\*

#### STATEMENT OF THANKSGIVING

One: We are not alone, God made us.  
People: *We are not alone; we have each other.*  
One: Can anything separate us from the love of Christ?  
People: *Can trouble, pain, or persecution?*  
One: No. In all these things we win an overwhelming victory through the one whose love for us has been proven.  
*All: Neither death, nor life, neither messenger of heaven nor ruler on earth, neither what happens today nor what may happen tomorrow, neither power from on high nor power from below, nor anything else has power to separate us from the love of God! Thanks be to God! Amen!*

\*SONG #311 *Let Us Break Bread* Sharon Novak

— OFFERING —

\*SONG #44 *Doxology* Sharon Novak

#### PRAYER of DEDICATION

— CLOSING —

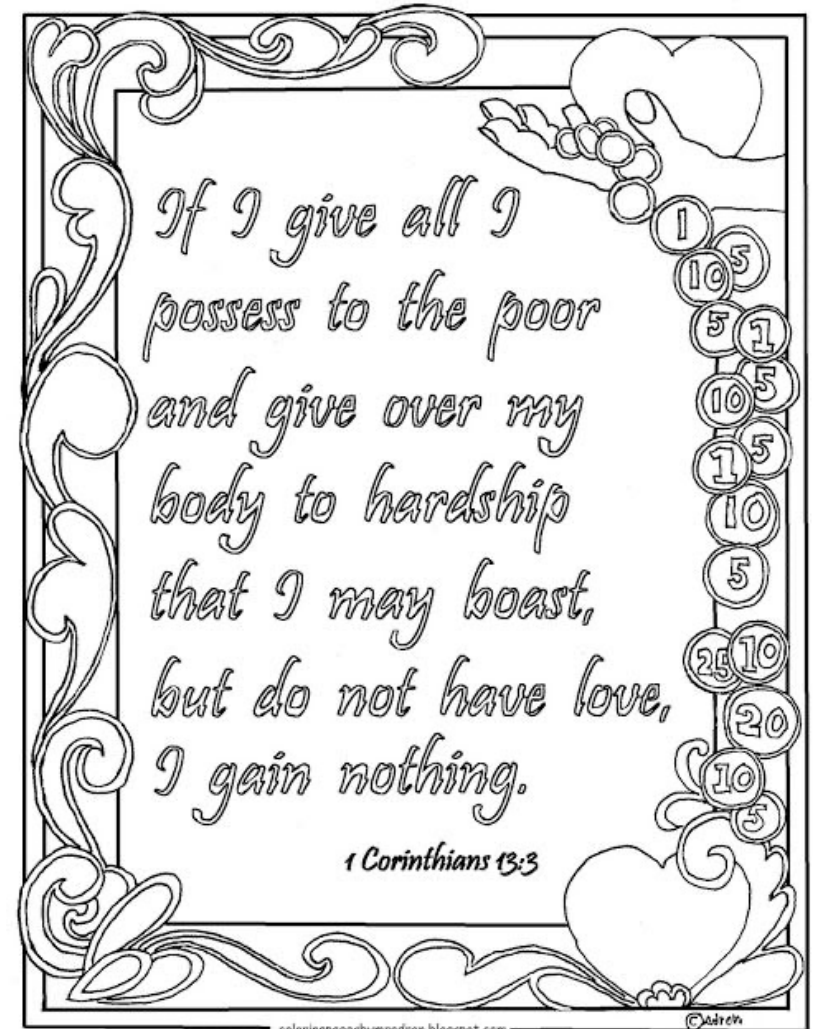
BENEDICTION Sharon Novak

*May the love of God live in us today, may the love of God live in us today.  
May the warmth we feel within us show in all we do and say.  
May the love of God live in us today.  
May the peace of God be with us today,  
May the peace of God be with us today.  
May it guide us and protect us, as we go our separate ways,  
May the peace of God be with us,  
May the love of God live in us,  
May the love of God shine through us today.*

*\*Please rise if you're able \*\*Communion is gluten free & nonalcoholic*

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

May 5, 2024 • 10:30am



JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC  
JACKSON, NH

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 Corinthians 13:1-3

#### The Gift of Love

13 If I speak in the tongues of humans and of angels but do not have love, I am a noisy gong or a clanging cymbal. <sup>2</sup> And if I have prophetic powers and understand all mysteries and all knowledge and if I have all faith so as to remove mountains but do not have love, I am nothing. <sup>3</sup> If I give away all my possessions and if I hand over my body so that I may boast<sup>[a]</sup> but do not have love, I gain nothing.

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE: *For* PEOPLE

Allan, Anjali, Annie, Arden, Alexis, Barbara, Bob, Cindi, Cheryl, Corey, Deb, Dean, Don, George, Joan, Jean, Judy, Kathy, Ken (KC), Irene, Laurie, Lee, Marcia, Matteo, Mary, Maureen, Parker, Phaedra, Sarah, Scamp, Spencer Elizabeth, Tom, Robert, Val, Vivianne Elizabeth, Lori's niece & nephew, Dawson's sister, Tish's mother & family and Stam family.

For those in need of the essentials of life: dignity, work, education, food, water, shelter, freedom of thought and expression and belief and self-direction, sense of belonging and purpose, a place to call home.

For people with new diagnosis, undergoing treatment, seeking healing and recovery in body, mind or spirit. For those with cognitive, mental, and emotional challenges and changes. For those holding vigil until the end of life, and for those who are grieving, including the family of Jacob.

For those serving in the military and for their families. For those in caring roles and professions. For emergency responders: firefighters, police, EMTs and ambulance, medical health, social health, and mental health, disaster relief, crisis intervention, and others. For those in leadership positions making choices that affect other people.

## PRAYERS of the PEOPLE: *For* PLACES

For climate-related occurrences around the world. For places affected by natural disasters: earthquakes, floods, fires, droughts, famine, eruptions, storms and other phenomena. For places struggling with conflict, systemic oppression, or violence such as Israel, Gaza, Palestine, and the Ukraine. For places with which we have partnership, including Chikanga Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe and communities in Honduras.