

## SUNDAY WORSHIP

10:30am • Sunday • July 28, 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.

— ANNOUNCEMENTS & PASSING the PEACE —

— WELCOME —

CENTERING MUSIC

*Sharon Novak*

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: In the wake of terrible news, you ask us to do something comforting and familiar.

*People: We set out in the same boat. Together.*

One: We know what to do. Usually we are good at this.

*People: We row, take turns, help each other, and keep watch.*

One: Yet we are caught out in the open as things change.

*People: We work hard, yet we do not get anywhere.*

One: Peril surrounds us. And maybe we brought some of the danger with us, too.

*People: The water is deep. The storm is serious.*

One: Wind and waves overwhelm us.

*People: We cannot see the shore or find the horizon.*

One: We are afraid.

*People: We could sink. We may not survive.*

One: Oh, God, we have tried so many different solutions.

*People: Attempted to save ourselves.*

One: Finally we cry out.

*People: And then? You come to us.*

One: What happens next, ought to be impossible.

*People: Yet here You are.*

One: You reach out to us, as we struggle through the dark night of our souls.

*People: Look! The sky grows lighter. Morning is coming..*

One: You offer kind words.

*People: You say, "Take heart. Do not be afraid. It is I."*

**All: Then You join us. And grant us Your peace.**

SONG #

*Garden Song (insert)*

*Sharon Novak*

— PRAYING —

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE & MOMENT OF 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 —

**MARK 6: 45-52** — <sup>45</sup> Immediately he made his disciples get into the boat and go on ahead to the other side, to Bethsaida, while he dismissed the crowd. <sup>46</sup> After saying farewell to them, he went up on the mountain to pray.

<sup>47</sup> When evening came, the boat was out on the sea, and he was alone on the land. <sup>48</sup> When he saw that they were straining at the oars against an adverse wind, he came toward them early in the morning, walking on the sea. He intended to pass them by. <sup>49</sup> But when they saw him walking on the sea, they thought it was a ghost and cried out, <sup>50</sup> for they all saw him and were terrified. But immediately he spoke to them and said, "*Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.*"

<sup>51</sup> Then he got into the boat with them, and the wind ceased. And they were utterly astounded, <sup>52</sup> for they did not understand about the loaves, but their hearts were hardened.

**MATTHEW 14: 22-33** — <sup>22</sup> Immediately he made the disciples get into a boat and go on ahead to the other side, while he dismissed the crowds. <sup>23</sup> And after he had dismissed the crowds, he went up the mountain by himself to pray. When evening came, he was there alone, <sup>24</sup> but by this time the boat, battered by the waves,

was far from the land, for the wind was against them. <sup>25</sup> And early in the morning he came walking toward them on the sea. <sup>26</sup> But when the disciples saw him walking on the sea, they were terrified, saying, “*It is a ghost!*” And they cried out in fear.

<sup>27</sup> But immediately Jesus spoke to them and said, “*Take heart, it is I; do not be afraid.*”

<sup>28</sup> Peter answered him, “*Lord, if it is you, command me to come to you on the water.*”

<sup>29</sup> He said, “*Come.*”

So Peter got out of the boat, started walking on the water, and came toward Jesus. <sup>30</sup> But when he noticed the strong wind, he became frightened, and, beginning to sink, he cried out, “*Lord, save me!*”

<sup>31</sup> Jesus immediately reached out his hand and caught him, saying to him, “*You of little faith, why did you doubt?*”

<sup>32</sup> When they got into the boat, the wind ceased. <sup>33</sup> And those in the boat worshiped him, saying, “*Truly you are the Son of God.*”

**REFLECTION**      *WATER, WATER  
EVERYWHERE*      *Rev Gail Doktor*

**\*SONG #426**      *I've Got Joy*      *Sharon Novak*

— OFFERING —

**\*SONG #44**      *Doxology*      *Sharon Novak*

**PRAYER of DEDICATION**

— CLOSING —

**\*BENEDICTION**

*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.*

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**JACKSON COMMUNITY CHURCH, UCC**  
**JACKSON, NH**

**PRAYERS of the PEOPLE: *For* PEOPLE**

*New names this week: Cal, Wayne.*

*Continuing prayers:* Annie, Allan, Anjali, Annie, Arden, Alexis, Barbara, Bob, Carl, Cindi, Cheryl, Corey, Deb, Darlene, Dean, Don, Ed, Emmie, George, Jan, Jean, Joe, Joan, John, John H., Joyce, Jonathan, Judy, Kathy, Ken (KC), Irene, Laurie, Liberty Maazda & family, Linda, Lori, Marcia, Matteo, Mary, Maureen, Meg, Michelle, Parker, Peter, Phaedra, Robert G., Sarah, Scamp, Spencer Elizabeth, Tom, Robert, Val, Lori's niece & nephew, Dawson's sister, the Stam family, Padi and her sister Julia.

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.

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.

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