

SUNDAY WORSHIP  
10:30am • August 10, 2025

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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

*Fierce Blessing by Jan Richardson*

One: Believe me when I say there is nothing this blessing would not do to protect you, to save you, to encompass you.

*People: This blessing would stand between you and every danger, every evil, every harm and hurt.*

One: This blessing would dare to wade with you into the waters that come bearing life.

*People: It would make a way for you through the waters that come threatening death.*

One: I cannot explain how fierce this blessing feels about you, but I can tell you it has more than pledged itself to you;

*People: It would lay down its life for you and not once look back in regret nor go in sorrow for what it has chosen to give.*

One: And you—so deeply blessed, so utterly encompassed—what will you save in turn?

*All: Not because it is owed, but because you cannot imagine failing to pass along this grace that casts its circle so wide, this love that flows so deep through this perilous and precious life.*

\*SONG #6

*Bring Many Names*

*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.*

\*SONG #89

*Like a Mother*

*Who Has Borne Us*

*Sharon Novak*

— REFLECTING —

SCRIPTURE

*Exodus 1: 8-22*

REFLECTION

*WHY HAVE YOU*

*LET THEM LIVE?*

*Rev Gail Doktor*

\*SONG #97

*He's Got the Whole World*

*In his Hands*

*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.*

**PRAYERS for PEOPLE:**

*Focus this week:* Alexis, Ann C., BJ, Bob G., Bunny C, Cindi, David, Dave & Beth, Deb L., Haisley, Huntley, Irene, Jenn, Judy, Kailee, Karen, Larry, Linda, Nancy, Rob, Ruth, Steve, Tom, Tyler, Val. For those who grieve.

*Continuing:* Alice, Annie, Arden, Barbara, Bilo, Bob, Bruce, Cal, Cameron, Carl, Corey, Dean, David, Dawson S., Deb W., Don, Ed, Emmie, George, Karen, Kevin, Jan, Jean, Jim H., Joe, Joan, John, John H., Joyce, Jonathan, Judy, Karen, Kim, Kathy, Ian, Laurie, Marcia, Matteo, Maureen, Mary, Meg, Michelle, Parker, Petros, Phaedra, Robert G., Sally, Sam, Sarah, Sascha, Spencer Elizabeth, Tom, Tony, Rob, Robert, Val, Wayne, Lori's niece & nephew.

**PRAYERS for PLACES:** For places with which we have partnership, including Chikanga Church in Mutare, Zimbabwe and communities in Honduras. For places hurt by natural disaster & human-caused conflict.

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*Image by Sarah Fuller*

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

## SCRIPTURE: *EXODUS 1:8-22*

**The Israelites Are Oppressed:** <sup>8</sup> Now a new king arose over Egypt who did not know Joseph. <sup>9</sup> He said to his people, *“Look, the Israelite people are more numerous and more powerful than we.”* <sup>10</sup> *Come, let us deal shrewdly with them, or they will increase and, in the event of war, join our enemies and fight against us and escape from the land.”* <sup>11</sup> Therefore they set taskmasters over them to oppress them with forced labor ... They were ruthless in all the tasks that they imposed on them.

<sup>15</sup> The king of Egypt said to the Hebrew midwives, one of whom was named Shiphrah and the other Puah, <sup>16</sup> *“When you act as midwives to the Hebrew women and see them on the birthstool, if it is a son, kill him, but if it is a daughter, she shall live.”* <sup>17</sup>

But the midwives feared God; they did not do as the king of Egypt commanded them, but they let the boys live. <sup>18</sup> So the king of Egypt summoned the midwives and said to them, *“Why have you done this and allowed the boys to live?”*

<sup>19</sup> The midwives said to Pharaoh, *“Because the Hebrew women are not like the Egyptian women, for they are vigorous and give birth before the midwife comes to them.”* <sup>20</sup> So God dealt well with the midwives, and the people multiplied and became very strong. <sup>21</sup> And because the midwives feared God, he gave them families.

<sup>22</sup> Then Pharaoh commanded all his people, *“Every son that is born to the Hebrews you shall throw into the Nile, but you shall let every daughter live.”*