



**First Church of Christ in Mansfield
(Congregational) United Church of Christ**

THE SIXTH SUNDAY OF EASTER + MAY 9, 2021

Greeting

Alleluia! Christ is risen!

Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

Call to Healing and Opening Prayer

Hear these words of Jesus from the Gospel of John, "As the Father has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. If you keep my commandments, you will abide in my love, just as I have kept my Father's commandments and abide in his love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete. "This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends, because I have made known to you everything that I have heard from my Father. You did not choose me but I chose you. And I appointed you to go and bear fruit, fruit that will last, so that the Father will give you whatever you ask him in my name. I am giving you these commands so that you may love one another."

When in this past week have we not abided in the love of God?

When have failed to love one another as God has loved us?

Faithful God,

make our hearts bold with love for one another.

Pour out your Spirit upon all people,

that we may live your justice

and sing in praise the new song of your marvelous victory.

Amen.

Sacred Scripture Acts 10:44-48

While Peter was still speaking, the Holy Spirit fell upon all who heard the word. The circumcised believers who had come with Peter were astounded that the gift of the Holy Spirit had been poured out even on the Gentiles, for they heard them speaking in tongues and extolling God. Then Peter said, "Can anyone withhold the water for baptizing these

people who have received the Holy Spirit just as we have?" So he ordered them to be baptized in the name of Jesus Christ. Then they invited him to stay for several days.

Reflection

Call to Prayer Hear Us O Lord

9 Hear us, O Lord, as we come now in prayer, shar - ing our joys, our trou-bles, and our cares.

Help us, O Lord, to be o - pen to your word, and teach us to put our trust in you.

Prayers of the People and the Prayer of Jesus

All these things and whatever else you see that we need,
we entrust to your mercy;
through Christ, who taught us to pray,
saying...

Our Father/Mother/Creator,
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 debts/sins/trespases,
as we forgive our debtors/those who sin/trespass against us.

And lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

For thine is the kingdom,
and the power,

and the glory, forever. Amen.

Offering In the Midst of New Dimensions

As we share this musical offering, I invite you to hold your financial offering in your hand, envisioning the ministry and mission it will enable in the days ahead. At the conclusion of worship, please place your offering in the mail. (First Church of Christ in Mansfield UCC. Box 36. Mansfield Center, CT 06250) or go to www.myfcc.info and click on the green box to make an online gift via credit card or bank transfer.

The musical score is written in 4/4 time on a single treble clef staff. It consists of five lines of music with lyrics underneath. The lyrics are: "In the midst of new di - men - sions, in the face of chang - ing ways, Through the flood of starv - ing peo - ples, war - ring fac - tions and de - spair, Though we reach the high - est heav - ens, hold - ing worlds at our com - mand, Should the threats of dire pre - dic - tions cause us to with - draw in pain, who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan - der - ing their sep - 'rate ways? who will lift the ol - ive bran - ches? Who will light the flame of care? we are yet a des - ert peo - ple search - ing for the pro - mised land. may your blaz - ing phoe - niz Spi - rit res - ur - ret the church a - gain. God of rain - bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead - ing where the ea - gles soar, we your peo - ple, ours the jour - ney now and ev - er - more".

Benediction Living Resurrection

May God bless you and keep you,
may God's face shine upon you
and be gracious to you,
may God look upon you with kindness
and grant you peace. Amen.

May peace be with you, Beloved of God.