

NAME OF PARTICIPANTS in Sunday's Service:

Ministers: The Entire Congregation 207-865-6022 (office)

Pastor: The Rev. John Ward-Diorio, 865-3034 (study)

EMAIL: john@freeportucc.org

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Administrative Assistant: Lin Gordon; FPC@freeportucc.org

Deacon of the Month: Melanie Connor, 865-0253

Ushers: Paula O'Brien & Carol Chamberlain

Reader: Tina Snow

Pianist: Meg Huber

REFERENCES:

The Meditation is from Life Prayers, edited by Elizabeth Roberts & Elias Amidon, 1996, Harper, San Francisco

The Bidding to Mission is "The World Peace Prayer". It was provided by United Church Resources and commended by our Fifteenth General Synod. It is a paraphrase of a verse from the Upanishads, the most ancient scriptures of Hinduism, and also prayed daily by Roman Catholic Benedictine Sisters.

**FIRST PARISH CHURCH CONGREGATIONAL
United Church of Christ
40 Main St., Freeport, ME 04032**

Sixteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time July 23, 2006

**"No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Life's Journey,
You Are Welcomed Here"**

THE GATHERING



MEDITATION:

*In the rising of the sun and in its going down,
we remember them.
In the glowing of the wind and in the chill of winter,
we remember them.
In the opening of buds and in the rebirth of spring,
we remember them.
In the blueness of the sky and in the warmth of summer,
we remember them.
In the rustling of leaves and in the beauty of autumn,
we remember them.
In the beginning of the year and when it ends,
we remember them.
When we are weary and in need of strength,
we remember them.
When we are lost and sick at heart,
we remember them.
When we have joys we yearn to share,
we remember them.
So long as we live, they too shall live,
for they are now a part of us, as
we remember them.*

~Jewish prayer

PRELUDE "Pie Jesu" by Gabriel Faure

ANNOUNCEMENTS

LIFE OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING THE ALTAR CANDLES

* OPENING HYMN #17 (NCH) "To You, O God, All Creatures Sing"

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Call and Response)

"The Lord Is My Shepherd, // I Shall Not Want." // We Have Learned These Words, // Memorized These Words, // And We Still Struggle To Believe Them. // May Our Ears, Spirits, And Minds // Hear The Familiar Words of This Psalm // And Come To Believe // To A Greater And Greater Extent // Their Truth. // Amen.

PRAYER OF INVOCATION: (Unison)

Shepherd God, we thank You for Your caring, which is beyond even our wildest imagination. We are grateful that Your Love never ends, for us, for our loved ones, for all people. As You love us, may we come to love others. Amen.

* GLORIA PATRI #513 (in Pilgrim Hymnal)

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

* PASSING OF THE PEACE

Please turn to your neighbors, introduce yourself and say: "**The Peace of Christ Be With You**". The reply is: "**And Also With You**".

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

WORD FOR THE YOUNG: Sunday School is in recess until September. Parents are invited to sit with their child(ren) in the Parlor to the left of the Sanctuary, if there is a need. There is a speaker through which you can hear the service. Parents may also bring their children downstairs, but at least one parent must accompany them.

SCRIPTURE LESSON: Mark 6:30-34, 53-56; Psalm 23

SERMON: "Forever Shepherding Us"

* Hymn: #479 (NCH) "God Is My Shepherd"

THE CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE

The offering of our prayers, our gifts, ourselves.

CALL TO PRAYER:

Minister: The LORD be with you.

People: AND WITH YOUR SPIRIT.

Minister: Let us pray. O LORD, shed Your mercy on us.

People: AND STIR YOUR HOLY SPIRIT WITHIN US.

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts and Debtors)

OFFERING: Offertory Invitation

Anthem Offertory

"A Day Without Rain" by Enya & Nicky Ryan

Presentation of our gifts

* DOXOLOGY # 515 (PH)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below; Praise Him above, ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Sung Offertory Response #535 (PH): **We give Thee but Thine own, what ere that gift may be. All that we have is Thine alone, a trust, O Lord from Thee. Amen.**

BIDDING TO MISSION: "THE WORLD PEACE PRAYER"

One: Lead us, O God

All: Lead us from death to life, from falsehood to truth.

Lead us from despair to hope, from fear to trust.

Lead us from hate to love, from war to peace.

Let peace fill our hearts, our world, our universe. Amen.

* THE BENEDICTION

* CLOSING HYMN #299 (NCH) "For All the Saints"

* POSTLUDE "Scotch Poem" by Edward MacDowell

***Would all who are able please stand.**