

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

Eighteenth Sunday in Ordinary Time August 6, 2006

“No Matter Who You Are or Where You Are On Life’s Journey,
You Are Welcomed Here”

THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION



THE GATHERING

MEDITATION:

I am, you anxious one.

Don't you sense me, ready to break
into being at your touch?
My murmurings surround you like shadowy wings.
Can't you see me standing before you
cloaked in stillness?
Hasn't my longing ripened in you
from the beginning
as fruit ripens on a branch?

I am the dream you are dreaming.
When you want to awaken, I am that wanting:
I grow strong in the beauty you behold.
And with the silence of stars I enfold
your cities made by time.

~Rainer Maria Rilke (1875-1926)

ORGAN PRELUDE

ANNOUNCEMENTS; LIFE OF THE CHURCH

LIGHTING THE ALTAR CANDLES

* OPENING HYMN #1(NCH) “Immortal, Invisible, God Only Wise”

CALL TO WORSHIP: (Call and Response)

Jesus Said: // “I Am The Bread Of Life. // Whoever Comes To Me // Will Never Be Hungry, // And Whoever Believes In Me, // Will Never Be Thirsty.” // God Has Promised // To Always Care For And Sustain Us. // The Closer We Draw To God, // The Deeper Our Faith, // The More We Feel This To Be True. // Amen.

CALL TO CONFESSION:

We are bombarded by advertisements, and get caught up in what our family, friends and neighbors have. We are tempted to believe we should be able to take or get whatever we want.

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (Unison):

Gracious, giving God, You have bestowed many blessings upon us, but not the same blessings to all. We confess we become greedy, want more and more, in small ways and big. We even become willing to hurt others for our benefit. Please forgive us. Amen.

PRAYER OF SILENT CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF FORGIVENESS (Responsive):

Minister: There are consequences for our greed, and there is forgiveness. God hopes we will learn.

ALL: Let us pledge to seek God’s wisdom and direction, as we pursue our needs and desires. 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 LESSONS: John 6:25-35, p.928;
2 Samuel 11:26-12:13, p. 273.

COMMUNION MEDITATION: "The Cost of Greed"

- * Hymn of Approach #330(NCH) "Let Us Break Bread Together"
Invitation to the table

THE CONGREGATION'S RESPONSE

The offering of our prayers, our gifts, ourselves

COMMUNION PRAYER

THE LORD'S PRAYER (Debts and Debtors)

COMMUNION Servers: Tina Snow, Bev and Cy Tompson

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING: (Unison)

Eternal God, You have called Your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank You for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of Your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to Your Will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray. Amen.

OFFERING: Offertory Invitation

Anthem Offertory: "He's Got The Whole World In His Hands"
sung by Pat Pooters

Presentation of our gifts

- * DOXOLOGY # 515

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: **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 #172(NCH) "Jesus Calls Us, O'er the Tumult"

- * ORGAN POSTLUDE

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

PLEASE NOTE: The New Century Hymnal is now in use and located on the pew seats. The following codes will be used in the Sunday Bulletin to indicate which hymnal to use.



(NCH) for
book)

New Century Hymnal (black

(PH) for Pilgrim Hymnal (red book)

NAME OF PARTICIPANTS in Sunday's Service:

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

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

john@freeportucc.org

FPC@freeportucc.org (office)

www.freeportucc.org

NAME OF PARTICIPANTS in Sunday's Service:

Deacon of the Month: Judy Armstrong, week 1&2,

Paula O'Brien, week 3&4

Ushers: Barb & Steve McPheters

Reader: Laurie Poulin

Organist: or Guest Pianist: Meg Huber

Coffee Hour

REFERENCES:

The Meditation by Rainer Maria Rilke is found in Alive Now: July/August 2006, 2006 The Upper Room.

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.