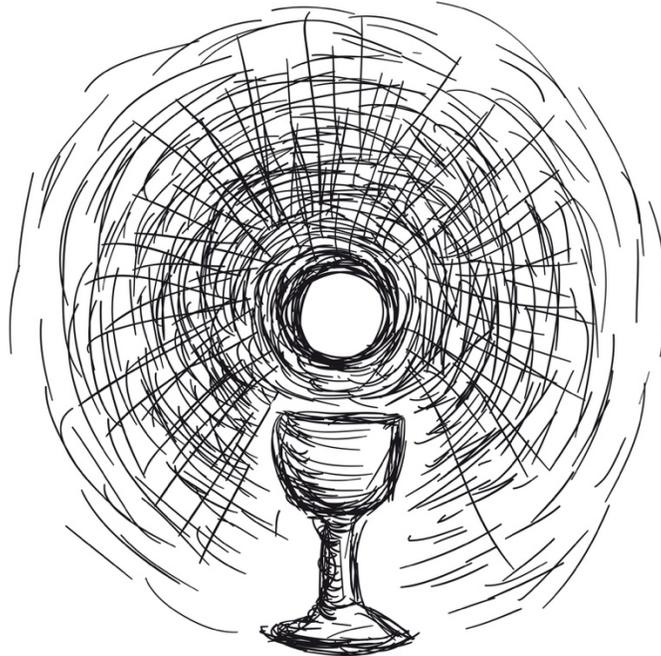


United Church of Hinesburg

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E-Mail: unitedchurch@gmavt.net
 Office Hours: Mon - Thurs 9:00am – 12:00pm



Staff & Participants in Today's Service

Pastor: Rev. Jared M. Hamilton Administrator: Jody Ciano
 Pastor Intern: Andi Lloyd Reader: Yvonne Whitaker
 Musicians: Sammy Angstman, Rufus, Betsy & Amy Patrick and Joanne Russell

Order of Worship

Sunday, January 3, 2021, at 10:00am – Christmas 2B
 Sunday morning Livestream/Podcast
[Bold] print invites congregational participation

Prelude

“Waltz in A Minor”

Chopin

Greeting and Welcome

Jared

May the grace of God, the love of Jesus Christ and the peace of the Holy Spirit be with you.
And also with you.

Reading from the Hebrew Bible

Jeremiah 31:7-14

Call to Worship

Sing praise to God, who gathers us here; from the ends of the earth we come.

With a word of promise, a spring of water, a loaf of bread, and a cup of wine, God turns our mourning into dancing, our sorrow into joy.

So come, let us worship God in spirit and truth.

Music Meditation

“Jazz Alleluia”

Hinesburg Artist Series

Psalm Antiphon

Come into God’s presence with a joyful song!

Lesson from the Psalms

Psalm 147:12-20

Psalm Antiphon

Come into God’s presence with a joyful song!

Service of Holy Communion

Invitation to The Lord’s Table

Prayer of Confession

O God, you are slow to anger and swift to have mercy;
 Forgive us when we treat time as a commodity or an enemy,
 when we abuse your gift of time.
 In our fastness and our slowness,
 help us to keep pace with you.
 Free us to live in your time, a new time,
 in which there is a time for everything under heaven,
 and slow is not too slow, and fast is not too fast.
 Transform us into people who see time as a gift and a friend,
 who live as if we have time,
 because we know that your time will never cease.
 Through Jesus we pray, Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Great Thanksgiving

written by by Alydia Smith

God is with us!

We are not alone!

Lift up your hearts.

We lift them up to God.

Let us give thanks to the Lord our God.

It is right to give our thanks and praise.

Holy Mystery that is Wholly Love, you are beyond complete knowledge, above perfect description. Father, Son, and Holy Spirit; Source of Life, Living Word, and Bond of Love, you are creative and self-giving, generously moving. In all the near and distant corners of the universe. Nothing exists that does not find its source in you.

Even when we turn away from you, you are with us; your presence never fails us, your gifts of hope and new life transform us.

We praise you for Jesus Christ, eternal as your love, our bond to one another. We rejoice with all your people of every time and place, and with angels and archangels, to proclaim the glory of your name:

**Holy, holy, holy are you.
Holy, holy, blessed are you.**

It is Jesus, God incarnate, the Risen Christ, who joins us together as a community of broken but hopeful believers: loving what he loved, living what he taught, and striving to be his faithful servants in our time and place. We listen to the teachings of Jesus, and strive to be like Jesus. And we pray as Jesus taught us saying,

The Prayer of our Savior

Our (Father/Mother/God/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 trespasses, as we forgive those who 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.

In this meal we remember Jesus, his promises, and the price he paid for who he was, what he said, and what he did. On the night before Jesus died, he took a loaf of bread, gave thanks, broke it, and said, "Take and eat; whenever you do this, remember me." After supper, Jesus took the cup, and poured, saying, "This is the new covenant, remember me."

We do remember. We remember his life of love, his friendship, his teaching, his dying, and his rising to life again. In sharing this meal, we live out the mystery of our faith:

**Christ has died
Christ will arise
Christ will come to us again**

Holy Mystery, God the Spirit, we call on you to be present in these familiar things, as you continually transform the world around us. Bless this bread and this cup, the wheat and the grape, the farmer and the harvest, the seed and the sower. And bless all we gather at the meal that nourishes and refreshed body and spirit so that in the sharing of these simple elements in community, we may taste and see your goodness, so that we might catch a glimpse of what it is to be in communion with you and with one another.

**Through Christ, in Christ, and with Christ,
in the unity of the Holy Spirit,
all glory is yours, God most holy,
now and forever.**

Communion Hymn

"Gather us In"

Here in this place new light is streaming
 Now is the darkness vanished away
 See in this space our fears and our dreamings
 Brought here to you in the light of this day
 Gather us in, the lost and forsaken
 Gather us in, our spirits in-flame
 Call to us now and we shall awaken
 We shall arise at the sound of our name.

We are the young, our lives are a mystery
 We are the old who yearn for your face
 We have been sung throughout all of history
 Called to be light to the whole human race
 Gather us in, the rich and the haughty
 Gather us in, the proud and the strong
 Give us a heart so meek and so lowly
 Give us the courage to enter the song.

Here we will take the wine and the water
 Here we will take the bread of new birth
 Here you shall call your sons and your daughters
 Call us anew to be salt for the earth
 Give us to drink the wine of compassion
 Give us to eat the bread that is you
 Nourish us well and teach us to fashion
 Lives that are holy and hearts that are true.

Sharing of the Elements

Prayer after Communion

Thank you, O Christ, for this spiritual nourishment. We are fed by your love; we are strengthened by your life. We are sent forth into this world to live into the visions God has laid on our hearts. We are now commissioned to: feed as we have been fed, forgive as we have been forgiven, love as we have been loved. Thanks be to God. **Amen.**

Service of the Word

Gospel Lesson

John 1:1-18

Homily

"God gets Involved"

Music Meditation

"We Meet You O Christ"

We meet You, O Christ, in many a guise:
 Your image we see in simple and wise.

You live in a palace, exist in a shack.
We see You, the gardener, a tree on Your back.

In millions alive, away and abroad;
Involved in our life You live down the road.
Imprisoned in systems, You long to be free.
We see You, Lord Jesus, still bearing Your tree.

We hear You, O Christ, in agony cry.
For freedom You march, in riots You die.
Your face in the papers we read and we see.
The tree must be planted by human decree.

You choose to be made at one with the earth;
The dark of the grave prepares for Your birth.
Your death is Your rising, creative Your word:
The tree springs to life and our hope is restored.

Service of Morning Prayer

Reading of the Epistles

Ephesians 1:3-14

Pastoral Prayer

Music Response

“Little Etude”

Schumann

Offertory Sentence

Offertory Music

Doxology

Praise God, from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God, the source of all our gifts;
Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts. Amen.

Prayer for the Offering

Closing Hymn

“We Three Kings”

We three kings of Orient are,
bearing gifts we traverse afar,
field and fountain, moor and mountain,
following yonder star.

Born a king on Bethlehem’s plain,
gold I bring to crown him again,
King forever, ceasing never, over us all to reign.

Frankincense to offer have I,
 incense owns a deity nigh.
 Prayer and praising, voices raising,
 worshipping God on high.

Myrrh is mine, its bitter perfume,
 breathes a life of gathering gloom,
 sorrowing, sighing, bleeding, dying,
 sealed in the stone cold tomb.

Glorious now behold him arise,
 King and God, and sacrifice,
 Alleluia, Alleluia,
 sounds through the earth and skies.

Benediction

Postlude

“Amen”

Portions of today's liturgy have been adapted with permission from Feasting on the Word Worship Companion: Liturgies for Year B, Volume 1 © 2014 Westminster John Knox Press. The prayer of confession is from <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/12/confession-gift-of-time.html>. The Communion Liturgy was written by Alydia Smith and is used with permission © 2014 The United Church of Canada/L'Église Unie du Canada. Licensed under Creative Commons Attribution Non-commercial Share Alike License (by-nc-sa/2.5.ca).