

**First Congregational Church of Hartland, United Church of Christ
An Open and Affirming Congregation in Hartland, Vermont**

*Whoever you are, wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.
Welcome! We are glad that you chose to worship with us today.*

The Twentieth Sunday after Pentecost October 18th, 2020

Gathering time - *You are welcome to start gathering at 9:30 to talk and check in.
At 10:00 we will mute for worship.*

Prelude: “Climb Every Mountain”—O. Hammerstein II & R. Rodgers

Welcome and Announcements

Gathering Music: “In the Presence of Jehovah,” “Surely the Presence of the Lord is in this Place”
—G. & B. Davis

Lighting our Candles

Call to Worship

(Adapted from Living Psalm 90 by Maria Mankin)

What more could God ask of us
**than to work a little each day in the service of others,
though grief weigh on us, though joy distract us from hardship?**
What more could God ask of us
**than to weave pain together with the threads of happiness,
to tie ourselves to the fate of the planet and her people?**
What more is there
**than to pray for a heart that recognizes
justice and joy, empathy and strength as wisdom?**

Prayer of Invocation

(Ground Me in Your Grace by Ted Loder)

**Eternal One,
Silence from whom my words come;
Questioner from whom my questions arise;
Lover of whom all my loves are hints;
Disturber in whom alone I find my rest;
Mystery in whose depths I find healing and myself;
enfold me now in your presence;
restore to me your peace;
renew me through your power;
and ground me in your grace.**

Special Music: “*Dona Nobis Pacem*”—sung virtually by FCCH choir, Becky Wood directing

Listening for and Responding to the Word

Scripture: Exodus 33:12-23

Sermon: *God in the Dark*

Hymn: “*Unto the Hills We Lift Our Longing Eyes*”

The Prayers of the People

Sharing our Joys and Concerns (*please share via the “Chat” Feature on Zoom*)

Pastoral Prayer & The 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 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 power and glory forever and ever Amen.

Offering

Hymn: “*Be Still My Soul*”

Benediction

Music for Going Forth: “*Rock of Ages,*” *Hiding in Thee*”—Hastings & Sankey