ORDER OF WORSHIP

UNION CHURCH OF VINALHAVEN

May 12, 2024

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

\*Opening Hymn: “Holy, Holy, Holy”

Holy, holy, holy  
Lord God almighty  
Early in the morning my song shall rise to thee.

Holy. holy, holy  
Merciful and mighty  
God in three persons, blessed Trinity.

Holy, holy, holy  
All the saints adore Thee  
Casting down their golden crowns around the glassy sea  
All the cherubim and seraphim are falling down before Thee  
Which wert and art and evermore shalt be.

Holy, holy, holy  
Though the darkness hide Thee  
Though the eyes of sinful man Thy glory may not see  
Lord, only Thou art holy and there is none beside Thee  
Perfect in power, in love and purity.

Holy, holy, holy

Lord God almighty

All thy works shall praise thy name in earth and sky and sea.

Holy, holy holy, merciful, and mighty God in three persons blessed trinity.

**Call to Worship**

**Call to Worship with Confession**

Leader: Lord God, we are here today to offer to you our sacrifice of worship. We are here to listen to your Word, to bring to you the concerns of our hearts, and to join together in fellowship. Speak to us: through Scripture, hymns, prayer, and silence. Grant us ears to hear, hearts to listen, and lives prepared to do your will. Amen

**All:   
Reveal yourself, Gracious God, within this time of worship. Speak to us through songs we sing, prayers we speak, words we hear.  
Reveal yourself Gracious God, within your family here. In our speaking and listening, tears and laughter, love that’s shared.  
Reveal yourself, Gracious God, within these coming days. In the places we live, the lives we live, people we meet.  
Amen.**

Dear friends in Christ, here in the presence of Almighty God, let us with penitent and obedient hearts confess our sins, that we may obtain forgiveness by his infinite goodness and mercy.

**Most merciful God, we confess that we have sinned against you in thought, word, and deed, by what we have done, and by what we have left undone. We have not loved you with our whole heart; we have not loved our neighbors as ourselves. We are truly sorry and we humbly repent. For the sake of your Son Jesus Christ, have mercy on us and forgive us; that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways, to the glory of your Name. Amen.**

Almighty God have mercy on us, forgive us all your sins through our Lord Jesus Christ, strengthen you in all goodness, and by the power of the Holy Spirit keep you in eternal life. Amen.

Celebrant: The Lord Be with you

People: And also, with you

Celebrant: Let us pray.

**PRAYER OF THE DAY:**

Gracious and glorious God, you have chosen us as your own, and by the powerful name of Christ you protect us from evil. By your Spirit transform us and your beloved world , that we may find joy in your Son, Jesus Christ, our Savior and Lord, who lives and reigns with you and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever. Amen PRAYERS AND JOYS OF THE PEOPLE followed by the Lord’s Prayer

CHOIR: “Rise Up and Call Her Blessed”

OFFERTORY

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.

HYMN: “In the Garden”

1. I come to the garden alone,  
   While the dew is still on the roses,  
   And the voice I hear falling on my ear  
   The Son of God discloses.
   * *Refrain:*  
     And He walks with me, and He talks with me,  
     And He tells me I am His own;  
     And the joy we share as we tarry there,  
     None other has ever known.
2. He speaks, and the sound of His voice  
   Is so sweet the birds hush their singing,  
   And the melody that He gave to me  
   Within my heart is ringing.
3. I’d stay in the garden with Him,  
   Though the night around me be falling,  
   But He bids me go; through the voice of woe  
   His voice to me is calling.

FIRST READING: Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26 Betsy Walsh

RESPONSIVE READING: Psalm 1 (people read the bold)

1   Happy are they  
          who have not walked in the counsel of the wicked,  
     nor lingered in the way of sinners,   
          nor sat in the seats of the scornful.

**2    Their delight is in the law of the LORD,  
          and they meditate on God’s teaching day and night.**3   They are like trees  
          planted by streams of water,  
     bearing fruit in due season,  
         with leaves that do not wither.  
     Everything they do shall prosper.

**4   It is not so with the wicked  
          they are like chaff that the wind blows away.**5   Therefore, the wicked will not stand upright when judgment comes,  
          nor the sinner in the council of the righteous;  
**6   For the LORD knows the way of the righteous,  
          but the way of the wicked shall be destroyed.**

EPISTLE: 1 John 5: 9-13 Betsy Walsh

SPECIAL: Vannesa Henneke

\* GOSPEL: John 17: 6-19

SERMON: Faye Grant

SILENCE

PRAYERS OF THANKS

Almighty God, Father of all mercies, we you give you humble thanks for all your goodness and loving-kindness to us and to all whom you have made. We bless you for our creation, preservation, and all the blessings of this life; but above all for your immeasurable love in the redemption of the world by our Lord Jesus Christ; for the means of grace, and for the hope of glory. And, we pray, give us such an awareness of your mercies, that with truly thankful hearts we may show forth your praise, not only with our lips, but in our lives, by giving up ourselves to your service, and by walking before you in holiness and righteousness all our days; through Jesus Christ our Lord,  
to whom, with you and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory throughout all ages. Amen.

***BLESSING: Reverend Jeffrey Lewis***

CLOSING HYMN: “What a Friend We Have in Jesus”

1. What a friend we have in Jesus,  
   All our sins and griefs to bear!  
   What a privilege to carry  
   Everything to God in prayer!  
   Oh, what peace we often forfeit,  
   Oh, what needless pain we bear,  
   All because we do not carry  
   Everything to God in prayer!
2. Have we trials and temptations?  
   Is there trouble anywhere?  
   We should never be discouraged—  
   Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
   Can we find a friend so faithful,  
   Who will all our sorrows share?  
   Jesus knows our every weakness;  
   Take it to the Lord in prayer.
3. Are we weak and heavy-laden,  
   Cumbered with a load of care?  
   Precious Savior, still our refuge—  
   Take it to the Lord in prayer.  
   Do thy friends despise, forsake thee?  
   Take it to the Lord in prayer!  
   In His arms He’ll take and shield thee,  
   Thou wilt find a solace there.

DISMISSAL: Let us go forth into the world in rejoicing.

***Thanks be to God. Alleluia, Alleluia!***