



Birchcliff Bluffs United Church

Ministers: All the People – wherever and however they gather

Minister of Word & Sacrament: Rev. Dr. Ellen Redcliffe

Minister of Community Development: Rev. Carmen Llanos

Music Director: Randy Vancourt

Scripture Reader: Norma Grech

Year C – 3rd Sunday of Easter

Sunday, May 1, 2022

WE GATHER AS GOD’S PEOPLE

Prelude

Call to Worship

Sometimes we have to step away from our daily life to examine its breadth and depth, to understand the distance covered and direction taken.

Jesus came that we might have life, and have it abundantly! Let us ponder Jesus’ way as a path for living fully.

Opening Hymn

Come, O Fount of Every Blessing

VU 559

Come, O Fount of every blessing,
tune my heart to sing your grace;
streams of mercy, never ceasing
call for songs of endless praise.
Teach me some melodious sonnet,
sung by flaming tongues above.
Praise the mount; I'm fixed upon it,
mount of God's unfailing love.

Here I pause in my sojourning,
giving thanks for having come,
come to trust, at every turning,
God will guide me safely home.
Jesus sought me when a stranger,
wandering from the fold of God,
came to rescue me from danger,
precious presence, precious blood.

O, to grace how great a debtor
 daily I am drawn anew!
 Let that grace now, like a fetter,
 bind my wandering heart to you.
 Prone to wander, I can feel it,
 wander from the love I've known:
 here's my heart, O, take and seal it,
 seal it for your very own.

Land Acknowledgement

This land on which we gather is the Traditional Land of Akaitcho people. We worship the Creator on this land and acknowledge with respect the thousands of years of ceremony and relationship that are etched in footprints, fire, and faithfulness on the soil and rock that surrounds us.

Candle Lighting

In this time of worship, let the colors of God's love come alive for us.

In worship, we affirm God's nurturing, caring love.

We light this candle symbolizing God's presence among us.

Light candle here

**In worship we proclaim God's empowering love, a love that
 calls us to care for all of creation.**

Opening Prayer

Holy One, Creator of all that is, I am here ...

**We are here, and we thank you for always creating a safe space in your word for us
 to find peace. Come, for we are ready to listen.**

WE LISTEN FOR GOD'S WORD

Hymn

I Danced In The Morning

VU 352

I danced in the morning when the world was begun,
 and I danced in the moon and the stars and the sun,
 and I came from heaven and I danced on the earth;
 at Bethlehem I had my birth.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
 I am the Lord of the dance, said he,

and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced for the scribe and the pharisee,
but they would not dance and they would not follow me;
I danced for the fishermen, for James and John;
they came with me and the dance went on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

I danced on a Friday when the sky turned black;
it's hard to dance with the devil on your back;
they buried my body and they thought I'd gone,
but I am the dance and I still go on.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

They cut me down and I leap up high;
I am the life that will never, never die;
I'll live in you if you'll live in me;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he.

Dance, then, wherever you may be;
I am the Lord of the dance, said he,
and I'll lead you all, wherever you may be,
and I'll lead you all in the dance, said he.

Prayer of Illumination

Holy Creator, who loves us so,

It has been a long journey this year. Please help us to receive your word today and let it bring us hope as we continue to stumble along our path. In Jesus name we pray, Amen.

Scripture 1 Psalm 30 A Song at the dedication of the temple.

¹ I will extol you, O LORD, for you have drawn me up,
and did not let my foes rejoice over me.

² O LORD my God, I cried to you for help,

and you have healed me.
³ O LORD, you brought up my soul from Sheol,
restored me to life from among those gone down to the Pit.^[a]
⁴ Sing praises to the LORD, O you his faithful ones,
and give thanks to his holy name.
⁵ For his anger is but for a moment;
his favor is for a lifetime.
Weeping may linger for the night,
but joy comes with the morning.
⁶ As for me, I said in my prosperity,
“I shall never be moved.”
⁷ By your favor, O LORD,
you had established me as a strong mountain;
you hid your face;
I was dismayed.
⁸ To you, O LORD, I cried,
and to the LORD I made supplication:
⁹ “What profit is there in my death,
if I go down to the Pit?
Will the dust praise you?
Will it tell of your faithfulness?
¹⁰ Hear, O LORD, and be gracious to me!
O LORD, be my helper!”
¹¹ You have turned my mourning into dancing;
you have taken off my sackcloth
and clothed me with joy,
¹² so that my soul^[a] may praise you and not be silent.
O LORD my God, I will give thanks to you forever.

Gospel John 21:1-19 Jesus Appears to Seven Disciples

21 After these things Jesus showed himself again to the disciples by the Sea of Tiberias; and he showed himself in this way.

² Gathered there together were Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin,^[a] Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of his disciples.

³ Simon Peter said to them, “I am going fishing.” They said to him, “We will go with you.” They went out and got into the boat, but that night they caught nothing.

⁴ Just after daybreak, Jesus stood on the beach; but the disciples did not know that it was Jesus.

⁵ Jesus said to them, “Children, you have no fish, have you?” They answered him, “No.”

⁶ He said to them, “Cast the net to the right side of the boat, and you will find some.” So they cast it, and now they were not able to haul it in because there were so many fish.

⁷ That disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, “It is the Lord!” When Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on some clothes, for he was naked, and jumped into the sea.

⁸ But the other disciples came in the boat, dragging the net full of fish, for they were not far from the land, only about a hundred yards^(b) off.

⁹ When they had gone ashore, they saw a charcoal fire there, with fish on it, and bread. ¹

⁰ Jesus said to them, “Bring some of the fish that you have just caught.”

¹¹ So Simon Peter went aboard and hauled the net ashore, full of large fish, a hundred fifty-three of them; and though there were so many, the net was not torn.

¹² Jesus said to them, “Come and have breakfast.” Now none of the disciples dared to ask him, “Who are you?” because they knew it was the Lord.

¹³ Jesus came and took the bread and gave it to them, and did the same with the fish.

¹⁴ This was now the third time that Jesus appeared to the disciples after he was raised from the dead.

¹⁵ When they had finished breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, “Simon son of John, do you love me more than these?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my lambs.”

¹⁶ A second time he said to him, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” He said to him, “Yes, Lord; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Tend my sheep.”

¹⁷ He said to him the third time, “Simon son of John, do you love me?” Peter felt hurt because he said to him the third time, “Do you love me?” And he said to him, “Lord, you know everything; you know that I love you.” Jesus said to him, “Feed my sheep.

¹⁸ Very truly, I tell you, when you were younger, you used to fasten your own belt and to go wherever you wished. But when you grow old, you will stretch out your hands, and someone else will fasten a belt around you and take you where you do not wish to go.”

¹⁹ (He said this to indicate the kind of death by which he would glorify God.) After this he said to him, “Follow me.”

The word of God for the people of God.

Thanks be to God

Sermon P.S. I Love You

Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine

God, the light of your love is shining
 In the midst of the darkness, shining
 Jesus, Light of the world, shine upon us
 Set us free by the truth you now bring us
 Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
 Fill this land with your radiant glory

Blaze, Spirit, blaze
 Set our hearts on fire
 Flow, river, flow
 Flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth your word
 God, and let there be light

God, I come to your awesome presence
 From the shadows into your radiance
 By the blood I may enter your brightness
 Search me, try me, consume all my darkness
 Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
 Fill this land with your radiant glory
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze
 Set our hearts on fire
 Flow, river, flow
 Flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth your word
 God, and let there be light

As we gaze on your holy brightness
 So our faces display your likeness
 Ever changing from glory to glory
 Mirrored here may our lives tell your story
 Shine on me, shine on me

Shine, Jesus, shine
 Fill this land with your radiant glory
 Blaze, Spirit, blaze
 Set our hearts on fire
 Flow, river, flow
 Flood the nations with grace and mercy
 Send forth your word
 God, and let there be light

WE RESPOND TO GOD'S WORD

Life & Work of the Church

Offering

God of the journey, we gather with the crowds knowing that it is a busy community. We bring our gifts and ourselves this morning – may they be graciously received, in Christ's name we pray. **Amen.**

Prayers of the People

Comforter and Friend, we are here. May we become closer to each other as we come closer to you. Bless us as we bless each other. Forgive us as we forgive each other.

We come before you because you know our pain and understand our heartache. But also share our joy, our laughter and excitement. We pray for guidance, understanding and patience ...

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, the power, and the glory for ever and ever. Amen.

BLESSING AND SENDING FORTH

Closing Hymn

I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

VU 575

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna live so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna work so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna pray so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

I'm gonna sing so God can use me
anywhere, Lord, anytime!

Benediction & Commissioning

In the name of the Creator, we entered this place today to be renewed. Now we turn our spirits to follow the way of the cross

Go, guided by God our Saviour, Christ our Redeemer, and the Holy Spirit our companion and guide. **Amen.**

Postlude

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**Additional Lectionary Readings
Birchcliff Bluffs United Church
Year C –3rd Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 1, 2022**

Acts 9:1-6

New Revised Standard Version

9 Meanwhile Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest ² and asked him for letters to the synagogues at Damascus, so that if he found any who belonged to the Way, men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem. ³ Now as he was going along and approaching Damascus, suddenly a light from heaven flashed around him. ⁴ He fell to the ground and heard a voice saying to him, “Saul, Saul, why do you persecute me?” ⁵ He asked, “Who are you, Lord?” The reply came, “I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. ⁶ But get up and enter the city, and you will be told what you are to do.”