

Keene Valley Congregational Church United Church of Christ

May 21, 2023



Bugology



Keene Valley Congregational Church
A Welcoming Spiritual Community

Greetings! We are glad you joined us for worship today.

The mission of the Keene Valley Congregational Church, UCC is to welcome people wherever they are on life's journey, joining together in worship and spiritual exploration while striving lovingly to serve others with justice and compassion.

On October 7, 2018 the congregation voted overwhelmingly to become Open and Affirming by embracing the following statement of covenant:

The mission of the Keene Valley Congregational Church, United Church of Christ, is to welcome all people wherever they are on life's journey, joining together in worship and spiritual exploration while striving lovingly to serve with justice and compassion. In order to live more deeply into these values, while understanding that lesbian, gay, bisexual, transgender, queer/questioning and intersex people are often scorned and discriminated against both in the church and in society, we declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming Church. We covenant to welcome all individuals into the wholeness of the life of the church and to work to end oppression and discrimination wherever we encounter them and to help create the beloved community of God's realm.

On October 10, 2021 the congregation voted unanimously to accept the following statement of covenant to become a Creation Justice Church:

Keene Valley Congregational Church affirms that the global environmental crisis is the most pressing spiritual challenge of human history. This moment calls us to understand our mission statement's charge to, "strive lovingly to serve others with justice and compassion," to broadly include both the human and non-human Creation. As such, we declare our congregation to be a Creation Justice Church. We commit ourselves to thoughtfully engage in acts of compassion to heal the world, mitigate the effects of the environmental crisis, and advocate for justice on behalf of all Creation.

We are thankful for the ways God invites us to journey together!



WE GATHER IN CELEBRATION

Meditation

Welcome

Welcoming Music

"Golden Breaks the Dawn"

Tzu-chen Chao

Hymn

"Plenty Good Room"

Plenty good room
Plenty good room
Good room in my Father's Kingdom

Plenty good room
Plenty good room
Just choose your seat and sit down

Opening Reading from *Sacred Earth, Sacred Soul* by John Philip Newell

Awake, O my soul,
To the sacred dreams that are stirring within you.
Awake to the imaginations of the heart
And the cherished hopes of what is yet to be.
Do not be afraid.
Awake, O my soul,
To the sacred dreams that are stirring within you.

Passing of the Peace

Lighting the Candle of Peace

Greeting Each Other in Peace

WE SHARE SACRED CONVERSATION

Youth Message

The Rev. John Sampson

Prayer

Period of Silent Meditation

Prayers and 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, forever and ever. Amen.

Offering

Offertory

Doxology

**All: To God, all honor and delight,
To Christ revealed in earthly night
To God the Spirit now we raise
Our joyful songs of thankful praise. Amen.**

Unison Prayer of Dedication

All: God, in this season of resurrection, we pray that these gifts become seeds of new life. Bless these offerings so that they may open tombs, and tear down crosses. Bless these offerings so that they may protect the innocent, and guard the truth tellers. Bless these offerings so that they may do the work of love in this hurting world. Alleluia! Amen.

Scripture

Proverbs 30:24 – 28

Reflection

Bugology

The Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams

Just a Moment Musical Selection

Martha Gallagher

Hymn

“May the Sending One Defend You”

#79

WE RETURN TO THE WORLD

Charge

based on Micah 6:8

One: As we leave our sanctuary today, and meet again the joys and challenges of our lives and of all Creation, let us remember what God requires of us throughout the upcoming week:

All: To do justice, love kindness, and walk humbly with our God.

Benediction

Postlude

May the Sending One Defend You

79

Brian Wren, 1989; rev. 1993

Unison

- 1 May the Send - ing One de - fend you, may the Seek - ing One a - mend you,
2 May the Giv - en One re - trieve you, may the Gift - ed One re - lieve you,
3 May the Bind - ing One u - nite you—may the One Be-loved in - vite you—

- May the Keep - ing One be - friend you, in your glad - ness and in your griev - ing.
May the Giv - ing One re - ceive you, in your fall - ing and your re - stor - ing.
May the Lov - ing One de - light you— Three-in - One, joy in life un - end - ing.

Today's Worship Leadership:

Minister – The Rev. John Sampson
Guest Preacher – The Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams
Worship Assistant – Liz Jaques
Ushers – Linda Bogardus & Martha Swan
Coffee Hour – Lorraine Duvall & Kate Gorman
Flowers – Charlotte Lichtenberg
Zoom Administrator – Dave Craig
Choir Director – Rob Hastings
Accompanist – Lynn DeWalt

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This Week @ KVCC:

| Day | Time | Activity |
|------------------|------------------|--|
| Sunday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 10:00 AM | Worship – In-person and via Zoom |
| | 1:00 PM | Guest Preacher – The Rev. Dr. Marsha Williams Essex Assoc. Mtg./Schroon Lake |
| Monday | 7:00 AM ----- | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom Pastor’s Day Off |
| Tuesday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 8:00-Noon | Liz in Office |
| | 1:00-3:00 | Pastor John in Office |
| | 5:00 PM | Council |
| | 7:00 PM | Book Discussion |
| Wednesday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 4:30 PM | Choir |
| Thursday | 7:00 AM ----- | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom NO Liz in Office |
| | 10:30 AM | Neighborhood House-In person |
| | 1:00-3:00 PM | Pastor John in Office |
| | 5:15 PM | Bell Rehearsal |
| Friday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 8:00-Noon | Liz in Office |
| | 9:00 AM | Prayer Group |
| | 1:00-2:00 PM | JPN Planning |
| Saturday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 9:00 AM | Faith and Issues |
| | ----- | Pastor’s Day Off |
| Sunday | 7:00 AM | Centering Prayer – Via Zoom |
| | 10:00 AM | Worship – In person and via Zoom |

