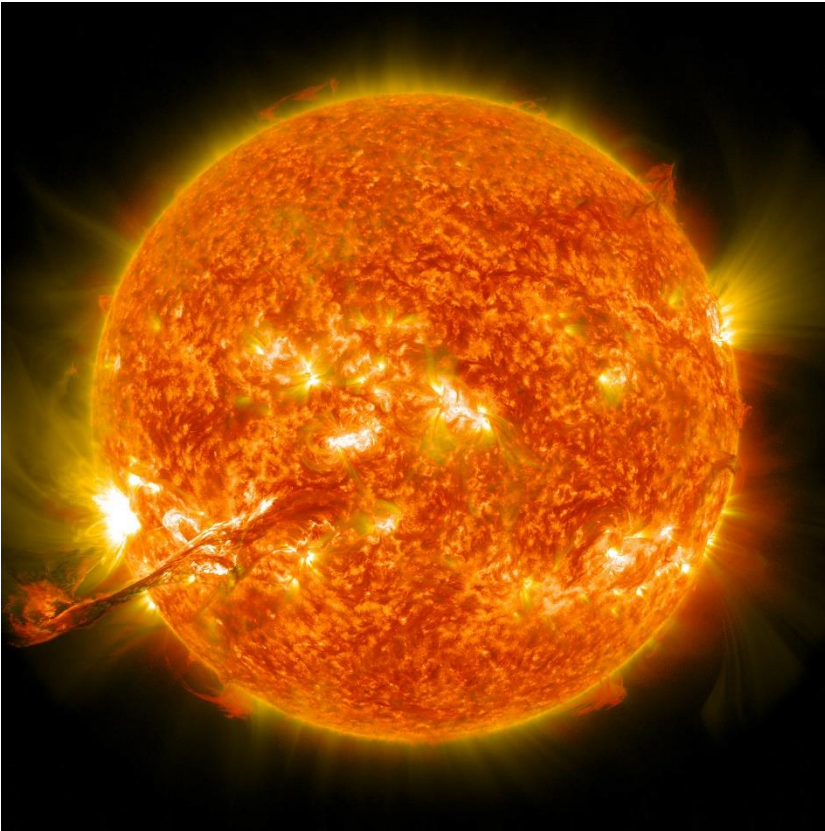


Keene Valley Congregational Church United Church of Christ

October 18, 2020



A Waste of Life



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.

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

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UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST

MEDITATION

Beautiful Savior

Arr. By Danielle Isaacson

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

HYMN

This Is the Day

OPENING READING

by Georges Bataille

The origin and essence of our wealth are given in the radiation of the sun, which dispenses energy – wealth – without return. The sun gives without ever receiving men were conscious of this long before astrophysics measured that ceaseless prodigality; they saw it ripen harvests and they associated its splendor with the act of some who gives without receiving. It is necessary at this point to note a dual origin of moral judgements. In former times value was given to unproductive glory, whereas in our day it is measured in terms of production: precedence is given to energy acquisition over energy expenditure.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE

ANTHEM

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Ringwald

PRAYER

PERIOD OF SILENT MEDITATION

PRAYERS AND LORD'S PRAYER (trespasses)

HYMN #2

Take My Gifts

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 22:15 – 22

REFLECTION

A Waste of Life

Rev. John Sampson

OFFERTORY

THE BLESSING OF GIVING

UNISON PRAYER OF RESPONSE:

God, we give thanks for all of the ways we can respond to your gift of life. Thank you for the opportunities we have to share our hearts, our hands, and our abundance. We offer these gifts gratefully, praying that they help build a world of compassion and justice for all of your children. Amen.

HYMN

CHARGE

based on Micah 6:8

One: As we leave this virtual 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

I Sing the Mighty Power Of God

arr. by Daniel Palm

This Is the Day

Ps. 118:24; Luke 24:1-7; Acts 2:1-4

St. 1 paraphr. by Les Garrett, 1967; alt.

St. 2-3, traditional; alt.

Unison

1 This is the day, this is the day that our God has made, that our
 2 This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, Je - sus
 3 This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came, when the

God has made; we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be glad in it, and be
 rose a - gain; we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be glad in it, and be
 Spir - it came; we will re-joice, we will re-joice and be glad in it, and be

glad in it. This is the day that our God has made, we will re-joice and be
 glad in it. This is the day Je - sus rose a - gain, we will re-joice and be
 glad in it. This is the day when the Spir - it came, we will re-joice and be

glad in it; This is the day, this is the day that our God has made.
 glad in it; This is the day, this is the day Je - sus rose a - gain.
 glad in it; This is the day, this is the day when the Spir - it came.

Take My Gifts

562

Shirley Erena Murray, 1991

1 Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
2 Take the fruit that I have gath - ered from the tree your Spir - it sowed,
3 Take what-ev - er I can of - fer— gifts that I have yet to find,

gave me light and food and shel - ter, gave me life and set me free,
har - vest of your own com-pas - sion, juice that makes the wine of God,
skills that I am slow to sharp - en, tal - ents of the hand and mind,

now be - cause your love has touched me, I have love to give a - way,
spiced with hu - mor, laced with laugh - ter— fla-vor of the Je - sus life,
things made beau ti ful for oth - ers in the place where I must be;

now the bread of love is ris - ing, loaves of love to mul - ti - ply!
tang of risk and new ad - ven - ture, taste and zest be - yond be - lief.
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

414 As We Leave This Friendly Place

$\text{♩} = 108$

The musical score is written for voice and piano. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a vocal line in treble clef and a piano accompaniment in bass clef. The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The key signature has two sharps (F# and C#), and the time signature is 4/4. The tempo is marked as 108 beats per minute. The lyrics are: 'As we leave this friend-ly place, love give light to ev - 'ry face, may the kind-ness which we learn light our hearts till we re - turn.'

As we leave this friend-ly place, love give light to ev - 'ry face;

may the kind-ness which we learn light our hearts till we re - turn.