



Elijah Kellogg Church, Congregational

917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell ME 04079 • 207-833-6026 • www.elijahkelloggchurch.org

Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly, Interim Pastor

ELIJAH KELLOGG CHURCH WORSHIP

October 1, 2023 - Eighteenth Sunday after Pentecost
Communion Sunday ~ World Wide Communion Sunday

Thoughts for Meditation — “Tradition is the living faith of the dead; traditionalism is the dead faith of the living.” — Jaroslav Pelikan, *The Christian Tradition: A History of the Development of Doctrine*

“People only see what they are prepared to see.” — Ralph Waldo Emerson

“It may be that we have lost our ability to hold a blazing coal, to move unfettered through time, to walk on water, because we have been taught that such things have to be earned; we should deserve them; we must be qualified. We are suspicious of grace. We are afraid of the very lavishness of the gift.” — Madeline L’Engle

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Passing of the Peace...

Call to Worship —

ONE: Come, let us remember that God is present with us, present to us.

MANY: Let us give ear to all that God would teach.

ONE: Our doubts can lead to honest searching.

MANY: God welcomes questions that seek new ways and seek truth.

ONE: We want to see the larger picture God offers.

MANY: We are here to broaden the scope of our concern.

*** INVOCATION**

*** HYMN** — *Our God, Our Help in Ages Past* INSERT

An Order for the Sacrament of Communion

{*Note: in the Protestant Tradition we celebrate two sacraments. Baptism is one. The sharing of bread and cup is known by several names: Eucharist, Communion and the Lord’s Supper. All are welcome at the table, including children who may partake of the Sacrament at the discretion of parents, care-givers or guardians.*}

CALL FOR OFFERING

OFFERTORY

***OFFERING RESPONSE (DOXOLOGY)**

Old One-hundredth

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Him all creatures here below;
Praise Him above ye heavenly hosts
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

Owning Our Church Covenant

We covenant with one another to seek and respond to the Word and the Will of God. We purpose to walk together in the ways of the Lord, made known and to be made known to us. We hold it to be the mission of the Church to witness to the Gospel of Jesus Christ in our Community, the Nation and all the World, while worshiping God and striving for truth, justice and peace. As did our forebears, we depend on the Holy Spirit to lead and empower us. We pray for the coming of the Kingdom of God, and we look with faith toward the triumph of righteousness and eternal life.

CONFESSION

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

RESPONSIVE COMMUNION PRAYERS

ONE: God be with you.

MANY: **And also with you.**

ONE: Be free with your hearts.

MANY: **We give them freely to God.**

ONE: Let us give thanks to God.

MANY: **It is right to give God thanks and praise.**

CONSECRATION

Holy God, we praise You for Your creation, remember Your covenant, made with Your people, shown in fullness with the birth of Jesus and completed in the resurrection of the Christ. We remember too, that on the night of betrayal, Jesus took bread, gave thanks, broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying: "This is my body which is broken for you. Do this in remembrance of me." In the same way, Jesus took the cup, saying: "This is the new covenant in my blood. Do this, as often as you drink it in remembrance of me."

Consecrate, therefore, by Your Holy Spirit, O God, these gifts, and bless us that, as we receive them, we may be united with Christ and one another, and continue to be faithful in all things. Amen.

Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ. And through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

THE LORD'S PRAYER

Let us now pray, as the saints who have witnessed to us and preceded us throughout the ages have prayed by reciting *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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For Thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

(Note: when the elements are distributed it is suggested you partake of the bread when it is received. This is a symbol of our freedom. It is suggested we partake the cup together as a symbol of our unity.)

These are the gifts of God for the people of God; take them in remembrance that Christ died and was raised for you.

As we receive the bread, take and eat for the body of Christ is present with you.

And together let us take of the cup for the blood of Christ is present with you.

THANKSGIVING

We thank you God, for inviting us to this table where we have known the presence of Christ and have received all Christ's gifts. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and let us show forth Your presence in our lives. We pray these things in the name of Jesus, the Christ. Amen.

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE EPISTLES — Philippians 2:1-13 [ILV]

[1] If then there is any encouragement in Christ, if our life in Christ means anything to you, if our life in the Spirit means anything to you, if love or compassion or sympathy can persuade you at all, [2] then make my joy complete: be united in your convictions and united in your love; be of the same mind, having the same love, be in full accord and of one mind, a common mind. [3] There must be no competition among you; do nothing from selfish ambition or conceit; in humility regard others as better than yourselves, value others over yourselves. [4] Let each of you think of the interests of others before your own. [5] Your attitude must be the same as was in Christ, Jesus:

[6] Christ, though being in the image of God,
did not deem equality with God

as something to be clung to—

[7] but instead emptied self,

taking on the form of a servant,
the form of oppressed humankind,
being born in human likeness,
into the human condition.

[8] Jesus was thus humbled—
and became obedient
to the point of death—
even death on a cross!

[9] Therefore God also highly exalted Jesus
and gave Jesus the name
that is above every name,
[10] so that at the name of Jesus
every knee should bend,
in heaven and on earth
and under the earth,
[11] and every tongue should proclaim
to the glory of God
that Jesus, the Christ,
reigns supreme.

[12] Therefore, my dear friends, just as you have always obeyed my urging, not only when I happen to be with you, but all the more now that I am no longer there, work out your own salvation with fear and trembling; [13] for it is God who is at work in you, enabling in you the desire both to do the will of God and to do the work of God.

* HYMN — *At the Name of Jesus* INSERT

INTRODUCTION TO SCRIPTURE

A READING FROM THE GOSPELS — Matthew 21:23-32 [ILV]

[23] Jesus entered the temple precincts and began teaching. The chief priests and the elders of the people, the religious authorities, came and said, “By what authority are you doing what you do? Who gave you this authority?”

[24] Jesus replied, “I will also ask you one question; if you tell me the answer, then I will also tell you by what authority I do these things. [25] From where did the right of John to baptize come? Did it come from divine origin or did it come from human origin?”

And they then discussed this question among themselves. “If we say, ‘From heaven, from divine origin’ Jesus will respond, ‘Why, then, did you refuse to believe John?’ [26] But if we say, ‘Of human origin,’ we will have the people to fear, for all regard John as a prophet.” [27] So they replied to Jesus, “We do not know.”

And Jesus said in reply, “Neither, then, will I tell you by what authority I am doing these things.”

[28] Jesus continued: “What do you think? A landowner who had two children went to the older one and said, ‘My child, go and work in the vineyard today.’ [29] The child responded, ‘I will not’ but afterwards regretted it and went. [30] The landowner then went to the second child and said the same thing. This child responded, ‘I am on my way’ but never went. [31] Which of the two did what was wanted?”

The chief priests and the elders of the people, the religious authorities said, “The first.”

Jesus said to them, “The truth is, tax collectors and prostitutes are entering the dominion of God, heaven, before you. [32] When John came to you walking on the road of righteousness— a right relationship with God— and justice, you did not believe, but tax collectors and prostitutes did. Yet, even after you saw that, you did not change your minds, you did not repent and believe.

SPECIAL MUSIC — *He Put a New Song in My Heart* (Arr. Michael Barrett)

MEDITATION — *A Plethora of Pachyderms*

Prayers of the People and Pastoral Prayer

SILENCE

* **HYMN** — *Let the Circle Be Unbroken* INSERT

BENEDICTION

CONGREGATIONAL RESPONSE —
Let the Circle Be Unbroken INSERT, v. 4

Postlude

Harpswell Community Radio – WHPW 97.3 FM
Harpswell Community Television – Channel 14
<https://vimeo.com/showcase/7960701>

Serving you this morning:	
Interim Minister	Rev. Mr. Joseph Connolly
Pianist	Elizabeth Cromwell
Reader	Susan Ferris
Ushers	Becky Gallery & Harry Arnold
Coffee Hour	Jane Faulkner

Office Hours for the week of October 2nd

Pastor Joe's office hours:

Pastor Joe's office hours for the week of 10/2 are Monday, 10/2 from 9am – 11am

The Bible Study passage for Monday 10/2 at 11:00 a.m. is Philippians 3:4b-14.

OFFICE CLOSED NOTICE

The office will be closed next Thursday, October 5th and the following Thursday, October 12th.

If you have something you would like included in the weekly News & Notes or in the bulletin, please have it to Stephanie no later than Tuesday, October 3rd or Tuesday October 10th.

Thank you!

Our God, Our Help in Ages Past

Based on Psalm 90
Isaac Watts, 1674-1748

ST. ANNE C.M.
Attr. to William Croft, 1678-1727



1 Our God, our help in a - ges past, Our hope for years to come,
2 Un - der the shad - ow of thy throne Thy saints have dwelt se - cure;
3 Be - fore the hills in or - der stood, Or earth re - ceived her frame,
4 A thou - sand a - ges in thy sight Are like an eve - ning gone,



Our shel - ter from the storm - y blast, And our e - ter - nal home,
Suf - fi - cient is thine arm a - lone, And our de - fense is sure.
From ev - er - last - ing thou art God, To end - less years the same.
Short as the watch that ends the night Be - fore the ris - ing sun. A - men.



At the Name of Jesus

(Adapted from Philippians 2:1-13)

1 At the name of Je - sus eve - ry knee shall bow, Shout you end - less
2 Born in hu - man like - ness, found in hu - man form; Hum - bled and o -
3 God at work a - mong us, God who grants all grace, We in fear and
4 Let us now be mind - ful of God's ho - ly ways, And re - spond re -

**Whenever this repeated figure appears in the bass,
the organist should tie the eighth notes in the bass part.*

heav - ens, "Christ is sov - reign now!" One and true Mes - si - ah,
be - di - ent sure - ly death is norm. Prom - ised of God's cov - e - nent:
trem - bl - ing seek to know Your face. God of all the ex - il - ed,
joic - ing for our length of days. Eve - ry knee now bend - ing,

we, this wit - ness, heard: Christ from the be - gin - ing was with God, the Word.
who from death is raised? Je - sus, vic - tor - ious, o - ver death and grave.
God of all out - cast We heed Your com - mand - ment: love from first to last!
eve - ry mouth af - ford This is our con - fes - sion: Je - sus Christ is Lord!

Tune: KING'S WESTON 6.5.6.5.D.
Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1925

© J. F. Connolly - 1999

Note: This lyric quotes the Philippians passage more directly than the original. It was written in honor of the Rev. Dr. William Johnson.

Let the Circle Be Unbroken

Lyric by J.F. Connolly

Traditional

♩=190 F

1 Our loved ones clothed in glo - ry
2 In the joy - ous days of child - hood
3 Let us pic - ture in our mem - 'ry
4 Let's re - mem - ber songs of heav - en,

5 B^b F

Those dear ones we real - ly miss,
oft they told of won - drous tales;
how they nur - tured, how we've grown;
hymns they taught us by de - sign;

9 Cma⁷ F

When we're o - pen to their sto - ry,
point - ed to God Who is with us,
And let's share the com - mon sto - ry,
Let's sing out those songs of free - dom.

13 B^b C⁷ F

it can fill our hearts with bliss.
said the love of God pre - vails.
of the love we all have known.
and let hearts now in - ter - twine.

17 Cma⁷ F F

Let the cir - cle be un - bro - ken

21 B^b F

Bye and bye, yes, bye and bye.

25 C⁷ F Am

When the words of hearts are spo - ken—

29 B^b C⁷ F

that is why, yes, that is why.

Prayer Requests for October 1, 2023

At home...

Mark Wilson

Connie Henry

In nursing homes...

Sam Wright
David Ferris

In assisted living...

Trina
Tom Jones

Joan Phillips
Ernestine Machesney
Jane Collins

Away...

C V Noyes

Ellie and George Patterson

Sick, in the hospital or rehabilitation...

Shawn Stanford

Recovering from illness or surgery...

George Perkins

Grieving...

Thanksgivings...

The Pastoral Search Committee

Special concerns...

For the people in the paths of storms and fires

Emergency responders / Health care workers / Essential workers...

Praise God for our partnership with WHPW and Channel 14!

Please keep those named above in your prayers. If you have any questions, or would like others to be prayed for, please contact Susan Ferris, Chairperson of our Prayer Circle.
Susan can be reached at 666-3247 or sueherb@myfairpoint.net.

Thank You

FIVE-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN

The Congregational Council has started to develop a five-year strategic plan that will provide a framework for the Church's mission and activities moving forward.

In an effort to be as inclusive as possible in the process and to give everyone in the Church an opportunity to participate and offer suggestions and ideas of how they would like to see the Church function over the next five years, the Council is encouraging everyone to think about their ideas for our priorities and how we allocate our resources so that the Church remains vibrant and relevant for it's members and the community - what is our role in the community, with each other, and with God?

We encourage you to think about these things and talk with members of the Congregational Council at the next two coffee hours on October 1st and 8th following the worship services. Then during the coffee hour on October 15 we'll convene in small group discussions in an effort to clarify your thoughts and ideas.

If you are unable to attend in-person, feel free to contact any member of the Congregational Council directly.

Thank you for your time and consideration as we make the effort to define a path forward that advances our Church's mission and enhances its relevance for each of us, our community and our World.

Your Congregational Council,
Ashley Braley
Carrie Bubier
Linda Clement
Joe Connolly
Carol Coultas
Kay Greenwood
Nancy Hurst
Gail Johnson
Ned Pierce
Nancy Simboli
Eric Wohltjen

Women's Fellowship

Where: Fellowship Hall;

When: October 3rd at 11:00AM

Women's Fellowship would like to invite everyone to a program by Andrea Lauerman, the Program Director of "Sacred Ground". This is a program which uses group discussions led by trained facilitators with the overall goal of improving the racial disparities in our society. Come and learn more about the program and the possibilities it offers us.

For more information, contact Ruth Smith:
833-6246 or jandrsmith@myfairpoint.net or at fellowship hour.

On-Line Auction & Holiday Fair

In preparation for the on-line auction part of the 2023 EKC Holiday Fair, we are soliciting donations that can be posted on the auction website for bidding. The auction will open on October 20 at 5PM and bidding will close on November 1 at 8PM. If you'd like to make a donation, please contact one of us.

Thank you!

Patty Carrier, Pat Myer, Rob Porter, and Allen Tucker
(the on-line auction committee)



Christmas by the Sea
Holiday Fair
at Elijah Kellogg Church
Saturday, November 4
9 am - 2 pm

Handmade Crafts
Treasures
Country Store & Baked Goods

Luncheon 11 am – 1pm
Lobster Rolls, Fish Chowder, Egg
Salad Sandwiches & Pie!

Credit Cards Accepted!

Online Auction
October 20 - November 1

The link for the auction is:
auctria.events/2023EKCHolidayFair

Location: 917 Harpswell Neck Rd., Harpswell FMI: 833-6026

MOMENT FOR MISSIONS

In keeping with our 4-part program of supplying needed items for the current Tedford Shelters, October will be the month we have selected to contribute: **TOILETRIES AND PERSONAL ITEMS**. Among the list are:

Razors and Shaving Cream
Shampoos
Body Washes and Soaps
Deodorants

Mouthwash
Toothbrushes
Kleenex and Toilet Tissue

(Items should be Full Size, not the sample or travel size)

This should be a fun and quick request to fill, although the housewares was so very rewarding to see EKC's creativity and generosity in action.

Thank you,
Your Board of Missions

Chicken Pot Pie Update

Many thanks to everyone who helped, and everyone who came to eat. We had a successful dinner, served around 150 pot pie dinners, and were sold out by 6:00. Unfortunately, we had to turn people away. We had helpers from HNPEA join us, and are able to donate \$500 to their fundraising project to build new tennis courts and upgrade the area. After paying the bills, the Kellogg Church is able to keep \$1,124 for our profits! The supper helpers will be meeting after church on Sunday to talk about what went well, and what we need to work on for the next Pot Pie Supper.

Again, many thanks to all,
Dick Moseley & Carrie Bubier

CALLING ALL BAKERS, PRESERVERS AND CANDY-MAKERS!

Our annual Christmas by the Sea Fair is swiftly approaching (November 4). Your help is needed to stock our Country Goods section. Have you been canning your garden's bounty? Making jams and jellies? We are looking for preserves and more. Baked goods of all kinds: breads, muffins, cakes, pies, cookies and brownies. Fudge! Toffee!
A basket will be outside the church office to collect the labeled jars of preserves and jellies. Baked goods will be accepted in the days just before the big event.

Contact Becky Gallery (833-6159) or Krista Hinman (860-670-3467) for more information.

Thank you for helping support our fair!

Board of Finance

A few people approached me after last Sunday's special meeting and said they wished there'd been more context for the vote to authorize the release of funds for our mold remediation project. So here is a summary that I hope fits the bill.

Last year we discovered we had mold in the basement and the Trustees set about finding a contractor that could assess the scale of the problem and provide an estimate for remediation. In October, we received a generous donation of \$25,000 to address the problem.

By the time our annual meeting rolled around in February, we had one estimate in hand and it was in excess of \$100,000. Given that we were still researching the scale of the problem and appropriate remediation and mitigation options, we decided at the annual meeting not to vote on approving the funds needed for the project until we had more information. A Mold Remediation Task Force was created to help Trustees address this problem.

Since then, a cadre of volunteers emptied out the basement rooms, cutting the cost of some of the remediation work.

We received another quote for the remediation work, this one closer to \$65,000. Additionally, the Trustees were in talks with a couple of companies on how to mitigate the problem so the mold never returns. As of this writing, the Trustees are modifying the contract with Mold Bros. to clarify some points raised by our attorney. Assuming all goes well, we hope to begin the remediation part of the work in October. Trustees are also closing in on a mitigation option with a company, TC Hafford, that should run about \$40,000. Thankfully, Helen Norton, our generous donor in 2022, sent us a check for \$75,000 this summer to cover most of the mold work. Between her generous donations and savings we're seeing in our budget, we expect to be able to cover the cost of the project.

Our church bylaws require that we convene a special meeting of the congregation whenever we want to spend in excess of \$2,000 for any non-budgeted item. That was the reason for last Sunday's meeting and vote.

Our hope is the contracts will be finalized soon and work can begin. The Trustees and the Mold Remediation Task Force members have done and continue to do exceptional work on our behalf. We are lucky to have such diligent stewards of EKC.

Carol Coultas
Co-chair, Board of Finance