



Living by Faith, Known by Love, A Voice of Hope
First Church in Windsor, UCC

The Seventh Sunday of Easter and Memorial Day Sunday
Dare to Dance Again
May 29, 2022, at 10 a.m.

Prelude

Welcome

***Call to Worship**

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

Leader: This is the call! Ready yourselves for new life.

People: We lift up our heads to meet the day.

Leader: Get ready to be the hands and feet of Jesus in this world.

People: We fortify our hearts with compassion and action.

Leader: Even when rain sets in, open those umbrellas of gratitude and set out anyway.

People: For we are called to dance again!

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

Passing of the Peace

Pastor: The peace of the risen Christ is with you!

People: And also with you!

*You are invited to turn to the people around you and wave to each other as a sign
of graceful greetings this day.*

***Hymn**

God of the Ages

Words by Daniel Crane Roberts
Music by George William Warren
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**God of the ages, who with sure command
Brought forth in beauty all the starry band
Of shining worlds in splendor through the skies,
Our grateful songs before your throne arise.**

**From war's alarms, from deadly pestilence,
With steadfast care be ever our defense;
Your love and faith within our hearts increase;
With bounteous goodness nourish us in peace.**

**Refresh your people on life's toilsome way;
Lead us from night to neverending day;
With truth and love guide us through error's maze,
And we shall give you glory, laud, and praise.**

Prayer of Invocation

God, who calls us to live in peace, hear our prayer this day. Hear our prayer for all who have died, whose hearts and hopes are known to you alone...

Hear our prayer for those who put the welfare of others ahead of their own and give us hearts as generous as theirs...

Hear our prayer for those who gave their lives in the service of others, and accept the gift of their sacrifice...

Help us to shape and make a world where we will lay down the arms of war and turn our swords into ploughshares for a harvest of justice and peace...

Hear our prayer this day and in your mercy answer us. Amen.

***Prayer of our Savior**

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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. Lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory, forever. Amen

Anthem

There is a Place

By Liam Lawton
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Children's Moment

Scripture

John 15:9, 11-15a (NRSV, adapted)

Jesus said, “As God has loved me, so I have loved you; abide in my love. I have said these things to you so that my joy may be in you, and that your joy may be complete.

"This is my commandment, that you love one another as I have loved you. No one has greater love than this, to lay down one's life for one's friends. You are my friends if you do what I command you. I do not call you servants any longer, because the servant does not know what the master is doing; but I have called you friends.

Sermon

Pastor Nicole

“The Greatest Love”

*Hymn

The Gift of Love

Words by Hal Hopson

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Music: traditional English

**Though I may speak with bravest fire, and have the gift to all inspire,
And have not love, my words are vain, as sounding brass, and hopeless gain.**

**Though I may give all I possess, and striving so my love profess,
But not be given by love within, the profit soon turns strangely thin.**

**Come, Spirit, come, our hearts control, our spirits long to be made whole.
Let inward love guide every deed; by this we worship and are freed.**

Pastoral Prayer & Prayers of the People

Prayer Response

Glory, Glory Hallelujah

African American spiritual

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**Glory, glory hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.
Glory, glory, hallelujah, since I laid my burdens down.
I am dancing Miriam's dance now, since I laid my burdens down.
I am dancing Miriam's dance now, since I laid my burdens down.**

Announcements

Offering Plates are on the tables back of the church. If you wish, you may give online [here](#).

Hymn

Shine, Jesus, Shine

Words and music by Graham Kendrick

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**Lord, 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 the Creator's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

**As we gaze on your royal 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 the Creator's glory;
blaze, Spirit, blaze, set our hearts on fire.
Flow, river, flow, flood the nations with grace and mercy;
send forth your word, Lord, and let there be light.**

*Benediction

Postlude

Praise the Lord!

By Douglas E. Wagner

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Played by the Bell Choir

*Please stand as you are able, **Bolded Font** to be read by all