

# **Presque Isle Congregational Church**

*United Church of Christ*

**Virtual Worship - July 2, 2023**

## **Welcome**

## **Opening Prayer**

God of grace, you have brought us from slavery to freedom, from despair to hope, from death to life! Holy is Your name! We gather together in Your presence with gratitude and praise for all that You have done for us. May the presence of Your Holy Spirit inspire our worship. May our words and music, our thoughts and prayers, even our very lives, bring honor and glory to You. This we pray in the name of Jesus Christ, whose death and resurrection have brought us everlasting life. Amen.

## **Opening Hymn**

*We Are Gathered*

Amanda Udis-Kessler

## **Scripture Reading**

Romans 6:12-23

Therefore do not let sin reign in your mortal bodies, so that you obey their desires. No longer present your members to sin as instruments of unrighteousness, but present yourselves to God as those who have been brought from death to life, and present your members to God as instruments of righteousness. For sin will have no dominion over you, since you are not under law but under grace.

What then? Should we sin because we are not under law but under grace? By no means! Do you not know that, if you present yourselves to anyone as obedient slaves, you are slaves of the one whom you obey, either of sin, which leads to death, or of obedience, which leads to righteousness? But thanks be to God that you who were slaves of sin have become obedient from the heart to the form of teaching to which you were entrusted and that you, having been set free from sin, have become enslaved to righteousness. I am speaking in human terms because of your limitations. For just as you once presented your members as slaves to impurity and lawlessness, leading to even more lawlessness, so now present your members as slaves to righteousness, leading to sanctification.

When you were slaves of sin, you were free in regard to righteousness. So what fruit did you then gain from the things of which you now are ashamed? The end of those things is death. But now that you have been freed from sin and enslaved to God, the fruit you have leads to sanctification, and the end is eternal life. For the wages of sin is death, but the free gift of God is eternal life in Christ Jesus our Lord.

## **Reflection**

Daniel Jackson

## Prayer of Brokenness and Confession<sup>1</sup>

We confess to You, O Holy One, that our ways are not Your ways. We have sought the world's wealth and possessions. We have sought to build capital and establish security for ourselves and our families. We have not worked to help the most vulnerable. We have allowed water to become polluted, food to become scarce, housing for the poor to be eliminated. We have neglected the most in need among us and therefore we have neglected You, Jesus our Savior. You came to us as vulnerable as any of us, but we have ignored You in neglecting the vulnerable among us. Forgive us and call us into accountability. Call us back to the work You have given us to do, to welcome one another, practice kindness and compassion, and to do justice by caring for those who are considered the least among us. For Yours is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory, and we hope to participate in it, but we know we cannot if we ignore You in this world, among Your children in need. In Your name we pray. Amen.

## Blessing/Assurance

You are God's beloved child, made in God's image. When we return to God, we know God's love and God's ways. We set out to do right, and at times need our direction corrected, but God's love will never fail. Know God's love and seek forgiveness, restoration, and healing in this world. Do your part to build and plant and grow the seeds of righteousness, faithfulness, and love, and know God's mercy in your life. Go with this good news of God's love and forgiveness.

## Closing Hymn

*As You Go On Your Way*

Amanda Udis-Kessler

PIUCC Summer Worship Schedule				
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
July 2, 2023	July 9, 2023	July 16, 2023	July 23, 2023	July 30, 2023
10:00 AM	10:00 AM	5:00 PM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Virtual Worship	Church Worship	Evening Worship	Church Worship	Outdoor Worship
Church FB Page	Dan Jackson	Discussion	Jennifer Gillis-White	Mantle Lake Park
Dan Jackson	Coffee Fellowship	Simple Potluck Supper	Coffee Fellowship	Picnic Bring your lunch. Beverages and Dessert Provided
Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday	Sunday
August 6, 2023	August 13, 2023	August 20, 2023	August 27, 2023	September 3, 2023
10:00 AM	5:00 PM	5:00 PM	10:00 AM	10:00 AM
Church Worship	Evening Worship	Evening Worship	Church Worship	Virtual Worship
Dan Jackson	Discussion	Discussion	Dan Jackson	Rev. Bob Grove- Markwood
Coffee Fellowship	Cookies & Lemondade	Simple Potluck Supper	Coffee Fellowship	Church FB Page

<sup>1</sup>Rev-o-lution Resources by Rev. Mindi Welton-Mitchell; <http://rev-o-lution.org>, (c) 2020.

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