

# REMEMBERING THOSE WHO'VE SACRIFICED



## MEMORIAL DAY

### **Rollstone Congregational Church**

**United Church of Christ**

199 Main Street, Fitchburg, MA

Pastor: Rev. David B. Hanks 978-821-9571

Moderator: Paul Stansel 978-337-1608

Church Organist and Musician: Gavin Klein

**Rollstone Congregational Church**  
Fitchburg, MA

**First Sunday After Pentecost**  
May 30, 2021

**Prelude:**

**Words of Welcome and Announcements:**

**Call to Worship:**

Leader: God remembers and visits us and restores us to the community of faith.

**People: In our pain, suffering and loss, we know the assurance of God's presence.**

Leader: When we have opposition and hopeless situations, God bears us up on eagles' wings.

**People: In the loneliness of our firm idealism, God grants healing and transformation.**

Leader: Whatever we need as we gather to worship, a merciful and loving God meets us here.

**People: We assemble with high expectations that God has much good in store for us.**

Leader: The good gifts God bestows on us here are for our use in reaching out to others.

**People: We want to use our talents in the service of Jesus Christ. Amen.**

**Gathering Prayer:**

You have brought us, O God, to another Lord's Day, when we are privileged to worship you with our brothers and sisters in Christ. May we have unity of mind and heart as we open ourselves to the movement of your Holy Spirit. As your love grows within us, may we have rich fellowship with you and with one another. In Christ's name. Amen.

**Opening Hymn:**

**"Battle Hymn Of the Republic"**

**Battle Hymn**

Mine eyes have seen the glory of the coming of the Lord  
He is trampling out the vintage where the grapes of wrath are stored  
He hath loosed the fateful lightning of His terrible swift sword  
His truth is marching on

*Glory, Glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*His truth is marching on*

I have seen Him in the watch-fires of a hundred circling camps  
They have builded Him an altar in the evening dews and damps  
I can read His righteous sentence by the dim and flaring lamps  
His day is marching on.

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*His day is marching on*

**He has sounded forth the trumpet that shall never call retreat  
He is sifting out the hearts of men before His judgment-seat  
Oh, be swift, my soul, to answer Him! Be jubilant, my feet!  
Our God is marching on**

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Our God is marching on*

**In the beauty of the lilies Christ was born across the sea  
With a glory in His bosom that transfigures you and me  
As He died to make men holy, let us die to make men free  
While God is marching on**

*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*Glory, glory, hallelujah!*  
*While God is marching on*

### **A Reading from the Gospels**

### **Joshua 4:4-7 (New International Version)**

4 So Joshua called together the twelve men he had appointed from the Israelites, one from each tribe, 5 and said to them, “Go over before the ark of the LORD your God into the middle of the Jordan. Each of you is to take up a stone on his shoulder, according to the number of the tribes of the Israelites, 6 to serve as a sign among you. In the future, when your children ask you, ‘What do these stones mean?’ 7 tell them that the flow of the Jordan was cut off before the ark of the covenant of the LORD. When it crossed the Jordan, the waters of the Jordan were cut off. These stones are to be a memorial to the people of Israel forever.”

### **Musical Interlude:**

**A Time of Prayer** — Please share your prayer concerns so that they may be added to the prayer list by emailing your concern to Pastor Dave at [rollstonepastor2012@gmail.com](mailto:rollstonepastor2012@gmail.com) or by calling him direct at 978-821-9571. He is available Monday through Thursday and most every evenings.

Life-giving God, we give you thanks and praise for your abundant grace. In days of old, you parted the waters with a mighty hand so that your people could cross safely and escape their pursuers. The waters not only parted in the Red Sea with Moses, but the Jordan with Joshua. We remember these mighty acts, and so, in the same way, O God, grant safe passage to all who need it today -- passage through the turmoil of illness, grief and despair; passage through poverty and oppression; passage, perhaps, through toils and snares of our own devising. Where chaos swirls around us like mighty

waters, lead us by your Spirit. Forgive the times we do not trust you, when we demand miracles on our own timetable. Give us the courage and faith to speak out for those in need of liberation and justice. Give us the words also to witness to your life-changing gospel in a thirsty world. Help us to claim this new reality, in our lives and for this world. This we pray in the name of Jesus, the risen Christ as we remember the words he taught us to pray in saying.... "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."

### **Musical Interlude:**

### **The Message:**

### **"Ways in Which We Remember"**

### **Musical Reflection for Memorial Day**

**tune: Precious Name**

#### **"Sown in Tears, Raised in Joy"**

Like a seed, this earthly body  
Only dies that life may grow,  
Life far greater and more glorious,  
More than earthly minds can know.

#### *Refrain*

*Sown in tears, raised in joy,  
Sown in weakness, raised in might,  
Sown in death, raised in life,  
One with God in Jesus Christ!*

Like a seed, though small and lifeless,  
Grows a great and mighty tree,  
See in all our earthly glory  
Just a seed of what will be!

Like our Savior in His beauty,  
Joyful, loving, whole, and free,  
We will share eternal splendor  
Only heaven's eyes can see.

*WORDS: Ken Bible*

*MUSIC: Lydia Baxter; arr. by Ken Bible*

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### **Closing Hymn:**

### **"Eternal Father, Strong to Save"**

**Milita**

**Eternal Father, strong to save,  
Whose arm hath bound the restless wave,  
Who bidd'st the mighty ocean deep  
Its own appointed limits keep;**

**Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Christ! Whose voice the waters heard  
And hushed their raging at Thy word,  
Who walked'st on the foaming deep,  
And calm amidst its rage didst sleep;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**Most Holy Spirit! Who didst brood  
Upon the chaos dark and rude,  
And bid its angry tumult cease,  
And give, for wild confusion, peace;  
Oh, hear us when we cry to Thee,  
For those in peril on the sea!**

**O Trinity of love and power!  
Our brethren shield in danger's hour;  
From rock and tempest, fire and foe,  
Protect them wheresoe'er they go;  
Thus evermore shall rise to Thee  
Glad hymns of praise from land and sea.**

**Benediction:**

And now unto him who is able to keep us from falling and lift us from the dark valley of despair to the mountains of hope, from the midnight of desperation to the daybreak of joy; to him be power and authority, forever and ever. Amen.

**Postlude:**

## **PRAYER LIST**

**Doreen Allen**

**Jacob Allen**

**Janet Aveyard**

**Amy Belli**

**Carolyn Barney**

**Jack Brigham**

**Becky Colwell**

**Maureen Daoust**

**David Dufour**

**Diana Escarbie**

**Robert Fitton**

**Keeley Folan**

**Cathy Fontaine**

**Bob and Pat Goguen**

**Linda Haas**

**Douglas Hanks**

**John Hanks, Jr.**

**Timothy Hoffman**

**Linda Hurd**

**Tom Kazanjian**

**Sarah Kee**

**Colin Lajoie**

**Bob and Doris Lane**

**Diane Lane Cormier**

**Linda Long**

**Sue Mattison**

**Lorraine Michaud**

**Audrey Painchaud**

**Maria Piazza**

**Melanie Pouliot**

**Jackie Reiss and her family**

**Del Sampson**

**Elwin Shepard**

**Amanda Sicard**

**Ron Smith**

**Carole Ann Sumner and Henry**

**Donna Thorne**

**Daniel Tousignant**

**Gina Vilayphone**

**Marilyn Wales**

**Mary Wayman**

**All who are experiencing difficult times and situations**

**All who are lonely or depressed**