**Salem United Church of Christ Moorestown**

**Church Office (610) 759-1652 – www.salemuccbathpa.org**

**Pastor Kaye Lentz, (610)217-0041, email:SalemPastor2218@yahoo.com**

**Lisa Abruzzese, Organist/Choir Director, (610) 217-4234**

**Ministers of the Church – Every Member of Salem UCC**

**July 5, 2020**

**Music**

**Welcome to Virtual Worship**

**Prelude**

**Call to Worship**

One: God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of work,

 home, and community. Jesus promises,

**All: I will give you rest.**

One: God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of illness, of

 fear, of hopelessness. Jesus promises,

**All: I will give you rest.**

One: God invites all who are weary to come. Come now with the burdens of anger, of

 prejudice, of alienation. Jesus promises,

**All: I will give you rest.**

One: God invites all who are weary to come. God invites all who are weary to lay down

 their burdens. God invites all who are weary to find peace.

**All: We gather in hope and to rest in God.**

One: Come, let us worship.

**Opening Prayer**

**All: God of Sabbath promise, you created not only work but the blessing of**

 **rest. Often we feel exhausted, overstressed, and overwhelmed, in need**

 **of renewal and refreshment, – to be re-created. Help us to take up your**

 **invitation of respite for our souls and spirits, of comfort for our bodies**

 **and minds, of a pause for quiet, for sabbatical, for holiday. Open us to**

 **receive your gentling Spirit and your relaxing presence. Amen.**

**Music – Hymn # 496 – “*Leaning on the Everlasting Arms (verses 1 and 3)***

**Prayer of Confession**

**All: God of new life, we come to this time and place, feeling raw and**

 **vulnerable. We know that too often we forget about your constant love;**

 **we look for love in all the wrong places, and we put our trust in life and**

 **all the wrong things. And yet, we continue to come, bearing the hope of**

 **transformation that is only possible in and through you. Hear now our**

 **silent confessions.** *(silence is kept)*

**Words of Assurance**

One:Our God is ever present in our lives, offering constant love through vibrant,

 calm, and nourishing encounters. God is a God of forgiveness, abundance and

 relationship.

**All: And for that we rejoice! Amen**.

**Passing of the Peace**

**Solo *“Blessings”* sung by Morgan Taylor**

**Gospel Lesson**

Matthew 11:16-19, 25-30 (The Voice) read by Vicki Troxell

**Children’s Message**

**Today’s Message**

**Music – “Cares Chorus Video” (used with permission of video owner, MICH ELLE)**

**Offering –** When life is heavy and we are burdened, Jesus invites us to take his yoke upon us, offering us help in carrying our heavy load. In deep gratitude for the gift of Christ’s presence in your life, I invite you at this time to consider ways to express your thankfulness for all that God provides by giving of your time and talents in new ways in this time. I also ask you to consider how you will offer your tithes and offerings to support the ministry of our church at this time as well – some options are: on-line giving available through our website or your smartphone, mail check in weekly or set aside your offering each week and mail it in monthly. Thank you.

**Prayer & The Lord’s Prayer**

**Music – Hymn # 499** *“He Leadeth Me” (all verses)*

**Benediction**

In worship, we find rest and renewal. But this is not where we stay.

Go out into the world; ready to love and serve the Lord. And ready to be transformed by God the Comforter, God the Redeemer, and God the Sustainer. Amen.

**Three Fold Amen**

**Postlude**

*\* Portions of this worship service were adapted from “Seasons of the Spirit”, “Daily Short Devotions”*



