

# RAQUETTE LAKE CHAPEL



MAY 2020 NEWSLETTER

RAQUETTE LAKE, NEW YORK

## **MAY SCRIPTURE – REVISED COMMON LECTIONARY YEAR A**

May 3 – Fourth Sunday of  
Easter: Acts 2:42-27; Psalm  
23; 1 Peter 2:19-25; John  
10:1-10

May 10 – Fifth Sunday of  
Easter: Acts 7:55-60; Psalm  
31:1-5, 15-6; 1 Peter 2:2-10;  
John 14: 1-14

May 17 – Sixth Sunday of  
Easter: Acts 17:22-31; Psalm  
66:7-18; 1 Peter 3:13-22; John  
14:15-21

May 24 – Seventh Sunday of  
Easter: Acts 1:6-14; Psalm  
68:1-10, 33-36; 1 Peter 4:12-  
14, 5:6-11; John 17:1-11

*The Revised Common  
Lectionary is a three-year  
cycle of weekly “lections,” or  
scripture passages from the  
Bible, used to varying  
degrees by the vast majority  
of mainline Protestant  
churches in Canada, the  
United States, and around  
the world.*



## **CHAPEL NEWS**



***Rest in Peace.*** Sadly, the Chapel Community lost long-time resident John Mitchell, Carol’s husband. His internment was last weekend with close family. A memorial service for the larger community is being planned. **Prayers go out to Carol and their family, and friends.**

The Raquette Lake community lost longtime resident Leland DeMarsh. **Our prayers go out to his family and friends.**

***Sue tells us that summer residents are respectfully not rushing up here.*** Once here, they are going into quarantine, which is appreciated. It’s nice that they care so much about the people and the locale that they are willing to do this.

***Around the Chapel there has been lots of activity.*** Construction has started on the new Jack Regan home, and Tom has been busy pruning apples trees along the access road. He is planning to help alleviate the storm water draining problem down the hill and around the Chapel. Also, the big old pine tree has been removed. Tom relates the legend that his mother refused to go to church during a high windstorm because of that big old tree! There are plans to replace the walkway to the dock this year, and ultimately replace the dock. Thanks to generous donations of time and material, the handrail to the dock has been replaced.



## EXPRESSIONS OF FAITH: CREEDS

Some churches have begun to incorporate more contemporary creeds into worship, in addition to the Nicene and the Apostles' Creeds. Here is one example based on the church season, an Easter Creed:

*I believe in the God of Easter morning who awakes us from our darkest dreams and leads us into the light of a new day, who meets our pessimism with stunning hope of angelic proclamation.*

*I believe in the God of Easter Day who beats us to the obstacles in our lives and empties the dark tomb for us; who appears in surprising ways when we least expect it; walking with us on our detours.*

*I believe in the God of Easter evening who breaks into our closets and prisons, bringing peace and crushing our fear. I believe in the risen Lord who meets us with wounds on his hands and feet; who grants us his spirit, sending us out to bring Shalom to the world.*

Let's continue our conversation about creeds and how they reflect the faith of our Raquette Lake Chapel Community. I appreciate the interest shown in learning more about the Creeds, their history, and reciting them as part of worship.

### AND ON THAT NOTE...

What effect will COVID-19 have on summer services? We don't know for sure. We pray that with the proper accommodations, if needed, keeping some distance, wearing masks, meeting outside(!), we can gather again. We do have a service schedule in place!

So, in that spirit of hope and faith in God's grace, I've included a poem by Mary Oliver which reminds us to be grateful for the gifts we have been given as spring slowly makes its way to the North Country.

***May the blessings of the Father, Son, and Holy Spirit be with us always! Amen. - Vance***

## North Country

by Mary Oliver



In the north country now, it is spring and there is a certain celebration. The thrush has come home. He is shy and likes the evening best, also the hour just before morning; in that blue and gritty light he climbs to his branch, or smoothly sails, there. It is okay to know only one song if it is this one. Hear it rise and fall; the very elements of your soul shiver nicely. What would spring be without it? Mostly frogs.

But don't worry, he arrives, year after year, humble and obedient and gorgeous. You listen and you know you could live a better life than you do, be softer, kinder. And maybe this year you will be able to do it. Hear how his voice rises and falls. There is no way to be sufficiently grateful for the gifts we are given, no way to speak the Lord's name often enough, though we do try...

...and especially now, as that dappled breast breathes in the pines and heaven's windows in the north country, now spring has come, are opened wide.