



**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



First Congregational Church of Stoughton  
**UNITED CHURCH  
OF CHRIST**  
An Open and Affirming Congregation

April 26, 2020

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! While we can't be together physically, we are glad to join our two congregations together for worship online. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

## **PRELUDE**

## **RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

## **WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Barry Shelley

## **CALL TO WORSHIP**

Shannon Baglole and Marcia Olson

The Earth is beautiful, and bright, and kindly, but that is not all. (*Ursula K. Le Guin*)

**God's presence and power are in every corner of the universe!**

Creation [is] God's presence in creatures. (*Wendell Berry*)

**Praise God all creatures of the earth!**

All the stones that are around here, each one has a language of its own.

Even the earth has a song. (*Wallace Black Elk*)

**Let the stones sing their songs to God!**

It is only the infinite mercy and love of God that has prevented us from tearing ourselves to pieces and destroying God's entire creation long ago. (*Thomas Merton*)

**God's mercy and love are unending!**

Those who contemplate the beauty of the earth find reserves of strength that will endure as long as life lasts. (*Rachel Carson*)

**Let us see and proclaim the beauty of the Living God!**

## **OPENING PRAYER**

## **HYMN**

In The Garden

## **A LITANY FOR EARTH DAY**

God, on this day we celebrate the gift of this planet, Earth,

**Which you created for us as a home:**

A home for humanity

**A home for creatures**

A home for plants

## **A good gift of creation.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we have corrupted it.

**Forgive us.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we have disregarded its well-being.

**Forgive us.**

We are truly sorry for the ways we've been complicit in systems that degrade it.

**Forgive us.**

Help us, Oh God,

**To be good stewards of your gifts to us.**

Help us, Oh God,

**To realize our connectedness to creation.**

Help us, Oh God,

**To understand our reliance upon the Earth.**

Help us, Oh God,

**To bring healing to the planet.**

Help us, Oh God,

**To make changes that benefit all creatures.**

As all creation praises and glorifies you,

**So we praise you.**

As all creation reflects your character and beauty,

**So we seek to reflect your beauty.**

As all creation supports and sustains us,

**So we seek to support one another.**

For the gracious gift and vast beauty of creation,

**We give thanks. Amen.**

## **A TIME FOR ALL**

Rev. Mary Perry

## **SCRIPTURE READINGS**

**Job 12:7-10**

Adam Morales

**Luke 24:13-35**

## **SERMON**

Ann-Marie Illsley

## **ANTHEM**

Draw Us In The Spirit's Tether

Harold Friedell  
Alisa Cassola and Murray Kidd

Draw us in the Spirit's tether,  
For when humbly in Thy name,  
Two or three are met together  
Thou are in the midst of them;

Alleluia! Alleluia!  
Touch we now Thy garment's hem.

As the brethren used to gather  
In the name of Christ to sup,  
Then with thanks to God the Father  
Break the bread and bless the cup,  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
So knit Thou our friendship up.

All our meals and all our living  
Make as sacraments of Thee,  
That by caring, helping, giving  
We may true disciples be.  
Alleluia! Alleluia!  
We will serve Thee faithfully.

## **PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE - SHARING OUR JOYS AND CONCERNS**

### **PASTORAL PRAYER**

#### **THE LORD'S PRAYER**

Our Father (Creator), 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 (trespasses), as we forgive those who sin (trespass) against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil, for thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### **CALL FOR OFFERINGS PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**OFFERTORY**                    'Let All Things Now Living'

Welsh Folk Song  
Emily Swisher Rosa, violin

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

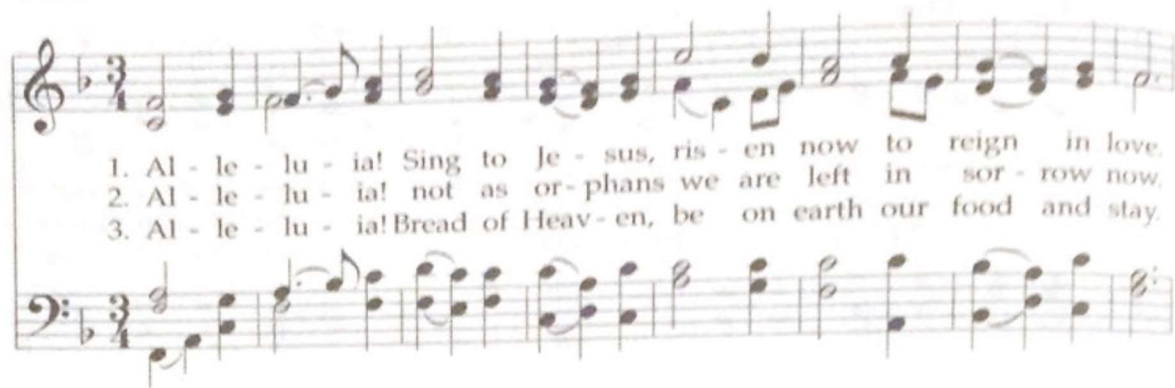
**HYMN**                         Alleluia, Sing To Jesus

### **BENEDICTION**

### **POSTLUDE**

*Participating in Today's Worship Service*  
Rev. Mary Perry and Ann-Marie Illsley, worship leaders  
Shannon Baglole, Adam Morales, and Marcia Olson, lay readers  
Murray Kidd, music director  
Sylvia Berry, accompanist  
Alisa Cassola, soloist  
Emily Swisher Rosa, violin  
David Wilcox, ASL interpreter

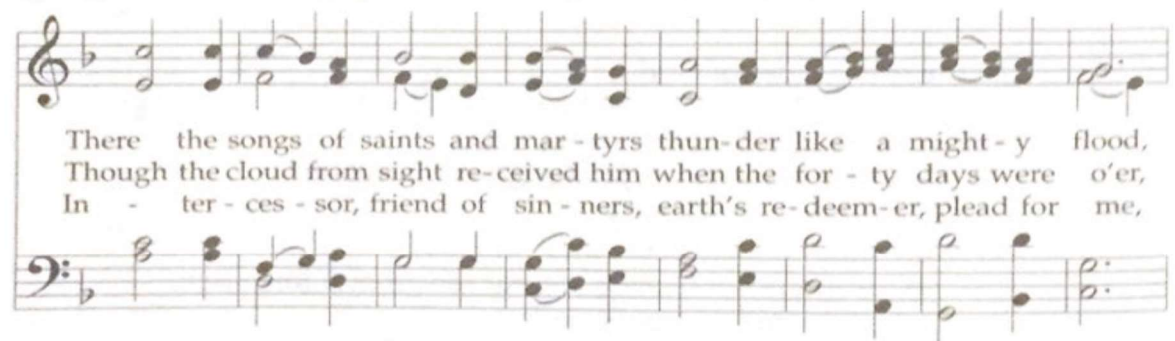
## Alleluia! Sing to Jesus



1. Al - le - lu - ia! Sing to Je - sus, ris - en now to reign in love.  
2. Al - le - lu - ia! not as or - phans we are left in sor - row now.  
3. Al - le - lu - ia! Bread of Heav - en, be on earth our food and stay.



Al - le - lu - ia! Praise the Sav - ior; with the mul - ti - tudes a - bove.  
Al - le - lu - ia! Christ is near us, faith be - lieves, nor ques - tions how.  
Al - le - lu - ia! here the sin - ful flee to you from day to day.



There the songs of saints and mar - tyrs thun - der like a might - y flood,  
Though the cloud from sight re - ceived him when the for - ty days were o'er,  
In - ter - ces - sor, friend of sin - ners, earth's re - deem - er, plead for me,



"Je - sus out of ev - ery na - tion has re - deem - ed us by his blood."  
shall our hearts for - get the prom - ise, "I am with you ev - er - more"?  
where the songs of all the sin - less sweep a - cross the crys - tal sea.

227

In the Garden

1. I come to the gar-den a-lone, while the dew is  
 2. He speaks, and the sound of his voice is so sweet the  
 3. I'd stay in the gar-den with him though the night a-

still on the ros-es; and the voice I hear, fall-ing on my ear,  
 birds hush their sing-ing, and the mel-o-dy that he gave to me  
 round me be fall-ing, but he bids me go; through the voice of woe

*Refrain*

the Son of God dis-clos-es.  
 with-in my heart is ring-ing. And he walks with me, and he  
 his voice to me is call-ing.

talks with me, and he tells me I am his own, and the

WORDS and MUSIC: C. Austin Miles, 1913

GARDEN  
 89.557 w. refrain

joy we share, as we tar-ry there, none oth-er has ev-er known.