



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



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

May 17, 2020

Sixth Sunday of Easter

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

Sylvia Berry

The New Sa-Hoo, by Giles Farnaby

Rowland, by William Byrd

Faith, While Trees are Still in Blossom (Hymn #535, Chalice Hymnal)

For the Beauty of The Earth (Hymn #56, Chalice Hymnal)

Toccata in G minor by Jan Pieterszoon Sweelinck

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come into God's house!

All: Come and hear what God has done!

One: God has made the world and breathed the breath of life into us!

All: But God hasn't stopped there. There's more!

One: God is still on the scene, upholding all our life, surrounding us in power and love.

All: We live, move, and have our very being in God!

One: Let the sound of God's praise be heard! Praise God!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'God Of Many Names'

No. 13

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Creator, Christ and Spirit,

We also offer you our confession so that we might renew our faithfulness to you.

We have claimed to be wise when we were ignorant.

We have sought truth in untrustworthy voices,

and trusted lies without questioning.

We have sought after things of little value,
and valued little the things of great worth.
Forgive us our foolishness.
Renew us by your mercy.
Restore within us a right spirit and guide us in your ways of wisdom.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

Psalm 46

Lisa Sparling

God is our refuge and strength,
an ever-present help in trouble.
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth give way
and the mountains fall into the heart of the sea,
though its waters roar and foam
and the mountains quake with their surging.
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy place where the Most High dwells.
God is within her, she will not fall;
God will help her at break of day.
Nations are in uproar, kingdoms fall;
he lifts his voice, the earth melts.
The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.
Come and see what the Lord has done,
the desolations He has brought on the earth.
He makes wars cease
to the ends of the earth.
He breaks the bow and shatters the spear; He burns the shields with fire.
He says, "Be still, and know that I am God;
I will be exalted among the nations,
I will be exalted in the earth."
The Lord Almighty is with us;
the God of Jacob is our fortress.

Acts 17:22-31

Betsey Clifford

Then Paul stood in front of the Areopagus and said, "Athenians, I see how extremely religious you are in every way. For as I went through the city and looked carefully at the objects of your worship, I found among them an altar with the inscription, 'To an unknown god.' What therefore you worship as unknown, this I proclaim to you. The God who made the world and everything in it, he who is Lord of heaven and earth, does not live in shrines made by human hands, nor is he served by human hands, as though he needed anything, since he himself gives to all mortals life and breath and all things.
From one ancestor he made all nations to inhabit the whole earth, and he allotted the times of their existence and the boundaries of the places where they would live,

so that they would search for God and perhaps grope for him and find him--though indeed he is not far from each one of us. For 'In him we live and move and have our being'; as even some of your own poets have said, 'For we too are his offspring.' Since we are God's offspring, we ought not to think that the deity is like gold, or silver, or stone, an image formed by the art and imagination of mortals. While God has overlooked the times of human ignorance, now he commands all people everywhere to repent, because he has fixed a day on which he will have the world judged in righteousness by a man whom he has appointed, and of this he has given assurance to all by raising him from the dead."

SERMON Message from the Council of Conference Ministers Eastertide Service
Rev. Don Remick, Rev. Kent Siladi, Rev. Marilyn Hendrix, SNEUCC Conference Ministers

ANTHEM 'For the Beauty Of The Earth' John Rutter

For the beauty of the earth for the beauty of the skies
For the love which from our birth over and around us lies.

Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the beauty of the hour of the day and of the night
Hill and vale and tree and flower, sun and moon and stars of light

Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For the joy of human love brother, sister, parent, child;
Friends on earth and friends above
For a gentle thoughts and mild.

Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

For each perfect gift of thine to our race so freely given;
Graces human and divine; flow'rs of earth and buds of heav'n.

Lord of all to thee we raise this our joyful hymn of praise.

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 trespasses (sins), as we forgive those who trespass (sin) against us. 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

Your offerings help our churches continue their ministries. If you're able, please consider giving. Pledges and offerings can be mailed in, or online giving options are available through both churches' websites.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

www.uccstoughton.org/online-giving/

OFFERTORY

'If Ye Love Me'

Thomas Tallis

If ye love me,
keep my commandments,
and I will pray the Father,
and he shall give you another comforter,
that he may 'bide with you forever,
e'en the spirit of truth.

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

'Come, Thou Almighty King'

No. 27

(scroll down to music)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

'Spirit'

James K. Manley
Jennie Ostrow

Participating in Today's Worship Service:
Rev. Mary Perry and Ann-Marie Illsley, worship leaders
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist
Jennie Ostrow, Accompanist
Alisa Cassola, soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Lay Readers:
Lisa Sparling and Betsey Clifford

God of Many Names

Unison

1. God of man - y names, gath - ered in - to One,
 God of hov - ering wings, womb and birth of time,

2. God of Jew - ish faith, ex - o - dus and law,
 God of Je - sus Christ, rab - bi of the poor,

3. God of wound - ed hands, web and loom of love,
 God of man - y names, gath - ered in - to One,

in your glo - ry come and meet us, mov - ing, end - less - ly be - com - ing;
 joy - ful - ly we sing your prais - es, breath of life in ev - ery peo - ple,

in your glo - ry come and meet us, joy of Mir - i - am and Mo - ses;
 joy - ful - ly we sing your prais - es, cru - ci - fied, a - live for - ev - er,

in your glo - ry come and meet us, car - pen - ter of new cre - a - tion;
 joy - ful - ly we sing your prais - es, mov - ing end - less - ly be - com - ing,

Refrain (Harmony)

Hush, hush, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Shout, shout, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah!

Sing, sing, hal - le - lu - jah, hal - le - lu - jah! Sing God is love, God is love! love!

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985
 MUSIC: William P. Rowan, 1985

MANY NAMES
 55.88 w. refrain

Come, Thou Almighty King

Descant

4. To thee, One in Three, e - ter - nal

1. Come, thou al - might - y King, help us thy
 2. Come, thou in - car - nate Word, gird on thy
 3. Come, ho - ly Com - fort - er, thy sa - cred
 4. To thee, great One in Three, e - ter - nal

prais - es be, hence ev - er - more! Thy

name to sing; help us to praise: one God, all
 might - y sword; our prayer at - tend: come, and thy
 wit - ness bear in - this glad hour! Thou who al -
 prais - es be hence ev - er - more! Thy sov - reign

maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

glo - ri - ous, o'er all vic - to - ri - ous,
 peo - ple bless, and give thy word suc - cess;
 might - y art, now rule in ev - ery heart,
 maj - es - ty may we in glo - ry see,

WORDS: Anonymous, c. 1760

MUSIC: Felice de Giardini, 1769; desc. Charles H. Webb

ITALIAN HYMN

664.6664

Desc. © 1965 (renewed) Shawnee Press, Inc. (ASCAP)

and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.

come, and reign o - ver us, an - cient of days.
 Spir - it of ho - li - ness, on us de - scend.
 and ne'er from us de - part, Spir - it of power.
 and to e - ter - ni - ty love and a - dore.