



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



First Congregational Church of Stoughton

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

An Open and Affirming Congregation

May 31, 2020

Pentecost

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

Five Pieces by Robert Vandall

Sylvia Berry

Touch and Go (Little Prelude in C major)
Prelude No. 2 in D major
Prelude No. 5 in G major
Prelude No. 3 in E minor
Prelude in A major

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

The day came and they were all in one place, in one place, in one place. Being together, being in one space, breathing the same air, saying the same words had seemed like the most important thing. The most important thing.

Then there was a sound- like a rush of wind.
Then there was a sound- the sound of things changing
Then there was a sound- suddenly nothing was the same.
Those who were gathered received new languages.
Those who were gathered received new dialects.
Those who were gathered received new understanding.
Those who were gathered received new power.
Those who were gathered received the Holy Spirit in a new way.

It became clear immediately that what was important had changed.
Immediately. That was clear. Being in one space was not a priority.
Speaking in unison was not a priority.
Being all together to breathe the same air was not a priority.
The power of the Holy Spirit rearranged their priorities to align them with God's.

God's priority of diversity,
God's priority of widespread grace,
God's priority of neighbors and community,
God's priority of stepping out, reaching out, being out in the world.
The world that God loves. The world that is God's priority.

Being aligned with God's priorities felt like being on fire.

HYMN
(scroll down to music)

'Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race'

No.485

OPENING PRAYER

A TIME FOR ALL

Holy Spirit

HYMN
(scroll down to music)

'Blessed Quietness'

No. 267

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

Holy One, Source of our lives,

we confess that we have not always listened for your Spirit's call.

You call us to love our enemies, but we cling to animosity old and new.

You call us to unity in the body of Christ, but we remain divided.

You send us into the world to be witnesses to the good news,

but we avoid opportunities to share our joy in Christ.

Loving God, you know us better than we know ourselves. Forgive us for our mistakes and set us back on the path that leads to life. Now we come to you in silence to share that which is ours alone to confess.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

1 Corinthians 12:3b-13

Marcia Olson

No one can say "Jesus is Lord" except by the Holy Spirit. Now there are varieties of gifts, but the same Spirit; and there are varieties of services, but the same Lord; and there are varieties of activities, but it is the same God who activates all of them in everyone.

To each is given the manifestation of the Spirit for the common good.

To one is given through the Spirit the utterance of wisdom, and to another the utterance of knowledge according to the same Spirit, to another faith by the same Spirit, to another gifts of healing by the one Spirit, to another the working of miracles, to another prophecy, to another the discernment of spirits, to another various kinds of tongues, to another the interpretation of tongues.

All these are activated by one and the same Spirit, who allots to each one individually just as the Spirit chooses. For just as the body is one and has many members, and all the members of the body, though many, are one body, so it is with Christ.

For in the one Spirit we were all baptized into one body--Jews or Greeks, slaves or free--and we were all made to drink of one Spirit.

Acts 2:1-13

Doug Anderson

When the day of Pentecost had come, they were all together in one place. And suddenly from heaven there came a sound like the rush of a violent wind, and it filled the entire house where they were sitting. Divided tongues, as of fire, appeared among them, and a tongue rested on each of them. All of them were filled with the Holy Spirit and began to speak in other languages, as the Spirit gave them ability.

Now there were devout Jews from every nation under heaven living in Jerusalem. And at this sound the crowd gathered and was bewildered, because each one heard them speaking in the native language of each. Amazed and astonished, they asked, 'Are not all these who are speaking Galileans? And how is it that we hear, each of us, in our own native language? Parthians, Medes, Elamites, and residents of Mesopotamia, Judea and Cappadocia, Pontus and Asia, Phrygia and Pamphylia, Egypt and the parts of Libya belonging to Cyrene, and visitors from Rome, both Jews and proselytes, Cretans and Arabs—in our own languages we hear them speaking about God's deeds of power.' All were amazed and perplexed, saying to one another, 'What does this mean?' But others sneered and said, 'They are filled with new wine.'

SERMON

Rev. Mary Perry

ANTHEM

'Send Down Your Spirit Lord'

Don Besig

*When we start to wander and begin to stray, send down your spirit Lord.
When we're feeling lonely and we lose our way, send down your spirit Lord.
When temptation calls and we start to fall, help us turn to heaven up above.
O precious Lord, send down your love!
Send down your love, O Lord. Touch us with Your grace forevermore.
When we hear a cry and want to lend a hand, send down your love, O Lord
When we try to help and need to understand, send down your love O Lord. *
*When there's something wrong, and hope is almost gone, help us know the future will
be bright. O precious Lord, send down Your light.
Send down Your light, O Lord. Help us make it shine through all the world.
Send down Your light. Send down Your love. Send down Your spirit Lord.*

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

Friends, Pentecost celebrates the gifts of the Spirit poured out on the Church, preparing Christ's followers to serve him in the world. So let us offer our gifts to God this day, to build up the Church, its ministry and mission wherever the Spirit leads.

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/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

'Woyaya'

Sol Amarifio, Ysaye Barnwell

*We are going, heaven knows where we are going, but we know within.
And we'll get there, heaven knows how we will get there,
But we know we will.
It will be hard we know,
And the road will be muddy and rough,
But we'll get there, Heaven knows how we will get there
But we know we will. Woyaya, woyaya.*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

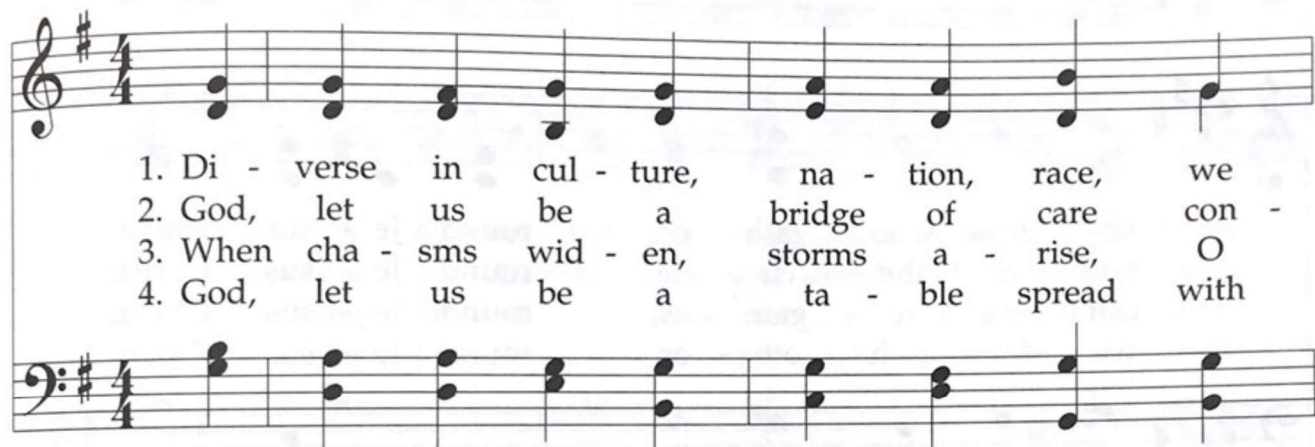
'Bring Many Names'

Carlton R. Young
Jennie Ostrow, piano

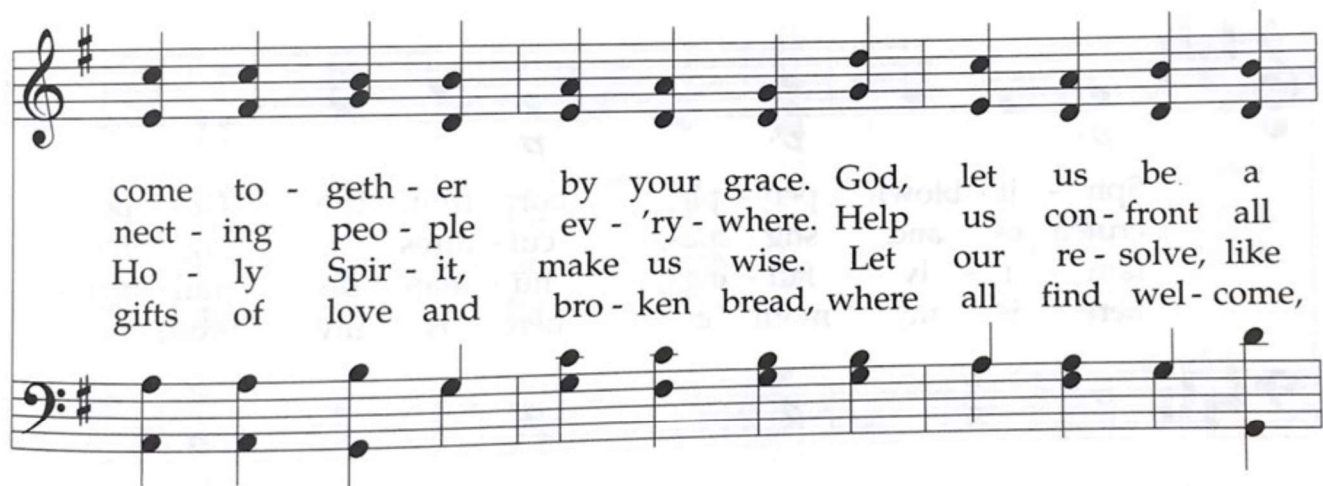
Participating in Today's Worship Service:
Rev. Mary Perry and Ann-Marie Illsley, worship leaders
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist
Jennie Ostrow, Accompanist
Alisa Cassola, soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Lay Readers:
Doug Anderson
Marcia Olsen

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

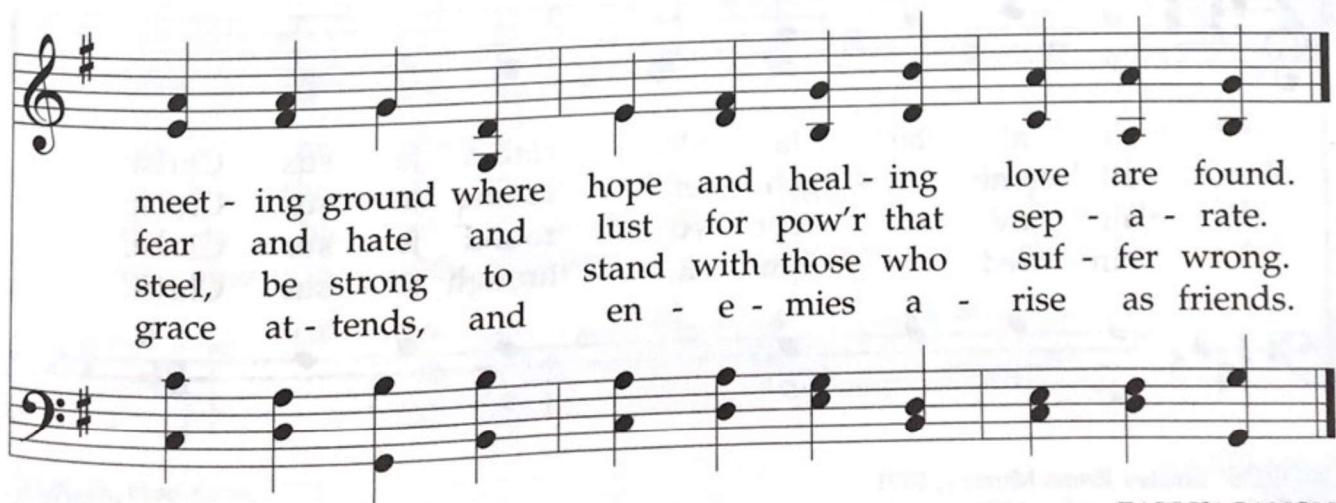
485



1. Di - verse in cul - ture, na - tion, race, we
2. God, let us be a bridge of care con -
3. When cha - sms wid - en, storms a - rise, O
4. God, let us be a ta - ble spread with



come to - geth - er by your grace. God, let us be a
nect - ing peo - ple ev - 'ry - where. Help us con - front all
Ho - ly Spir - it, make us wise. Let our re - solve, like
gifts of love and bro - ken bread, where all find wel - come,



meet - ing ground where hope and heal - ing love are found.
fear and hate and lust for pow'r that sep - a - rate.
steel, be strong to stand with those who suf - fer wrong.
grace at - tends, and en - e - mies a - rise as friends.

WORDS: Ruth Duck, 1991
MUSIC: Thomas Tallis, 1561

TALLIS' CANON
LM

267

Blessed Quietness

1. Joys are flow - ing like a riv - er, since the
 2. Bring - ing life and health and glad - ness all a -
 3. Like the rain that falls from heav - en, like the
 4. See, a fruit - ful field is grow - ing, bless - ed
 5. What a won - der - ful sal - va - tion, when we

1. Com - fort - er has come; Christ a - bides with us for -
 2. round, this heav - en - ly Guest ban - ished un - be - lief and
 3. sun - light from the sky, so the Spir - it too is
 4. fruit of righ - teous - ness; and the streams of life are
 5. al - ways see Christ's face, what a per - fect hab - i -

1. ev - er, makes the trust - ing heart a home.
 2. sad - ness, changed our wea - ri - ness to rest.
 3. giv - en, com - ing on us from on high.
 4. flow - ing in the lone - ly wil - der - ness.
 5. ta - tion, what a qui - et rest - ing place.

WORDS: Manie P. Ferguson, c. 1897

MUSIC: W. S. Marshall, c. 1897; arr. J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix, 1981, alt.

BLESSED QUIETNESS
 87.87 w. refrain

GIFTS OF THE SPIRIT

Refrain

Bless-ed qui-et-ness, ho-ly qui-et-ness, what as-

sur-ance in my soul. On the storm-y sea, Je-sus

speaks to me, and the bil-lows cease to roll.