



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



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

July 12, 2020

Sixth Sunday after 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 9:50 am

Sylvia Berry, piano

Prelude - Three Hymns from the Chalice Hymnal

1. Living for Jesus #610
2. Somos Uno en Cristo (We're United in Jesus) #493
3. This is a Day of New Beginnings #518

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God visits the earth and waters it

People: Greatly enriching the earth.

Leader: God waters the earth, softening it with showers,

People: And blessing the earth.

Leader: Along with the hills, the meadows, and the valleys,

People: Let us shout and sing together for joy!

OPENING PRAYER

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Mary Perry

HYMN

'All Things Bright and Beautiful'

No. 61

(scroll down to music)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Creator God, You made this world, the mountains that rise tall, the oceans that carve depths, the winds and the waves. You made everything that lives and moves, and You made us. In times of uncertainty, O God, we confess our fears. We confess our worries, we confess our frailty. We confess that our faith has been shaken at times. We call upon You, Great Creator, to work in us, to restore and renew our faith through Your love in Christ Jesus our Lord. Console us. Help us to deepen our trust in You by our faithfulness in love to each other. Remind us of the call to love our neighbors as ourselves, and through that love, may we find Your love is with us, all along. And in this moment of silence let us confess that which is on our hearts to God. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURES

Isaiah 55:10-13

Charlie Snyder

For as the rain and the snow come down from heaven, and do not return there until they have watered the earth, making it bring forth and sprout, giving seed to the sower and bread to the eater, so shall my word be that goes out from my mouth; it shall not return to me empty, but it shall accomplish that which I purpose, and succeed in the thing for which I sent it. For you shall go out in joy, and be led back in peace; the mountains and the hills before you shall burst into song, and all the trees of the field shall clap their hands. Instead of the thorn shall come up the cypress; instead of the brier shall come up the myrtle; and it shall be to the Lord for a memorial, for an everlasting sign that shall not be cut off.

Matthew 13:1-9, 18-23

Susan Whitmore

That same day Jesus went out of the house and sat beside the sea. Such great crowds gathered around him that he got into a boat and sat there, while the whole crowd stood on the beach. And he told them many things in parables, saying: "Listen! A sower went out to sow. And as he sowed, some seeds fell on the path, and the birds came and ate them up. Other seeds fell on rocky ground, where they did not have much soil, and they sprang up quickly, since they had no depth of soil. But when the sun rose, they were scorched; and since they had no root, they withered away. Other seeds fell among thorns, and the thorns grew up and choked them. Other seeds fell on good soil and brought forth grain, some a hundredfold, some sixty, some thirty. Let anyone with ears listen!"

"Hear then the parable of the sower. When anyone hears the word of the kingdom and does not understand it, the evil one comes and snatches away what is sown in the heart; this is what was sown on the path. As for what was sown on rocky ground, this is the one who hears the word and immediately receives it with joy; yet such a person has no root, but endures only for a while, and when trouble or persecution arises on account of the word, that person immediately falls away. As for what was sown among thorns, this is the one who hears the word, but the cares of the world and the lure of wealth choke the word, and it yields nothing. But as for what was sown on good soil, this is the one who hears the word and understands it, who indeed bears fruit and yields, in one case a hundredfold, in another sixty, and in another thirty."

SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

MUSIC

'The Fire of Commitment'

Jason Shelton/Mary Katherine Morn

(scroll down to music)

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

God invites us to be generous with our time, our talents and our resources so that God's Word spreads in the world and bears fruit in each life it touches. Let us give joyfully and generously, sowing seeds of the kingdom of God.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

www.uccstoughton.org/online-giving/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'Precious Lord, Take My Hand'

No. 628

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

The Fire of Commitment, solo version

Jason Shelton
Sylvia Berry, piano

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Mary Perry, Ann-Marie Illsley
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpréter

Lay Readers:

Charlie Snyder
Susan Whitmore

All Things Bright and Beautiful

All things bright and beau - ti - ful, all crea - tures great and small,

all things wise and won - der - ful, in love God made them all.

1. Each lit - tle flower that op - ens, each lit - tle bird that sings,
2. The pur - ple - head - ed moun - tain, the riv - er run - ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, the pleas - ant sum - mer sun,

WORDS: Cecil F. Alexander, 1848
MUSIC: English melody (17th century); adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915

ROYAL OAK
76.76 w. refrain

♩=112-120

God made their glow - ing col - ors, and made their tin - y wings.
the sun - set, and the morn - ing that bright - ens up the sky.
the ripe fruits in the gar - den, God made them ev - ery one.

1028 The Fire of Commitment

With joy and energy ♩ = 150

Chords: E^b, B^b/D, Cm7, E^b/B^b, A^b, B^b

Chords: E^b, A^b/B^b, E^b, B^b/D, Cm7, B^b

1. From the light of days re - mem - bered burns a
 (2. From the) stor - ies of our liv - ing rings a
 (3. From the) dreams of youth - ful vis - ion comes a

Chords: A^b, E^b/G, Fm7, B^b, E^b, B^b/D

bea - con bright and clear Guid - ing hands and hearts and
 song both brave and free Call - ing pil - grims still to
 new, pro - phet - ic voice Which de - mands a deep - er

Note: The use of percussion is highly recommended.

⊕ Words: Mary Katherine Morn, 1961 - and Jason Shelton, 1972 -

⊕ Music: Jason Shelton, 1972 - , © 2001 Jason Shelton
 FIRE OF COMMITMENT, 8.7.8.7 with refrain

The Fire of Commitment - 2

Cm7 Eb/Bb Db Ab Bb_{sus} Bb Ab Bb

spir - its In - to faith set free from fear.
wit - ness to the life of lib - er - ty When the
jus - tice built by our cour - a - geous choice

Cm Bb Ab Eb/G Fm7 Eb/G

fire of com - mit - ment sets our mind and soul a -

Ab Bb_{sus} Bb Cm Eb/G Ab Eb

blaze When our hun - ger and our pas - sion meet to

Db Ab Bb_{sus} Bb Bb7 Cm Bb

call us on our way When we live with deep as -

The Fire of Commitment - 3

Ab Eb/G Fm7 Eb/G Ab Bb sus Bb

sur - ance of the flame that burns with - in Then our

This system contains the first two lines of music. The top line is a vocal melody in a key of B-flat major (three flats), with lyrics "sur - ance of the flame that burns with - in Then our". The piano accompaniment consists of a right-hand part with eighth-note patterns and a left-hand part with chords. Chord symbols are placed above the vocal line: Ab, Eb/G, Fm7, Eb/G, Ab, Bb sus, Bb.

Cm Eb/G Ab Eb/G Fm7 Bb Bb sus

pro - mise finds ful - fill - ment and our fu - ture can be -

This system contains the next two lines of music. The vocal line continues with the lyrics "pro - mise finds ful - fill - ment and our fu - ture can be -". The piano accompaniment continues with similar rhythmic patterns. Chord symbols are: Cm, Eb/G, Ab, Eb/G, Fm7, Bb, Bb sus.

Eb Bb/D Cm7 Eb/Bb Ab Bb

gin.

This system contains the third and fourth lines of music. The vocal line has a long note with the lyric "gin." and a fermata. The piano accompaniment features a more active right-hand part with chords and eighth notes. Chord symbols are: Eb, Bb/D, Cm7, Eb/Bb, Ab, Bb.

1. 2 Eb 3 Ab/Bb E(add9)

2. From the
3. From the

This system contains the final two lines of music. The vocal line has a repeat sign and three endings. The piano accompaniment concludes with a final chord. Chord symbols are: 1. 2 Eb, 3 Ab/Bb, E(add9). The lyrics "2. From the" and "3. From the" are written below the vocal line.

Precious Lord, Take My Hand 628

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,
 2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin-ger near,
 3. When the dark-ness ap - pears and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
 when my life is al - most gone,
 and the day is past and gone,

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:
 at the riv - er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

Refrain
 Take my hand, pre - cious Lord, lead me home.

PRECIOUS LORD
 66.9D

WORDS and MUSIC: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1932

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