



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



First Congregational Church of Stoughton

**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

An Open and Affirming Congregation

August 2, 2020

Ninth 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. This morning, we will be celebrating the sacrament of communion remotely. We hold that the communion table is open to any and all who desire a closer relationship with Christ. To prepare for this sacrament, we invite you to gather communion elements from what you have at hand, some bread or crackers and some juice or water.

PRELUDE (9:50 am)

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

John Baglole

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: The day breaks

All: And God does not let us go.

One: The hour calls

All: And God does not let us go.

One: The evening falls

All: And God holds us fast.

One: Let us turn to God in worship

All: God, who never turns from us.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'Draw Us In the Spirit's Tether'

No. 392

(scroll down to music)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

God of Everlasting Change, we confess that we are stubborn. We don't like change. We want things to stay as they once were. Like the people of the Exodus, O God, sometimes we remember only the good things of the past and forget the horrors that You have helped us to leave behind. Like the people of the Exile, O God, sometimes we have grown comfortable with the status quo instead of remembering that You have called us into liberation. Transform our hearts, O God. Open us to listen for Your Wisdom. Help us to know Your transformative love. Guide us to move into Your ways of compassion, justice, healing, and hope. In the name of Christ, who calls us all into resurrection, into new life now and forever, we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:1-5

Audrey Jones

Ho, everyone who thirsts,
come to the waters;
and you that have no money,
come, buy and eat!
Come, buy wine and milk
without money and without price.

Why do you spend your money for that which is not bread,
and your labor for that which does not satisfy?
Listen carefully to me, and eat what is good,
and delight yourselves in rich food.

Incline your ear, and come to me;
listen, so that you may live.
I will make with you an everlasting covenant,
my steadfast, sure love for David.

See, I made him a witness to the peoples,
a leader and commander for the peoples.

See, you shall call nations that you do not know,
and nations that do not know you shall run to you,
because of the LORD your God, the Holy One of Israel,
for he has glorified you.

Matthew 14:13-21

Betsey Clifford

Now when Jesus heard this, he withdrew from there in a boat to a deserted place by himself. But when the crowds heard it, they followed him on foot from the towns. When he went ashore, he saw a great crowd; and he had compassion for them and cured their sick. When it was evening, the disciples came to him and said, "This is a deserted place, and the hour is now late; send the crowds away so that they may go into the villages and buy food for themselves." Jesus said to them, "They need not go away; you give them something to eat." They replied, "We have nothing here but five loaves and two fish." And he said, "Bring them here to me." Then he ordered the crowds to sit down on the grass. Taking the five loaves and the two fish, he looked up to heaven, and blessed and broke the loaves, and gave them to the disciples, and the disciples gave them to the crowds. And all ate and were filled; and they took up what was left over of the broken pieces, twelve baskets full. And those who ate were about five thousand men, besides women and children.

SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

HYMN

'I Choose Love'

(scroll down to music)

CELEBRATION OF HOLY COMMUNION

Because we cannot be together to share this sacrament, we ask that you gather the communion elements (bread and juice) from what is in your home. The communion elements used by Christians vary across culture and tradition. You can use a piece of bread or a cracker and some juice or water (whatever you have will be just fine) and we will bless these elements together.

Invitation

Communion is open to any and all who want a closer relationship with Christ.

C G7 Am F G C

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

F G7 C Am F G7 C

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or!
heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

Prayer of Consecration

We bless the elements and ask God to be present in this sacrament.

Words of Remembering

We remember the story of Jesus and his disciples sharing the first communion meal.

Sharing of the Elements

Let us at many tables receive the gift of God, the Bread of Heaven.

We come unto Christ in the Bread we share.

Let us in many places receive the gift of God, the Cup of Blessing.

We come unto Christ in the Cup we share.

COMMUNION MUSIC

(scroll down to music)

'One Bread, One Body'

No. 393

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

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.

A TIME FOR GIFTS AND OFFERINGS

When resources were short, Christ saw the gifts, and Christ multiplied them!

This is the miracle we witness every time we give to the church.

God will take what we have, and God will do good things with it.

You are invited to give, and even to participate in the miracle of God's multiplying acts.

This morning's offering will now be given and received.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

www.uccstoughton.org/online-giving/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Mary Perry, Ann-Marie Illsley

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Lay Readers:

Betsey Clifford

Audrey Jones

Draw Us in the Spirit's Tether

392

Unison

1. Draw us in the Spir-it's te - ther, for when hum - bly
 2. As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of
 3. All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

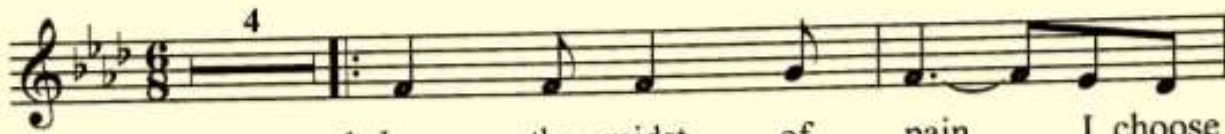
in your name, two or three are met to - geth - er, you are
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er break the
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing, we may

in the midst of them; Al - le - lu - ya! Al - le -
 bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le -
 be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le -

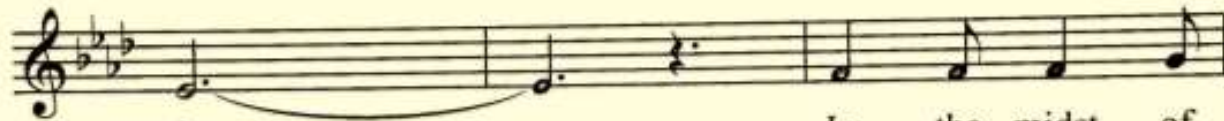
lu - ya! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.
 lu - ya, so now bind our friend - ship up.
 lu - ya, we will serve with faith a - new.

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I Choose Love



1. In the midst of pain, — I choose
 2. In the midst of war, — I choose
 3. When my world falls down, — I will
 4. In the midst of pain, — I choose



love. _____ In the midst of
 peace. _____ In the midst of
 rise. _____ When my world falls
 love. _____ In the midst of

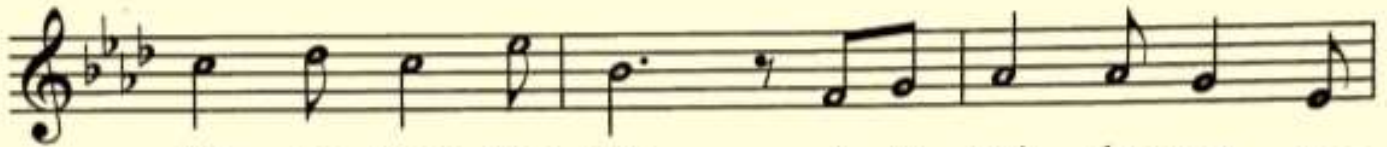


pain, — I choose love. _____
 war, — I choose peace. _____
 down, — I will rise. _____
 pain, — I choose love. _____



In the midst of pain, _____ sor - row
 In the midst of war, _____ hate and
 When my world falls down, _____ ex - pla -
 In the midst of pain, _____ sor - row

From: *Roll Down, Justice!* (CGBK72).
 Text: Lindy Thompson.
 Music: *I Choose Love*, by Mark A. Miller.
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fall - ing down like rain,
 an - ger keep - ing score,
 na - tions can't be found,
 fall - ing down like rain,

I a - wait the sun a -
 I will seek the good once
 I will climb to ho - ly
 I a - wait the sun a -



gain, _____ I choose love. _____
 more, _____ I choose peace. _____
 ground, _____ I will rise. _____
 gain, _____ I choose love. _____

I choose
 I choose
 I will
 I choose



love. _____
 peace. _____
 rise. _____
 love. _____

393 One Bread, One Body

Refrain (Unison)

D7 G C G C G D Em B

One bread, one bod-y, one Lord of all,

Em D G Em A7 D7

one cup of bless-ing which we bless. And

G C G C G D Em B

we, though man-y through-out the earth,

Em D G Em A7 D7 G C (G) Fine

we are one bod - y in this one Lord.

WORDS and MUSIC: John B. Foley, 1978

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ONE BREAD, ONE BODY
44.6 w. refrain

♩=104-112

THE LORD'S SUPPER

Em D Em D

1. Gen - tile or Jew,
2. Man - y the gifts,
3. Grain for the fields,

ser - vant or free,
man - y the works,
scat - tered and grown,

The first system of musical notation consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It features four measures of music with chords Em, D, Em, and D. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords Em, D, Em, and D. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column containing three numbered lines and the second column containing three lines of text.

Em F Am D7

wom - an or man, no more.
one in the Lord of all. One
gath - ered to one, for all.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The treble staff has a key signature of one sharp (F#) and a common time signature. It features four measures of music with chords Em, F, Am, and D7. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords Em, F, Am, and D7. The lyrics are arranged in two columns, with the first column containing three lines and the second column containing three lines. The system concludes with a double bar line and repeat dots.