



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

August 30, 2020

Thirteenth 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** (9:50am)

Sonata in C major, K. 545  
"Allegro"  
"Andante" (abridged)

W.A. Mozart  
Sylvia Berry

**RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Barry Shelley

**OPENING PRAYER**

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

**HYMN**

*(scroll down to music)*

"Here I Am, Lord"

No. 452

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION** *(in unison)*

**Sojourning God, You have called us on a difficult journey. We come with so much baggage: guilt, shame, fear, and longing. We remember how things used to be in our minds, forgetting that the way has always been difficult. We long for an easier path in this world, with wealth and security, and without the struggles we face in our own lives. Christ, You have called us to hand over our burdens to You, to take up the cross and follow You. You have shown us that we must deny the façade of ease that is promised in this world, and instead, do the hard work of justice, showing mercy, practicing compassion and kindness. May we have the strength to let go of our baggage, to let go of the longing for the world's false promises, and instead, take up our cross and follow You. In Your name we pray all things. Amen.**

**WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

Come to me, all you that are weary and are carrying heavy burdens, and I will give you rest. Take my yoke upon you, and learn from me; for I am gentle and humble in heart, and you will find rest for your souls. For my yoke is easy, and my burden is light." Come, give over your burdens to Christ, let go of what holds you back, and know that you are loved, welcomed, and embraced by God. Go and share the love of Christ with all. Amen. *Matthew 11:28-30*

## SCRIPTURE

### 1 Kings 19:4-9

Alice Farnsworth

But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a solitary broom tree. He asked that he might die: "It is enough; now, O LORD, take away my life, for I am no better than my ancestors." Then he lay down under the broom tree and fell asleep. Suddenly an angel touched him and said to him, "Get up and eat." He looked, and there at his head was a cake baked on hot stones, and a jar of water. He ate and drank, and lay down again. The angel of the LORD came a second time, touched him, and said, "Get up and eat, otherwise the journey will be too much for you." He got up, and ate and drank; then he went in the strength of that food forty days and forty nights to Horeb the mount of God. At that place he came to a cave, and spent the night there.

## SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

### HYMN

"Help Us Accept Each Other"

No. 487

*(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 sins, as we forgive those who 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

With deep gratitude for the healing and freedom that Jesus offers, let us present our offerings to God. Through our gifts, may that healing and freedom be shared in God's world in Christ's name.

[www.brocktonucc.org/donate/](http://www.brocktonucc.org/donate/)

[www.uccstoughton.org/online-giving/](http://www.uccstoughton.org/online-giving/)

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

Sonata in C major, K. 545  
"Allegretto"

Mozart

### Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Ann-Marie Illsley

Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

Karl Koza, Vocalist

**Lay Reader:**

Alice Farnsworth

## Help Us Accept Each Other

487

Unison

1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;  
 2. Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life  
 3. Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved  
 4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.  
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.  
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;  
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for righ - teous - ness and bread,

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve  
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,  
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance, un - til we know by heart  
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on;

we are our - selves ac - cept - ed and meant to love and live.  
 to love them as we find them or as they may be - come.  
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.  
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1974  
 MUSIC: John Ness Beck, 1977

ACCEPTANCE  
 76.76D

*Unison*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro-vide till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

WORDS: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981  
 MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. James Snyder, 1994

HERE I AM, LORD  
 77.74 w. refrain

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Harmony*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you calling in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your people in my heart. heart.  
 heart, in my heart.  
 heart, in my heart.