



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



May 25, 2025

10:00 am

*\*AN ASTERISK IN THE BULLETIN INDICATES THAT ALL FOR WHOM IT IS COMFORTABLE SHOULD RISE FOR THAT PART OF THE SERVICE\**

**RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Moriah Park

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

'All Creatures of Our God and King'

No. 22

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

Leader: O God, strengthen our faith...

**ALL: by firing up our imaginations.**

Leader: Because we know the Holy Creator works through us...

**ALL: so we can begin to stitch back together our community and our world!**

Leader: Powerful images are not empty or without meaning...

**ALL: they're true symbols that guide us to probe this war-filled world.**

Leader: Isn't this why God gave us an imagination anyway?

**ALL: So we can look with the eyes of faith beyond surface impressions,**

Leader: to see what is really going on in our world

**ALL: in order to recreate new worlds of flourishing for all!**

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>**

**\*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**ALL: God of the Other, we say to you that we cannot remember the last time we listened, truly listened, to the Other and sought understanding, let alone see the childlike glory in another's spirit. We come forward to say that starting today, we change by becoming more present in our interactions with all of your creation and we hold no judgement and cast no shame on someone trying to exist in this cold, complicated, and beautiful world. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF GRACE<sup>1</sup>**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**

'Blessed Assurance' (verse 3 & refrain)

No. 543

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

Dani Kardisco

**HYMN OF PREPARATION**

'There Is a Balm in Gilead'

No. 501

## SCRIPTURE

### JOHN 5:1-11

<sup>5</sup> After this there was a Jewish festival, and Jesus went up to Jerusalem. <sup>2</sup> In Jerusalem near the Sheep Gate in the north city wall is a pool with the Aramaic name Bethesda. It had five covered porches, <sup>3</sup> and a crowd of people who were sick, blind, lame, and paralyzed sat there. <sup>4</sup> <sup>5</sup> A certain man was there who had been sick for thirty-eight years. <sup>6</sup> When Jesus saw him lying there, knowing that he had already been there a long time, he asked him, "Do you want to get well?"

<sup>7</sup> The sick man answered him, "Sir, <sup>8</sup> I don't have anyone who can put me in the water when it is stirred up. When I'm trying to get to it, someone else has gotten in ahead of me."

<sup>8</sup> Jesus said to him, "Get up! Pick up your mat and walk." <sup>9</sup> Immediately the man was well, and he picked up his mat and walked. Now that day was the Sabbath.

<sup>10</sup> The Jewish leaders said to the man who had been healed, "It's the Sabbath; you aren't allowed to carry your mat."

<sup>11</sup> He answered, "The man who made me well said to me, 'Pick up your mat and walk.'"

## SERMON

Rev. Jeff Kardisco

## MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Alex Green

*During this time, we invite you to embrace the transition from hearing the word to gathering ourselves in prayer by taking a moment for quiet reflection either in your pew, or by coming forward to light a candle to give light to the prayer(s) on your heart that have no words to be expressed.*

### Come and Light a Candle...



## PASTORAL PRAYER

### THE PRAYER OF JESUS *(in unison)*

**Our Creator (Father) who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kin-dom 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. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the Kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

## INVITATION TO GENEROSITY<sup>1</sup>

### OFFERTORY

'Open the Eyes of My Heart

by Baloché/Schrader

### \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

'Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing' (vs 1 & 3)

No. 16

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup>

**\*HYMN**

‘What a Friend We Have in Jesus’

No. 585

**BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE**

‘Sonata in C Major’

(Mozart)

**Participating In Todays Worship Service:**

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Alex Green, Music Director

Laura Ramos, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

<sup>1</sup>Hutchinson, Rev. Ellie. “Easter 6c – May 25.” *United Church of Christ*, *Worship Ways: United Church of Christ*, 22 Apr. 2025, [www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-6c-may-25/](http://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-6c-may-25/).

# All Creatures of Our God and King 22

*Unison*

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us  
 2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n a-  
 3. O flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your God to  
 4. And all for-giv-en ten-der hearts, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your

*Harmony* *Unison*

sing; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en  
 long, O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia! O ris-ing morn, in praise re-  
 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O blaz-ing fire who lights the  
 part, sing prais-es, Al-le-lu-ia! You who long pain and sor-row

*Refrain (Harmony)*

beam, O sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam,  
 joice, you lights of eve-ning find a voice, O praise God,  
 night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight,  
 bear, praise God, who knows your ev-'ry care.

*Unison*

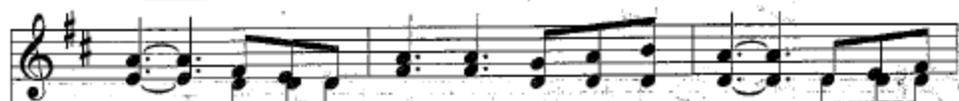
O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

WORDS: Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925, alt.  
 MUSIC: *Geistliche Kirchengesänge*, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 88.44.88 w. refrain



1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-  
 vine!  
 2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my  
 sight;  
 3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and



Heir of sal - va - tion, pur - chase of God, born of his  
 sight; an - gels de - scend - ing bring from a - bove ech - oes of  
 blest, watch - ing and wait - ing, look - ing a - bove, filled with his



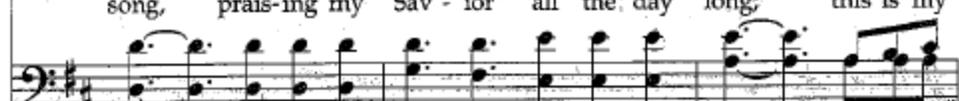
*Refrain*



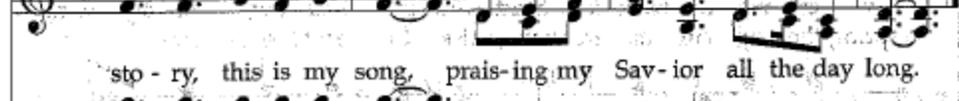
Spir - it, washed in his blood.  
 mer - cy, whis - pers of love. This is my sto - ry, this is my  
 good - ness, lost in his love.



song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long; this is my



sto - ry, this is my song, prais - ing my Sav - ior all the day long.



WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873  
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE  
 9 10.99 w. refrain

## There Is a Balm in Gilead

There is a balm in Gil-e-ad to make the wound-ed whole,

there is a balm in Gil-e-ad to heal the sin-sick soul. *Fine*

*Unison*

1. Some - times I feel dis-cour-aged and think my work's in vain, but
2. If you can-not preach like Pe-ter, if you can-not pray like Paul, you can
3. Don't ev - er feel dis-cour-aged, for Je - sus is your friend; and

then the Ho - ly Spir - it re - vives my soul a - gain. *D.C.*  
 tell the love of Je - sus, and say, "He died for all!"  
 if you lack for knowl-edge He'll ne'er re - fuse to lend.

WORDS: African-American spiritual  
 MUSIC: African-American spiritual, arr. Harold Moyer

BALM IN GILEAD  
 Irr.

# 16 Come, Thou Fount of Every Blessing



1. Come, thou Fount of ev-ery bless-ing, tune my heart to sing thy grace;  
 2. Here I raise to thee an al-tar; hilt-er by thy help I'm come;  
 3. O to grace how great a debt-or dai-ly I'm con-strained to be!



streams of mer-cy, nev-er ceas-ing, call for songs of loud-est praise.  
 and I hope, by thy good plea-sure, safe-ly to ar-rive at home.  
 Let thy good-ness, like a fet-ter, bind my wan-dering heart to thee.



Teach me some me-lo-dious son-net, sung by flam-ing tongues a-bove.  
 Je-sus sought me when a stran-ger, wan-dering from the fold of God;  
 Prone to wan-der, how I feel it, prone to leave the God I love;



Praise the mount! I'm fixed up-on it, mount of thy re-deem-ing love.  
 he, to res-cue me from dan-ger, in-ter-posed his pre-cious blood.  
 here's my heart, O take and seal it, seal it for thy courts a-bove.



WORDS: Robert Robinson, 1758, alt.  
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON  
 87.87D

1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!  
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?  
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?

What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!  
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 Pre - cious Say - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to the Lord in prayer!

Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,  
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?  
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!

all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer,  
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!  
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.

WORDS: Joseph Scriven, 1855  
 MUSIC: Charles C. Converse, 1868

CONVERSE  
 87.87D