



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



October 18, 2026

10:00 am

Today in place of a sermon we will hear from guest speaker Lauren Zaremba. Lauren is the Corporate & Foundation Relations Gift Officer for Father Bill's & MainSpring. The Development team at Father Bill's & MainSpring engages with the general public and corporate sponsors to help the agency meet its fundraising needs, recruit and retain volunteers, and effectively communicate the agency's goals, challenges, and its many stories. Find out more at <https://helpfbms.org/staff-board/meet-the-development-team/>

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

Matt Howard

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

'God Is My Shepherd'

No. 79

CALL TO GATHERING¹

Leader: We come believing in our emptiness, believing that we will never have enough, believing that what we have is unworthy.

ALL: We come fearful of sharing, fearful of losing our tenuous grip on scarcity, fearful of touching and knowing the pain of others.

Leader: We come overwhelmed by the hunger, overwhelmed by the suffering of children near and far, overwhelmed by the endless tales of senseless violence, greed, and death.

ALL: We come aching from the weight of responsibility, aching from the chilling challenge of knowing our abundance, aching from the gnawing awareness that we have much to share.

Leader: We come clinging to our meager lunches...

ALL: Bless them, and us. Break them, and us. Share them, and us. Amen.

OPENING PRAYER

*HYMN

'Diverse In Culture, Nation, Race'

No. 485

*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

ALL: O God, we see those who are hungry. We see them and we admit, sometimes we don't share our own abundance - because we are afraid. We are afraid we might run out. We are afraid they might not really need it. We are afraid we might be taken advantage of. We experience so many fears in the moment for generosity, when our generosity will mean the most. Transform our fear into faithful action. Lead us to show others that the fears are unfounded, and that your kin-dom of abundance is possible. Amen.

*WORDS OF GRACE

*SUNG RESPONSE

'I Am The Light Of The World' (vs. 2)

No. 469

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 14:13-16

Feeding the five thousand

¹³ When Jesus heard about John, he withdrew in a boat to a deserted place by himself. When the crowds learned this, they followed him on foot from the cities. ¹⁴ When Jesus arrived and saw a large crowd, he had compassion for them and healed those who were sick. ¹⁵ That evening his disciples came and said to him, "This is an isolated place and it's getting late. Send the crowds away so they can go into the villages and buy food for themselves."

¹⁶ But Jesus said to them, "There's no need to send them away. You give them something to eat."

SERMON

Guest Speaker: Lauren Zaremba, Corporate & Foundation Relations Gift Officer, Father Bill's & MainSpring House

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

OFFERTORY	'Leaning On The Everlasting Arms'	(Hoffman/Showalter/Hayes)
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	'Lord, I Want To Be A Christian' (vs. 1)	No. 589
*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING AND DEDICATION		
*HYMN	'Sister, Let Me Be Your Servant'	No. 490
*BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	'Swing Low, Sweet Chariot'	(Traditional/Raney)

Participating In Todays Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Alex Green, Music Director
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Dani Kardisco, Faith Formation Director

¹Hawker, Katherine. "Pastoral Prayer: We Come." *Re:Worship*, re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/pastoral-prayer-we-come.html. Accessed 13 Oct. 2026.

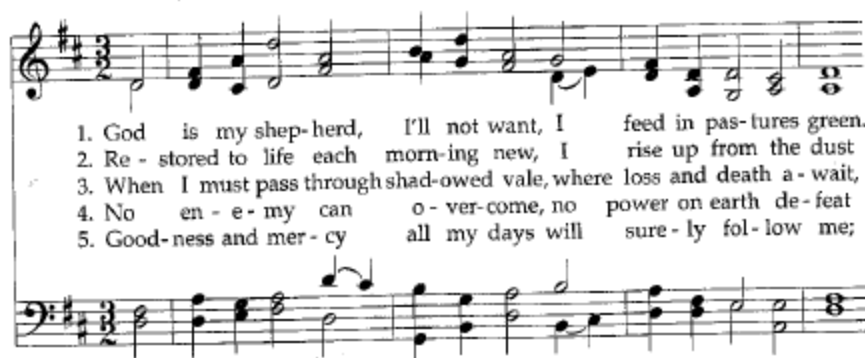
Welcome to Our Guest Speaker, Lauren Zaremba!

This morning, as part of our **Love Feeds Everyone** service, we are blessed to welcome **Lauren Zaremba** from **Father Bill's & MainSpring (FBMS)**.

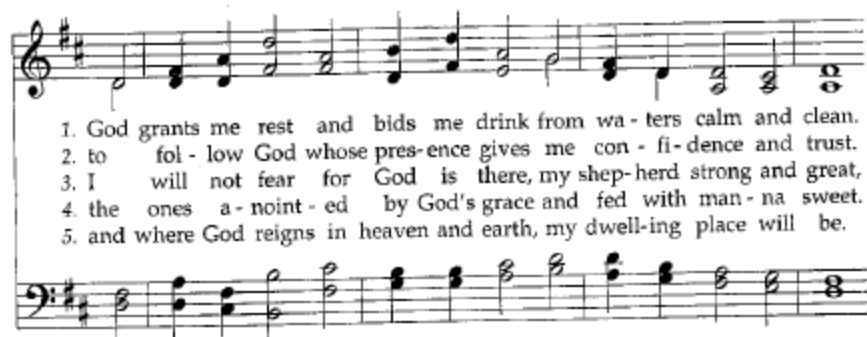
Lauren serves as the Corporate & Foundation Relations Gift Officer at FBMS, where she has spent the last four and a half years building vital partnerships with local businesses, corporations, and foundations to help end homelessness across Southern Massachusetts.

Prior to her impactful work at FBMS, Lauren served the City of Boston for over a decade. Raised right here on the South Shore, she returned to the area to raise her two young children and give back to the community that shaped her. When she isn't working to support our neighbors in need, she loves exploring the beautiful South Shore outdoors with her family.

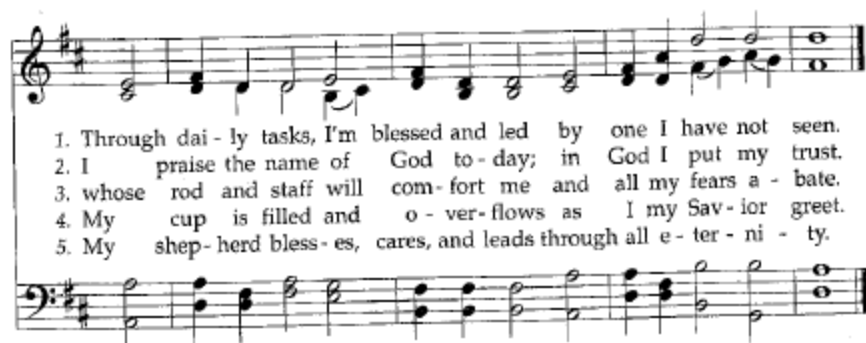
We are grateful for Lauren's presence, her dedication to this vital work, and the opportunity to learn how we can further share God's love by supporting the mission of Father Bill's & MainSpring.



1. God is my shep-herd, I'll not want, I feed in pas-tures green.
 2. Re - stored to life each morn-ing new, I rise up from the dust
 3. When I must pass through shad-owed vale, where loss and death a - wait,
 4. No en - e - my can o - ver - come, no power on earth de - feat
 5. Good - ness and mer - cy all my days will sure - ly fol - low me;



1. God grants me rest and bids me drink from wa - ters calm and clean.
 2. to fol - low God whose pres-ence gives me con - fi - dence and trust.
 3. I will not fear for God is there, my shep-herd strong and great,
 4. the ones a - noint - ed by God's grace and fed with man - na sweet.
 5. and where God reigns in heaven and earth, my dwell-ing place will be.



1. Through dai - ly tasks, I'm blessed and led by one I have not seen.
 2. I praise the name of God to - day; in God I put my trust.
 3. whose rod and staff will com - fort me and all my fears a - bate.
 4. My cup is filled and o - ver - flows as I my Sav - ior greet.
 5. My shep - herd bless - es, cares, and leads through all e - ter - ni - ty.

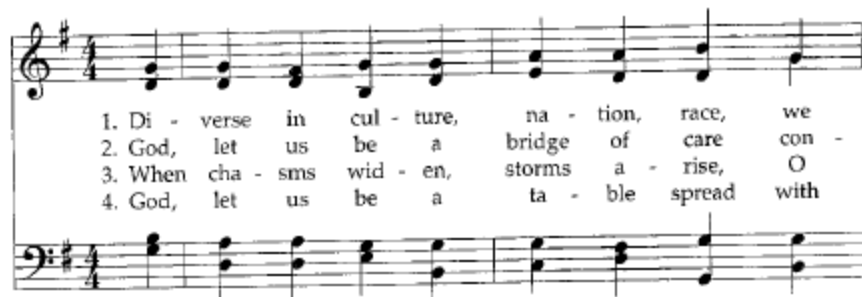
WORDS: *Scottish Psalter*, 1650; adapt. Lavon Bayler, 1992
 MUSIC: J. L. Macbeth Bain, 1915; harm. Gordon Jacob, 1934,
 adapt. Walter W. Felton, 1955

BROTHER JAMES' AIR
 56.86.86

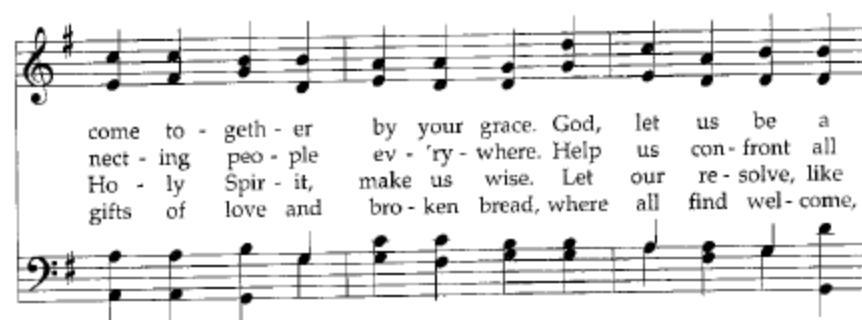
Text adapt. © 1992 The Pilgrim Press; harm. © 1934 Oxford University Press

Diverse in Culture, Nation, Race

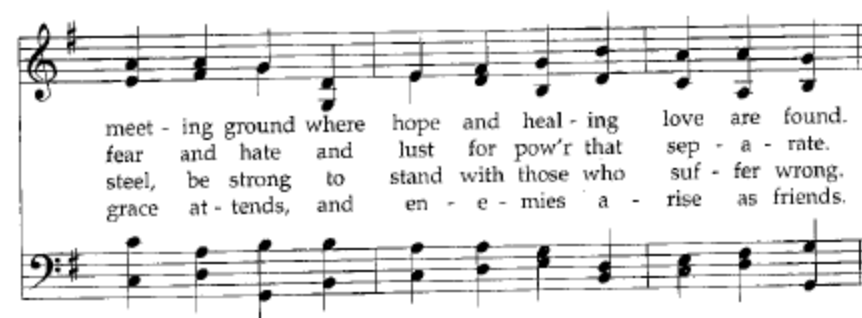
485



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

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I Am the Light of the World!

Unison F B $\flat$ C F

"I am the light of the world!"

B $\flat$ C F

You peo-ple come and fol-low me!" If you

Gm Dm C F B $\flat$

fol-low and love you'll learn the mys-ter-y of

Gm C F *Fine*

what you were meant to do, and be.

WORDS: Jim Strathdee, 1969, in response to a Christmas poem
by Howard Thurman
MUSIC: Jim Strathdee, 1969

LIGHT OF THE WORLD
Irr.

♩=92-100

F B $\flat$ C F

1. When the song of the an-gels is stilled, when the
2. To find the lost and lone-ly one, to
3. To free the pris-nér from all chains, to
4. To bring hope to ev-ry task you do, to

Gm Dm C

star in the sky is gone; when the
heal the bro-ken soul with love, to
make the pow-er-ful care, to
dance at a ba-by's new birth, to

F B $\flat$ C F

ma-gi and the shep-herds have found their way home, the
feed the hun-gry chil-dren with warmth and good food, to
re-build the na-tions with strength of good-will, to
make mu-sic in an old per-son's heart, and

Gm B $\flat$ C

work of Christ-mas is be-gun:
feel the earth be-low, the sky a-bove!
see God's chil-dren ev-ry-where!
sing to the col-ors of the earth!

1. Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
 2. Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in-a my heart, in-a my heart,
 3. Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in-a my heart, in-a my heart,

Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in-a my heart.
 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in-a my heart.
 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in-a my heart.

In-a my heart, in-a my heart, in-a my heart, in-a my heart,

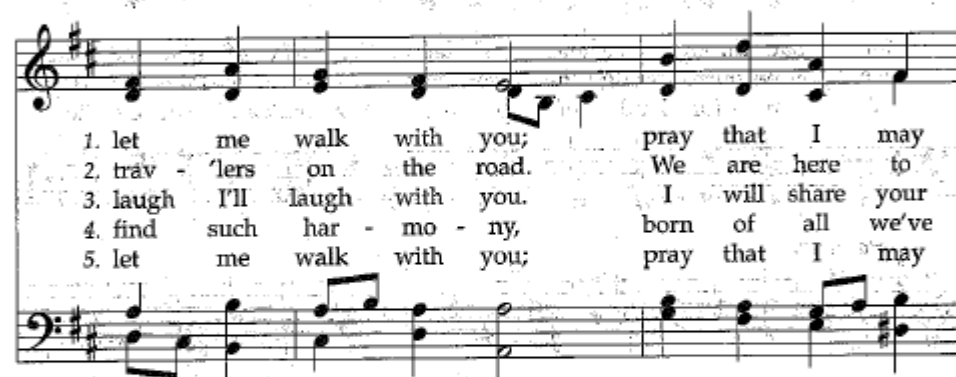
Lord, I want to be a Chris-tian in-a my heart. (in-a my heart.)
 Lord, I want to be more lov-ing in-a my heart. (in-a my heart.)
 Lord, I want to be like Je-sus in-a my heart. (in-a my heart.)

WORDS: African-American spiritual
 MUSIC: African-American spiritual; harm. Larry Sivils, 1993

I WANT TO BE A CHRISTIAN
 lrr.



1. Sis - ter, let me be your ser - vant, bro - ther,
 2. We are pil - grims on a jour - ney, fel - low
 3. I will weep when you are weep - ing, when you
 4. When we sing to God in heav - en, we shall
 5. Broth - er, let me be your ser - vant, sis - ter,



1. let me walk with you; pray that I may
 2. trav - 'lers on the road. We are here to
 3. laugh I'll laugh with you. I will share your
 4. find such har - mo - ny, born of all we've
 5. let me walk with you; pray that I may



1. have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.
 2. help each oth - er walk the mile and bear the load.
 3. joy and sor - row till we've seen this jour - ney thro'.
 4. known to - geth - er of great love and ag - o - ny.
 5. have the grace to let you be my ser - vant too.

WORDS: Richard Gillard, 1977, alt.

MUSIC: Richard Gillard, 1977; arr. A. Eugene Ellsworth, 1994

THE SERVANT SONG

87.87

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♩=100-104