



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

October 25, 2020

Twenty-First Sunday After Pentecost

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! Whether you are here with us in person or joining us online we welcome you to worship. For the safety of those around you, please remember to keep a safe distance from others, wear your mask and abstain from singing. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. Please join us after the service for a social distanced reception welcoming our new settled pastor, Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco and his family.

PRELUDE (9:50am)

'Help Us Accept Each Other'

Sylvia Berry, organ
John Ness Beck

'Gather Us In'

Marty Haugen

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

Doug Anderson, Carol Bradford, Jillian Larson, Leigh-Ann Larson, Leo Larson, Lisa Sparling

Chancel Ringers

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: God of our ancestors made a promise, long ago;

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God is made known to us through Christ Jesus our Lord,

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: God continues to be revealed through the Holy Spirit,

All: God's steadfast love endures forever.

One: Come! May we worship God, who was, and who is, and who is to come,

All: The Almighty, whose love endures forever.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'Blessed Are the Persecuted'

No.187

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Matt Howard

BLESSING OF THE ANIMALS



SCRIPTURE

Leviticus 19:1-2, 15-18

Judy Copley

This portion of the law called upon the people to be holy as God is holy, and to live into justice. The people are called not to take advantage of their neighbors, not to slander them, and not to hate them; instead, they are called to love their neighbor as themselves.

The Lord spoke to Moses, saying:

Speak to all the congregation of the people of Israel and say to them: You shall be holy, for I the Lord your God am holy.

You shall not render an unjust judgment; you shall not be partial to the poor or defer to the great: with justice you shall judge your neighbor. You shall not go around as a slanderer among your people, and you shall not profit by the blood of your neighbor: I am the Lord.

You shall not hate in your heart anyone of your kin; you shall reprove your neighbor, or you will incur guilt yourself. You shall not take vengeance or bear a grudge against any of your people, but you shall love your neighbor as yourself: I am the Lord.

Matthew 22:34-40

Emily Swisher-Rosa

When the Pharisees heard that he had silenced the Sadducees, they gathered together, and one of them, a lawyer, asked him a question to test him. "Teacher, which commandment in the law is the greatest?" He said to him, "'You shall love the Lord your God with all your heart, and with all your soul, and with all your mind.' This is the greatest and first commandment. And a second is like it: 'You shall love your neighbor as yourself.' On these two commandments hang all the law and the prophets."

SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

ANTHEM

'Medieval Gloria'

Murray and Owen Kidd

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

All the rules and laws of our faith can be summed up in the law of love for God and one another. Everything "hangs" on that – the law of love. We don't just talk about love here; our work is to bring it to life in ministry: to offer hospitality, to build community, to act in compassion, to do justice work, and in all these things to worship and love God, and we offer our love to our neighbor. That is what this ministry, and our gifts, are about, and all of it hangs on love. Let us gather our gifts together and offer them to God in gratitude and praise.

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OFFERTORY ANTHEM

Alisa Cassola, soloist

'My Tribute'

Andraé Crouch

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

'Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying'

Ken Medema
Sylvia Berry, piano

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Ann-Marie Illsley, Bridge Pastor
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist
Alisa Cassola, Soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Lay Readers: Judy Copley and Emily Swisher-Rosa

Blessed Are the Persecuted

187



1. Bless-ed are the per - se - cut - ed, for Je - sus Christ is
2. Bless-ed are they who are hun - gry in spir - it, for the
3. Bless-ed are the pure in heart, for Je - sus Christ is
4. Bless-ed are they who are thirs - ty in spir - it, for the



liv - ing with-in them.
Lord lives with-in them. Great will be their re-ward, they shall be
liv - ing with-in them.
Lord lives with-in them.



giv'n a crown, when the Lord comes from heav'n to meet them.

WORDS: Adapt. Esther C. Bergen, 1990
MUSIC: Tonga melody (Zambia)

TONGA
Irr. w. refrain

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♩=88-96

Unison

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my people cry.
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my people'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