



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

October 4, 2020

World Communion Sunday

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

PRELUDE (9:50 am)

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Koza

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: We are created in the image of God.

All: We are commanded to love God and one another.

One: We are required to do justice, love mercy, and walk humbly with God.

All: We are called to follow Jesus.

One: In this time of worship, may we remember God's intention for us, Christ's call upon us, And the Spirit's movement in us.

All: Let us worship God.

HYMN

'Called As Partners in Christ's Service' vs. 1-3

No. 453

(scroll down to music)

OPENING PRAYER

MOMENT FOR STEWARDSHIP

Matt Howard

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Creator God, we have distorted Your image in us. We have disrupted Your intention for us. We have taken advantage of the vulnerable and marginalized instead of caring for these as You have called us to do. We have failed to live into Your commandments. We have not listened to Your call on our lives. Forgive us. Call us into the difficult work of reparation and restoration. Guide us into the ways of healing justice and mercy. Wisdom on High, breathe in us Your truth, and may we understand Your intentions for us. May we live into Your intention of love and life for all. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM

'All Things Bright and Beautiful'

John Rutter

SCRIPTURE**Matthew 21:33-46**

Angela Colby

"Listen to another parable. There was a landowner who planted a vineyard, put a fence around it, dug a wine press in it, and built a watchtower. Then he leased it to tenants and went to another country. When the harvest time had come, he sent his slaves to the tenants to collect his produce. But the tenants seized his slaves and beat one, killed another, and stoned another. Again he sent other slaves, more than the first; and they treated them in the same way. Finally he sent his son to them, saying, "They will respect my son.' But when the tenants saw the son, they said to themselves, "This is the heir; come, let us kill him and get his inheritance.' So they seized him, threw him out of the vineyard, and killed him. Now when the owner of the vineyard comes, what will he do to those tenants?" They said to him, "He will put those wretches to a miserable death, and lease the vineyard to other tenants who will give him the produce at the harvest time." Jesus said to them, "Have you never read in the scriptures: "The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord's doing, and it is amazing in our eyes'? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces the fruits of the kingdom. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces; and it will crush anyone on whom it falls." When the chief priests and the Pharisees heard his parables, they realized that he was speaking about them. They wanted to arrest him, but they feared the crowds, because they regarded him as a prophet.

SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

ANTHEM

'Hands'

by Jewel
Emily Swisher Rosa, Solo**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

World Communion Sunday celebrates God's gift of relationship around the world and throughout creation. Let us share our gifts with God, so this day will be marked by an outpouring of generosity in Jesus' name.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

Invitation

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

Great Thanksgiving

May God be with you

And also with you!

Lift your hearts

We lift them up to God!

Let us give thanks to God most high.

It is right to give God thanks and praise!

Words of Remembering

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

Prayer of Consecration

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

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)

'Spirit of the Living God'

No. 259

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Lord Jesus Christ, you have nourished us in this meal, and fed our bodies and souls. We have heard your love, now send us out to speak it. We have seen your love, now send us out to show it. We have been fed by your love; now send us out to share it. And let all things be done for your glory. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Ann-Marie Illsley

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

Emily Swisher-Rosa, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Lay Readers:

Angela Colby

453 Called as Partners in Christ's Service

1. Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is - tries of grace,
 2. Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
 3. Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
 4. So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life

we re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
 let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
 help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
 that sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con-quests strife.

May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
 Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
 Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
 Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,

e - qual part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
 blend-ing hu-man skills to- geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
 bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
 mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.

WORDS: Jane Parker Huber, 1981
 MUSIC: John Zundel, 1870

BESCHER
 #7,87D

Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD
75.75.875