



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

September 20, 2020

Sixteenth Sunday after Pentecost

9:55 am

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.

**PRELUDE**

Sylvia Berry, Organ

**Three Prelude Hymns**

How Lovely, Lord, How Lovely (#285)

This Is the Day (#286)

Gather Us In (#284)

**RINGING OF THE CHIMES**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Barry Shelley

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: Open your hearts to God's loving mercy.

**All: Lord, come into our hearts this day.**

One: Having received God's mercy, bring that love to others.

**All: Lord, be with us as we reach out to others in compassion.**

One: Feel your spirits filled with the goodness of God.

**All: Lord, we thank you for the many blessings which you pour into our lives. AMEN.**

**OPENING SONG**

'Bambalela'

Murray Kidd

**GATHERING PRAYER**

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES:** Blessing

**HYMN**

'Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken' vs 1-2

No. 709

*(scroll down to music)*

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

You know how fickle we are, O Lord. We proclaim your presence with us and then we behave in ways which run counter from your word. We can too easily get caught up in our own needs and focus only on the injustices we feel in our lives. Help us to place our trust in your mercy and your compassionate love. Forgive us when we stray from your ways and wander into paths of self-pity and self-destruction. Lift us from the deep morass and put us back on track. Give us confidence in your presence and your direction throughout our lives, for we ask these things in Jesus' name. **AMEN**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

### SCRIPTURE

**Psalm 46:1-7, 10a**

Emily Swisher-Rosa

God is our refuge and strength,  
a very present help in trouble.  
Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,  
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;  
though its waters roar and foam,  
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.  
There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,  
the holy habitation of the Most High.  
God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;  
God will help it when the morning dawns.  
The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;  
he utters his voice, the earth melts.  
The Lord of hosts is with us;  
the God of Jacob is our refuge.  
"Be still, and know that I am God!"

### HYMN

'O For a World' vs 1-4

No. 683

*(scroll down to music)*

**Exodus 16:2-15**

Emily Swisher-Rosa

The whole congregation of the Israelites complained against Moses and Aaron in the wilderness. The Israelites said to them, "If only we had died by the hand of the Lord in the land of Egypt, when we sat by the fleshpots and ate our fill of bread; for you have brought us out into this wilderness to kill this whole assembly with hunger." Then the Lord said to Moses, "I am going to rain bread from heaven for you, and each day the people shall go out and gather enough for that day. In that way I will test them, whether they will follow my instruction or not. On the sixth day, when they prepare what they bring in, it will be twice as much as they gather on other days." So Moses and Aaron said to all the Israelites, "In the evening you shall know that it was the Lord who brought you out of the land of Egypt, and in the morning you shall see the glory of the Lord, because he has heard your complaining against the Lord. For what are we, that you complain against us?" And Moses said, "When the Lord gives you meat to eat in the evening and your fill of bread in the morning, because the Lord has heard the complaining that you utter against him — what are we? Your complaining is not against us but against the Lord." Then Moses said to Aaron, "Say to the whole congregation of the Israelites, 'Draw near to the Lord, for he has heard your complaining.'" And as Aaron spoke to the whole congregation of the Israelites, they looked toward the wilderness, and the glory of the Lord appeared in the cloud. The Lord spoke to Moses and said, "I have heard the complaining of the Israelites; say to them, 'At twilight you shall eat meat, and in the morning you shall have your fill of bread; then you shall know that I am the Lord your God.'" In the evening quails came up and covered the camp; and in the morning there was a layer of dew around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the surface of the wilderness was a fine flaky substance, as fine as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to one another, "What is it?" For they did not know what it was. Moses said to them, "It is the bread that the Lord has given you to eat."

### SERMON

Ann-Marie Illsley

**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**

Whatever shape the wilderness takes, God has provided what we need generation by generation. What we return to God has come from God, so make your offering today with gratitude and trust in God's goodness.

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

**PRAYER OF DEDICATION****HYMN**

'God Be With You Till We Meet Again' vs 1 & 2

No. 434

*(scroll down to music)*

**BENEDICTION****POSTLUDE**

'Little Prelude in C major'

J.S. Bach  
Sylvia Berry, Organ

**Participating in Today's Worship Service:**

Ann-Marie Illsley  
Murray Kidd, Music Director  
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist  
Alisa Cassola, Soloist

**Lay Reader:**

Emily Swisher-Rosa

# 709 Glorious Things of Thee Are Spoken

1. Glo - rious things of thee are spo - ken,  
 2. See, the streams of liv - ing wa - ters,  
 3. Round each hab - i - ta - tion hov - ering,

Zi - on, cit - y of our God; God, whose word can -  
 spring - ing from e - ter - nal love, well sup - ply thy  
 see the cloud and fire ap - pear for a glo - ry

not be bro - ken, formed thee for a blest a - bode.  
 sons and daugh - ters, and all fear of want re - move.  
 and a cov - ering, show - ing forth that God is near!

On the Rock of A - ges found - ed, what can shake thy  
 Who can faint, while such a riv - er ev - er flows their  
 Thus de - riv - ing from their ban - ner light by night and

WORDS: John Newton, 1779, alt.  
 MUSIC: Franz Joseph Haydn, 1797

AUSTRIAN HYMN  
 87.87D

sure re - pose? With sal - va - tion's walls sur -  
 thirst to as - suage? Grace, which like our God, the  
 shade by day, safe they feed up - on the

round - ed, thou may - est smile at all thy foes.  
 Giv - er, nev - er fails from age to age.  
 man - na which God gives them when they pray.

1. O for a world where ev - ery - one re -  
 2. O for a world where goods are shared and  
 3. We wel - come one world fam - i - ly and  
 4. The poor are rich, the weak are strong, the  
 5. O for a world pre - par - ing for God's

1. spect each oth - er's ways, where love is lived and  
 2. mis - er - y re - lieved, where truth is spo - ken,  
 3. strug - gle with each choice that o - pens us to  
 4. fool - ish ones are wise. Tell all who mourn; out -  
 5. glo - rious reign of peace, where time and tears will

1. all is done with jus - tice and with praise.  
 2. chil - dren spared, e - qual - i - ty a - chieved.  
 3. u - ni - ty and gives our vi - sion voice.  
 4. casts be - long, who per - ish - es will rise.  
 5. be no more, and all but love will cease.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987  
 MUSIC: Carl Gotthelf Gläser, 1828; arr. Lowell Mason, 1839

AZMON  
 CM

# God Be with You Till We Meet Again 434

1-4. God be with you till we meet a - gain;

lov - ing coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's  
un - seen wings, pro - tect - ing, hide you, dai - ly man - na  
when life's per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing  
keep love's ban - ner float - ing o'er you, smite death's threat - ening

care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

*Refrain*  
Till we meet till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet;

till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
till we meet, till we meet,

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880, alt.  
MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU  
98.89 w. refrain