



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

November 22, 2020

Christ, the King 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.

PRELUDE (9:50am)

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come, because God gathers us here, with that community called faith,

People: where the hungry are served first, where the thirsty drink life's water.

Leader: We come, because God welcomes us here into that home called grace,

People: where the naked are clothed in robes of hope, where the stranger is embraced as the long lost prodigal.

Leader: We come, because God reunites us here, siblings in that family called love,

People: where the imprisoned model justice, where the sick are cradled in God's peace.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'All Creatures of our God and King'

No. 22

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (in unison)

People: Loving and merciful One,

**we thank you for the community in which you have placed us,
for the brothers and sisters with whom we walk this pilgrim journey.**

Yet, we confess that we fail to love as you love.

We push aside those whom we believe are the least in your Kingdom.

We fail to see your Kingdom in parables

because we fail to see your Kingdom in each other.

Form in us a new vision of community

in which there is neither East nor West, neither South nor North.

We pray for the sake of your Kingdom

that both is and is not yet. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

ANTHEM

'Shine on Me'

by Rollo Dilworth

SCRIPTURE

Ezekiel 34:11-16, 20-24

The LORD God proclaims: I myself will search for my flock and seek them out. As a shepherd seeks out the flock when some in the flock have been scattered, so will I seek out my flock. I will rescue them from all the places where they were scattered during the time of clouds and thick darkness. I will gather and lead them out from the countries and peoples, and I will bring them to their own fertile land. I will feed them on Israel's highlands, along the riverbeds, and in all the inhabited places. I will feed them in good pasture, and their sheepfold will be there, on Israel's lofty highlands. On Israel's highlands, they will lie down in a secure fold and feed on green pastures. I myself will feed my flock and make them lie down. This is what the LORD God says. I will seek out the lost, bring back the strays, bind up the wounded, and strengthen the weak. But the fat and the strong I will destroy, because I will tend my sheep^[a] with justice.

So the LORD God proclaims to them: I will judge between the fat and the lean sheep. You shove with shoulder and flank, and with your horns you ram all the weak sheep until you've scattered them outside. But I will rescue my flock so that they will never again be prey. I will even judge between the sheep! I will appoint for them a single shepherd, and he will feed them. My servant David will feed them. He will be their shepherd. I, the LORD, will be their God, and my servant David will be their prince. I, the LORD, have spoken.

Matthew 25:31-46

"Now when the Human One comes in his majesty and all his angels are with him, he will sit on his majestic throne. All the nations will be gathered in front of him. He will separate them from each other, just as a shepherd separates the sheep from the goats. He will put the sheep on his right side. But the goats he will put on his left.

"Then the king will say to those on his right, 'Come, you who will receive good things from my Father. Inherit the kingdom that was prepared for you before the world began. I was hungry and you gave me food to eat. I was thirsty and you gave me a drink. I was a stranger and you welcomed me. I was naked and you gave me clothes to wear. I was sick and you took care of me. I was in prison and you visited me.'

"Then those who are righteous will reply to him, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry and feed you, or thirsty and give you a drink? When did we see you as a stranger and welcome you, or naked and give you clothes to wear? When did we see you sick or in prison and visit you?'

"Then the king will reply to them, 'I assure you that when you have done it for one of the least of these brothers and sisters of mine, you have done it for me.'

"Then he will say to those on his left, 'Get away from me, you who will receive terrible things. Go into the unending fire that has been prepared for the devil and his angels. I was hungry and you didn't give me food to eat. I was thirsty and you didn't give me anything to drink. I was a stranger and you didn't welcome me. I was naked and you didn't give me clothes to wear. I was sick and in prison, and you didn't visit me.'

"Then they will reply, 'Lord, when did we see you hungry or thirsty or a stranger or naked or sick or in prison and didn't do anything to help you?' Then he will answer, 'I assure you that when you haven't done it for one of the least of these, you haven't done it for me.' And they will go away into eternal punishment. But the righteous ones will go into eternal life."

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

ANTHEM

'Open the Eyes of my Heart Lord'

by Paul Baloché

RECOGNITION OF TRANSGENDER DAY OF REMEMBRANCE

Reading of the Names: *Doug Anderson & Shirley Strangis*

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.

HYMN

'Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service'

No. 461

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

Matt Howard

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Ann-Marie Illsley

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

Alisa Cassola, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

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

461 Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

1. Lord, whose love through hum-ble ser - vice bore the weight of
 2. Still your chil - dren wan-der home - less; still the hun - gry
 3. As we wor - ship, grant us vi - sion, till your love's re -
 4. Called by wor - ship to your ser - vice, forth in your dear

hu - man need, who up - on the cross, for - sak - en,
 cry for bread; still the cap - tives long for free - dom;
 veal - ing light in its height and depth and great - ness
 name we go to the child, the youth, the a - ged,

of - fered mer - cy's per - fect deed: we, your ser - vants, bring the
 still in grief we mourn our dead. As, O Lord, your deep com -
 dawns up - on our quick - ened sight, mak - ing known the needs and
 love in liv - ing deeds to show; hope and health, good will and

wor - ship not of voice a - lone, but heart, con - se - crat - ing
 pas - sion healed the sick and freed the soul, use the love your
 bur - dens your com - pas - sion bids us bear, stir - ring us to
 com - fort, coun - sel, aid, and peace we give, that your ser - vants,

WORDS: Albert F. Bayly, 1961, alt.

MUSIC: Attr. B. F. White, 1844; harm. Ronald A. Nelson, 1978

BEACH SPRING

87.87D

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♩=64-70

to your pur - pose ev - ery gift that you im - part.
 Spir - it kin - dles still to save and make us whole.
 tire - less striv - ing your a - bun - dant life to share.
 Lord, in free - dom may your mer - cy know, and live.