



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



December 20, 2020

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! While we can't be together physically, we are glad to join together for worship online. 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: Sing out, my soul! Sing of the holiness of God...

People: Who has delighted in humanity; lifted up the poor, satisfied the hungry, given voice to the silent, and grounded the oppressor.

Leader: God has blessed the full-bellied with emptiness, and given the gift of tears to those who have never wept;

People: God has desired the darkness of the womb, and inhabited our flesh--

Leader: Sing of the longing of God...

People: Sing out, my soul!

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn'

No. 138

(scroll down to music)

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

Reading and home candle lighting by the Ribeiro family (Elisha, Josephine, & Natalie)

People: Revealing God, visit us and fill us with your Spirit. Bring your good news to life within us. Give us courage to carry your light into the injustices and shadows of this world. Amen.

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Do not be afraid, said Gabriel, surprising Mary and confronting her with the decision of her life. Do not be afraid, God is with you. 2020 has confronted many of us with life-changing circumstances and decisions. We know fear from the inside out. In this moment, ponder that fear. Name it, if you can, at least to yourself.

Silence

Continue to ponder, and if you can, try to name where you may hear God calling: Do not be afraid.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

HYMN

'My Soul Gives Glory to My God'

No. 130

(scroll down to music)

SCRIPTURE

Romans 16:25-27

Now to God who is able to strengthen you according to my gospel and the proclamation of Jesus Christ, according to the revelation of the mystery that was kept secret for long ages but is now disclosed, and through the prophetic writings is made known to all the Gentiles, according to the command of the eternal God, to bring about the obedience of faith—to the only wise God, through Jesus Christ, to whom be the glory forever! Amen.

Do Not Be Afraid: A Virtual Christmas Pageant



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

In struggle and in joy, God is faithful to us.

We bring forth our offerings – our tithes, our treasures, our least coins – to demonstrate our faithfulness to God.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

OFFERTORY

‘Of the Father’s Love Begotten’

No. 104

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today’s Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist
Alisa Cassola, Soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Participating In Today’s Pageant:

Penny Ackley
Shirley Bamford
Angela Colby
Deana Colby
Nicholas Colby
Donna Costa
Alice Farnsworth
Hayley Hixon
Tracey Hixon
Ann-Marie Illsley
Jeffrey Illsley Jr.
Patricia Illsley
Dani Kardisco
Jeff Kardisco

Ivyn Kardisco
Ricky McIlhenney
Karen Lincoln
Nancy McGunnigal
Louis Pedrada
Elisha Ribeiro
Josephine Ribeiro
Natalie Ribeiro
Barry Shelley
Brian Young-Ferguson
Michelle Young-Ferguson
Sawyer Young-Ferguson
Serenity Young-Ferguson

¹Blain, Rev. Susan A. “Advent 4 - December 20.” *United Church of Christ*, 6 Nov. 2020, www.ucc.org/advent_4_december_20.

²Fowler, Sidney D, and Arthur Clyde. “Advent -- Liturgy for Lighting Advent Candles (English).” *United Church of Christ*, 2002, www.ucc.org/worship_worship-ways_year-a_ace_advent-liturgy-for.

138 Awake! Awake, and Greet the New Morn

G Am7 G D D7

1. A - wake! a - wake, and greet the new morn, for
 2. In deep - est night his com - ing shall be, when
 3. Re - joice, re - joice, take heart in the night, though

G C Am D G Am7

an - gels her - ald its dawn - ing, sing out your joy, for
 all the world is de - spair - ing, as morn - ing light so
 dark the win - ter and cheer - less, the ris - ing sun shall

G D G Am D C G

soon he is born, be - hold! the Child of our long - ing,
 qui - et and free, so warm and gen - tle and car - ing,
 crown you with light, be strong and lov - ing and fear - less;

WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1983

REJOICE, REJOICE
 98.98.87.89

My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Cm Fm E \flat A \flat D \flat E \flat Fm Cm Fm

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

D \flat E \flat 7 A \flat B \flat m A \flat A \flat D \flat E \flat A \flat

1. heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 2. ho - ly is her name. All peo - ple wil de -
 3. mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 4. motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 5. ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

E \flat 7 B \flat m A \flat D \flat E \flat B \flat m E \flat Fm

1. low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 2. clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 3. far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 4. sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 5. prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Guitar and keyboard should not sound together.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1978, 1987
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813;
 harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

MORNING SONG
 CM

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 Methodist Publishing House

♩=88-96

Of the Father's Love Begotten
(Of Eternal Love Begotten)

104

1. Of the Fa-ther's love be-got - ten,* ere the worlds be-gan to be,
2. O ye heights of heaven sing prais-es; an-gels and arch-an-gels sing!
3. Christ, to thee with God Cre-a-tor, and O Ho-ly Ghost, to thee,

Christ is Al-pha and O-me-ga, he the source, the end-ing he!
And on earth let all the faith-ful now your joy-ous an-thems ring,
hymn and chant and high thanks-giv-ing and un-wea-ried prais-es be:

Of the things that are, that have been, and that fu-ture years shall see,
ev'-ry tongue Christ's name con-fess-ing, count-less voic-es an-swer-ing,
Hon-or, glo-ry, and do-min-ion, and e-ter-nal vic-to-ry,

ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
ev-er-more and ev-er-more!
ev-er-more and ev-er-more! A-men.

*Of eternal love begotten

DIVINUM MYSTERIUM
87.87.877

WORDS: Aurelius Clemens Prudentius (4th century); st. 1, 3 tr. John Mason Neale, 1854, and Henry W. Baker, 1859, alt.; st. 2 tr. R. F. Davis, 1906, alt.
MUSIC: Plainsong, Mode V (13th century); harm. C. Winfred Douglas, 1940

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