



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



February 21, 2021

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 (9:50 am)

'Gather Us In'

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God knows us and our hungers.

People: God loves us like a father and nurtures us like a mother.

Leader: God draws us to each other and claims us as the people of God.

People. Knowing this, let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

No. 583

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Almighty God, too often we forget your promise. We live in ways that bring glory only to ourselves. We bask in the false assumption that we are in control of our lives. Sometimes we want to tamper with the lives of those around us for our own ends. Help us to love our neighbors as ourselves and to serve you more faithfully each day. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

Isaiah 55:8-13 *(Common English Bible)*

My plans aren't your plans,
nor are your ways my ways, says the LORD.
Just as the heavens are higher than the earth,
so are my ways higher than your ways,
and my plans than your plans.
Just as the rain and the snow come down from the sky
and don't return there without watering the earth,
making it conceive and yield plants
and providing seed to the sower and food to the eater,
so is my word that comes from my mouth;
it does not return to me empty.
Instead, it does what I want,
and accomplishes what I intend.
Yes, you will go out with celebration,
and you will be brought back in peace.
Even the mountains and the hills will burst into song before you;
all the trees of the field will clap their hands.
In place of the thorn the cypress will grow;
in place of the nettle the myrtle will grow.
This will attest to the LORD's stature,
an enduring reminder that won't be removed.

Matthew 6:5-13 *(New Revised Standard Version)*

"And whenever you pray, do not be like the hypocrites; for they love to stand and pray in the synagogues and at the street corners, so that they may be seen by others. Truly I tell you, they have received their reward. But whenever you pray, go into your room and shut the door and pray to your Father who is in secret; and your Father who sees in secret will reward you.

"When you are praying, do not heap up empty phrases as the Gentiles do; for they think that they will be heard because of their many words. Do not be like them, for your Father knows what you need before you ask him.

"Pray then in this way:
Our Father in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come.
Your will be done,
on earth as it is in heaven.
Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts,
as we also have forgiven our debtors.
And do not bring us to the time of trial,
but rescue us from the evil one."

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

HYMN

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'

No. 86

*(scroll down to music)***PASTORAL PRAYER****THE LORD'S PRAYER** New Zealand Anglican Lord's Prayer

This version of the Lord's prayer comes from The New Zealand Book of Prayer of the Anglican church in New Zealand. Throughout the season of Lent we will engage with this version of the Lord's prayer, as a way to reflect more deeply upon the prayer that we all say each week. We will resume with the Lord's prayer, as we have traditionally prayed it, on Easter Sunday. Throughout this season, as we engage with this new way of saying the same prayer we are all familiar with, we invite you to focus on the words. Allow yourself to stumble and allow yourself to pray imperfectly, because in the end our prayers are an offering to God no matter what form they take.

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, Source of all that is and that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, Loving God, in whom is heaven.

The hallowing of your name echo through the universe! The way of your justice be followed by the peoples of the world! Your heavenly will be done by all created beings! Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope and come on earth.

With the bread we need for today, feed us. In the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and rest, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us.

For you reign in the glory of the power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

'Huria'

Sung by Alisa Cassola, soloist

by Patsy Ford Simms
*(Swahili Freedom Song)***CALL FOR OFFERINGS**www.brocktonucc.org/donate/**PRAYER OF DEDICATION****HYMN**

'Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days'

No. 180

BENEDICTION**POSTLUDE**

Allegro from Sonata in D major for viola da gamba and harpsichord by J.S. Bach

Shirley Hunt - viola de gamba

Sylvia Berry - harpsichord

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



Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,

for if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee.

WORDS: Doris Akers, 1953
 MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; harm. Richard Smallwood

LEAD ME GUIDE ME
 Irr.

© 1953 Doris Akers; copyright renewed; all rights administered by Unichappell Music, Inc.

Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no shad-ow of
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and stars in their
 3. Par-don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear pres-ence to

turn-ing with thee; thou chang-est not, thy com-pas-sions, they fail not;
 cours-es a-bove, join with all na-ture in man-i-fold wit-ness
 cheer and to guide; strength for to-day and bright hope for to-mor-row,

Refrain

as thou hast been thou for-ev-er will be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness!
 to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.
 bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

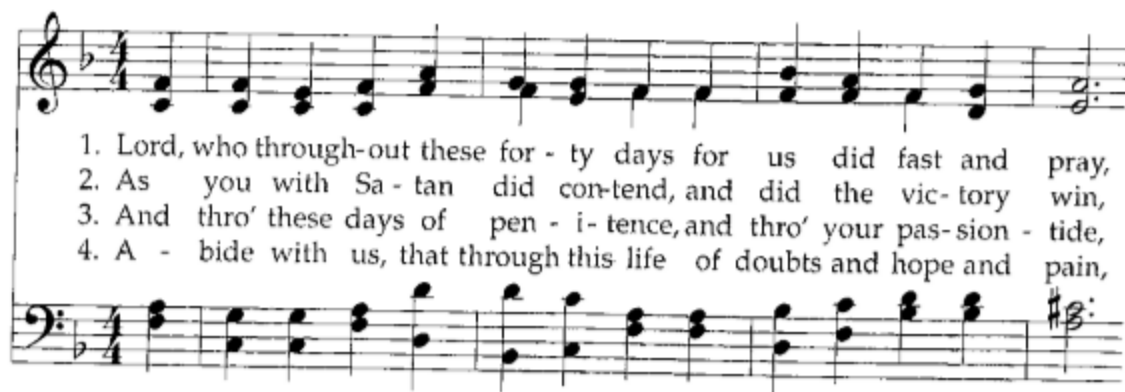
Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have

need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed— Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923

FAITHFULNESS
 11 10.11 10 w. refrain

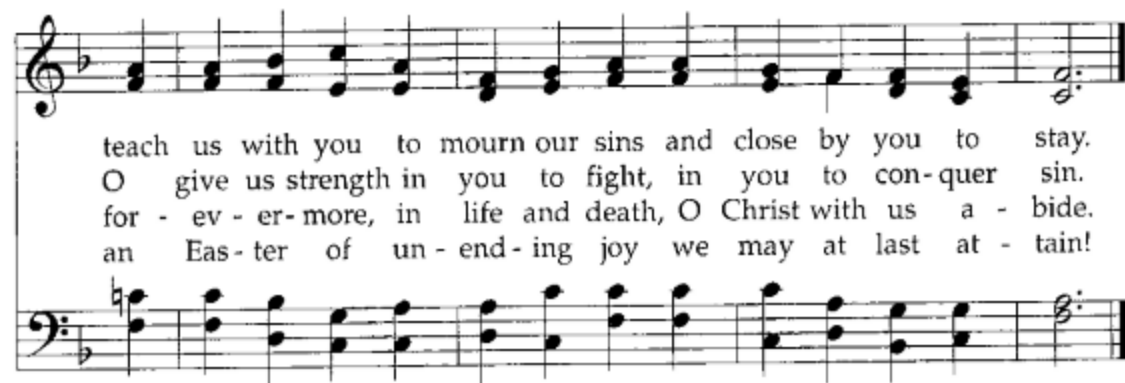
180 Lord, Who Throughout These Forty Days



1. Lord, who through-out these for - ty days for us did fast and pray,
2. As you with Sa - tan did con-tend, and did the vic-tory win,
3. And thro' these days of pen - i - tence, and thro' your pas-sion - tide,
4. A - bide with us, that through this life of doubts and hope and pain,

WORDS: Claudia F. Hernaman, 1873, alt.
MUSIC: Adapt. from John Day's *English Psalter*, 1562

ST. FLAVIAN
CM



teach us with you to mourn our sins and close by you to stay.
O give us strength in you to fight, in you to con-quer sin.
for - ev - er - more, in life and death, O Christ with us a - bide.
an Eas - ter of un - end - ing joy we may at last at - tain!