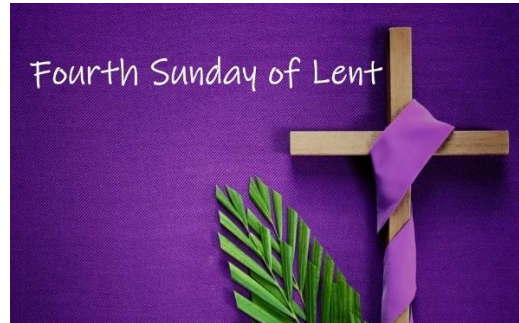




CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 14, 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: We have gathered in the presence of God our creator, who sets before us the ways of life and death.

People: We have gathered in the presence of Jesus the Christ, who calls us to accept the cost of discipleship that we may know its joy.

Leader: We have gathered in the presence of the Spirit, who sustains us in trial and rejoicing.

People: In our living and in our dying, we belong to God. In the shadow of God's wings, we sing for joy. Let us worship God.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me'

No. 214

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

We have promised to live as your people, O God. Yet, we confess that we fail you and one another. We do not honor one another as we should. As the body of Christ, we are often disjointed and clumsy. We do not work together as one to your glory. We refuse your cry for help in the voices of the poor and the hungry. We have not been faithful to the trust you have placed in us. Merciful God, receive us as we are, and forgive us. Encourage us with your love that we may commit ourselves anew to live as those who belong to you; through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

Romans 6:1-11

So what are we going to say? Should we continue sinning so grace will multiply? Absolutely not! All of us died to sin. How can we still live in it? Or don't you know that all who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? Therefore, we were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life. If we were united together in a death like his, we will also be united together in a resurrection like his. This is what we know: the person that we used to be was crucified with him in order to get rid of the corpse that had been controlled by sin. That way we wouldn't be slaves to sin anymore, because a person who has died has been freed from sin's power. But if we died with Christ, we have faith that we will also live with him. We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and he will never die again. Death no longer has power over him. He died to sin once and for all with his death, but he lives for God with his life. In the same way, you also should consider yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

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

‘The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow’

No. 620

(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

'Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley'

No. 211

sung by Alisa Cassola, soloist

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Let everyone give, not grudgingly or of necessity, but from the fullness of our gratitude to God.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

No. 583

(scroll down to music)

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



1. Rock of A - ges, cleft for me, let me
 2. Not the la - bors of my hands can ful -
 3. Noth - ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply
 4. While I draw this fleet - ing breath, when mine

hide my - self in thee; let the wa - ter and the blood,
 fill thy law's de - mands; could my zeal no res - pite know,
 to the cross I cling; na - ked, come to thee for dress;
 eyes shall close in death, when I soar to worlds un - known,

from thy wound - ed side which flowed, be of sin the
 could my tears for - ev - er flow, all for sin could
 help - less, look to thee for grace; foul, I to the
 see thee on thy judg - ment throne, Rock of A - ges,

dou - ble cure; save from wrath and make me pure.
 not a - tone; thou must save, and thou a - lone.
 foun - tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die.
 cleft for me, let me hide my - self in thee.

620 The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow

1. Like a ship that's toss'd and driv-en, bat-tered by an an - gry sea,
 2. Try to do my best in serv-ice, try to live the best I can,
 3. Of- ten there's mis-un-der-stand-ing out of all the good I do,

when the storms of life are rag - ing and their fu - ry falls on me,
 when I choose to do the right thing, e - vil's pre - sent on ev - 'ry hand,
 go to friends for con - so - la - tion and I find them com - plain - ing too,

I won - der what I have done that makes this race so hard to run,
 I look up and won - der why that good for - tune pass me by,
 so man - y nights I toss in pain, won - der - ing what the day will bring,

then I say to my soul, take cour - age, the Lord will make a way some - how.
 then I say to my soul, be pa - tient, the Lord will make a way some - how.
 but I say to my heart, don't wor - ry, the Lord will make a way some - how.

Refrain

The Lord will make a way some - how, when be - neath the cross I
 some - how,

bow; He will take a - way each sor - row, let him have your
 I bow; way each sor - row,

bur - dens now; when the load bears down so heav - y the
 all your bur - dens; down so heav - y,

weight is shown up - on my brow, there's a sweet re - lief in
 on my brow,

know - ing, oh, the Lord will make a way some - how.
 in know - ing some - how.

WORDS and MUSIC: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1943

SOMEHOW
 lre.

© 1943 Unichappell Music Inc.

♩=92-100

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley 211

F F7 B^b Gm7

1. Je - sus walked this lone-some val-ley, he had to
 2. We must walk this lone-some val-ley, we have to
 3. You must go and stand your tri - al, you have to

F Dm Gm C7 F7 3

walk it by him-self; O, no-bod-y else could walk it
 walk it by our-selves; O, no-bod-y else can walk it
 stand it by your-self, O, no-bod-y else can stand it

B^b Gm7 F Gm C7 1-2 F B^b F 3 F

for him, he had to walk it by him - self.
 for us, we have to walk it by our - selves.
 for you, you have to stand it by your - self.

WORDS: American spiritual
 MUSIC: American spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas, 1994
 Arr. © 1995 Chalice Press

LONESOME VALLEY
 88.10 8

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.