



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

Third Sunday of



March 7, 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. This morning, we will be celebrating the sacrament of communion. We hold that the communion table is open to any and all who desire a closer relationship with Christ. To prepare for this sacrament at home, we invite you to gather communion elements from what you have at hand, some bread or crackers and some juice or water.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Friends, come near to God.

People: God, be with us this day.

Leader: Lift your sorrows and joys to God.

People: O God, hear the cries of our hearts.

Leader: Come, rest in the love and mercy of God.

People: Bless us, O God, that we may be blessings for others in your name.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'Seek Ye First'

No. 354

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

You know how fickle we are, O God. We proclaim your presence with us and then we behave in ways which run counter from your word. We get caught up in our own needs and we grumble about the injustices we feel in our own 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

Exodus 16:2-5, 13-18 (*Common English Bible*)

The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. The Israelites said to them, “Oh, how we wish that the LORD had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you’ve brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death.”

Then the LORD said to Moses, “I’m going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I’ll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days.”

In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” They didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Collect as much of it as each of you can eat, one omer per person. You may collect for the number of people in your household.’” The Israelites did as Moses said, some collecting more, some less. But when they measured it out by the omer, the ones who had collected more had nothing left over, and the ones who had collected less had no shortage. Everyone collected just as much as they could eat.

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

'I Want Jesus to Walk With Me'

No. 627

*(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

'If Ye Love Me, Keep My Commandments'

Thomas Tallis

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Friends, in gratitude for all that we have received, let us offer our gifts and tithes to God proclaiming that what God has provided *is* enough.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION**SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION****INVITATION****COMMUNION PRAYER**

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Holy God, our loving Creator, close to us as breathing and distant as the farthest star, we thank you for your constant love for all of your creation. We thank you for all that sustains life, for all people of faith in every generation who have given themselves to your will, and especially for Jesus Christ, whom you have sent from your own being as our Savior. We praise you for Christ's birth, life, death, and resurrection, and for the calling forth of your church for its mission in the world. Gifted by the presence of your Holy Spirit, we offer ourselves to you and praise your holy name.

SANCTUS

Soloist, Alisa Cassola

No. 111

San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi
 Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dores you! My

co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or!
 heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!

REMEMBERING THE STORY

Leader: Merciful God, as siblings in faith we recall anew these words and acts of Jesus Christ.

We remember that as they were eating Jesus took bread, blessed it and broke it, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take, eat: this is my body."

After supper Jesus also took a cup, and after giving thanks, gave it to the disciples and said, "Drink of it, all of you; for this is my blood of the covenant, which is poured out for many for the forgiveness of sins."

We remember Christ's promise not to drink of the fruit of the vine again until the heavenly banquet at the close of history, and we say boldly what we believe,

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We give thanks, almighty God, that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Jesus Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

HYMN
(scroll down to music)

'The Voice of Jesus Calls His People'

No. 426

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



¹Townley, Nancy C. *Worship Connection: September 20, 2020*, 24 Aug. 2020, www.ministrymatters.com/all/entry/8418/worship-connection-september-20-2020.

²Unknown, Author. *Benediction: The Upside-Down Kingdom*, 12 Sept. 2011, re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/benediction-upside-down-kingdom.html.

Seek Ye First

354

Descant D F#m G D G

Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia, Al-

1. Seek ye first the king - dom of God and God's
 2. Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you; seek and

D Em7 A7sus D F#m

le - - - lu - - - ia, Al - - - le-

righteous - ness, and all these things shall be
 ye shall find, knock, and the door shall be

G D G Em D

lu - - - ia, Al - - - le - - - lu - - - ia!

add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!
 o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, al - le - lu - ia!

WORDS and MUSIC: Karen Lafferty, 1972

© 1972 Maranatha! Music

SEEK YE FIRST
 Irr.

$\text{♩} = 72-80$

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

Capo 3: Play Am *Unison* Am E7 Am E7 Am Em

1. I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 2. In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me.
 3. When I'm trou - bled, Lord, walk with me.

Am C G7 C E7 Am

I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 In my tri - als, Lord, walk with me.
 When I'm trou - bled, Lord, walk with me.

E7 Am Bmin7,5 G7 Am

All a - long my pil - grim jour - ney,
 When my heart is al - most break - ing,
 When my head is bowed in sor - row,

F#dim G7 Am Dm7 Am E7 Am Dm Am

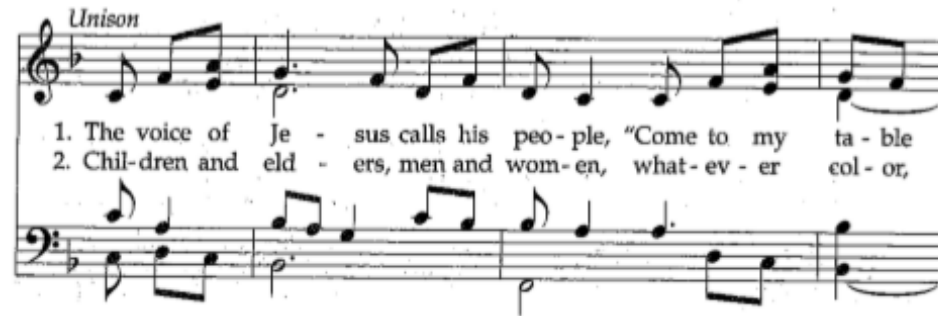
O, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 O, I want Je - sus to walk with me.
 O, I want Je - sus to walk with me.

WORDS: African-American spiritual
 MUSIC: African-American spiritual; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix, 1981

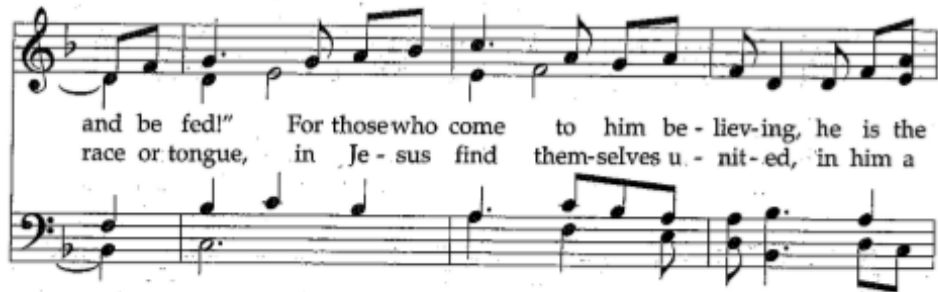
SOJOURNER
 888.9

426 The Voice of Jesus Calls His People

Unison



1. The voice of Je - sus calls his peo - ple, "Come to my ta - ble
2. Chil - dren and eld - ers, men and wom - en, what - ev - er col - or,



and be fed!" For those who come to him be - liev - ing, he is the
race or tongue, in Je - sus find them - selves u - nit - ed, in him a



Wine, he is the Bread. All who are lost, or 'bear great
home where they be - long. We hear your lov - ing voice, O



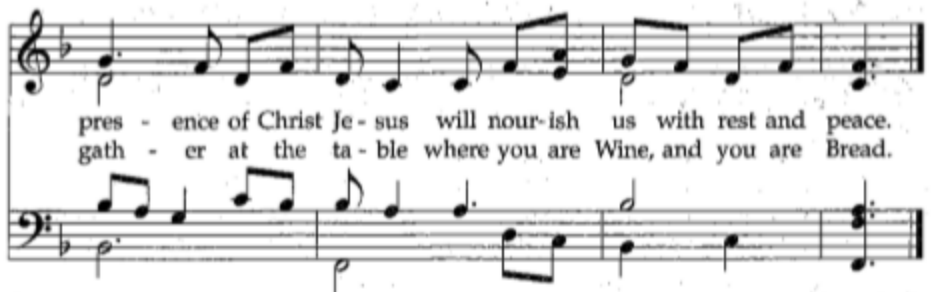
bur - dens, all who need com - fort or re - lease, come where the
Je - sus, we long, we hun - ger to be fed; in joy we

WORDS and MUSIC: Joy F. Patterson, 1993

THE VOICE OF JESUS
98.98D

© 1994 Hope Publishing Co.

♩=76



pres - ence of Christ Je - sus will nour - ish us with rest and peace.
gath - er at the ta - ble where you are Wine, and you are Bread.