



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



May 16, 2021

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! Whether you are here with us in person or joining us online we welcome you to worship. Whoever you are, and wherever you are on life's journey, you are welcome here.

PRELUDE

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Barry Shelley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: We come and seek the ways of wisdom.

People: We come as one Body in Christ

Leader: We come to find peace and sing songs of love.

People: We come to be refreshed by the Spirit.

Leader: Come, let us worship.

People: Let us worship in Jesus' name!

OPENING PRAYER

Leader: Life-giving God, your love and light guides us on the path of courage, compassion, generosity, and grace. Lead us as we seek to follow your transformative love that turns sorrow into joy, and despair into hope. O God, help us embrace your guiding love that calls us to live as your faithful witnesses, who reflect your grace and redemptive love.

ALL: God, open our hearts to receive your gracious love, and strengthen us to carry the Good News of your healing power found in the light, love, and life of Jesus the Christ. Amen.

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'Siyahamba'

No. 442

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Leader: Gracious God, we confess our doubts that stifle our joy. Forgive us when we lack faith in you, and comfort us when our fears outweigh our praise. God, forgive us when we fail to trust you, and help us when we do not live as your faithful witnesses. Guiding God, forgive us when we are self-consumed and lack the time needed to serve our neighbors.

ALL: In these times, have mercy on us, O God, and encourage us to be your love-lived, by renewing us daily in your strength. We pray, Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

Luke 24:44-53

Jesus said to them, “These are my words that I spoke to you while I was still with you—that everything written about me in the Law from Moses, the Prophets, and the Psalms must be fulfilled.” Then he opened their minds to understand the scriptures. He said to them, “This is what is written: the Christ will suffer and rise from the dead on the third day, and a change of heart and life for the forgiveness of sins must be preached in his name to all nations, beginning from Jerusalem. You are witnesses of these things. Look, I’m sending to you what my Father promised, but you are to stay in the city until you have been furnished with heavenly power.”

He led them out as far as Bethany, where he lifted his hands and blessed them. As he blessed them, he left them and was taken up to heaven. They worshipped him and returned to Jerusalem overwhelmed with joy. And they were continuously in the temple praising God.

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

HYMN

‘Help Us Accept Each Other’ *(verses 1, 2, & 4)*

No. 487

(scroll down to music)

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. And lead us not into temptation but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

SPECIAL MUSIC

‘Lead Me, Guide Me’

Alisa Cassola, soloist

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Today we remember Jesus’ ascension into heaven and the way that changed the disciples’ world, and their mission. Rather than the ascension being an ending to one story it’s a signal of transition from one thing to another. In our continued practice of offering we live into that transition - with the goal of sharing God’s good news with the world and pursuing justice for all of God’s people. Give because you are able and because you want to see what good can come of it. Let us offer ourselves and all that we have now.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'I Want Jesus to Walk with Me'

No. 627

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor

Murray Kidd, Music Director

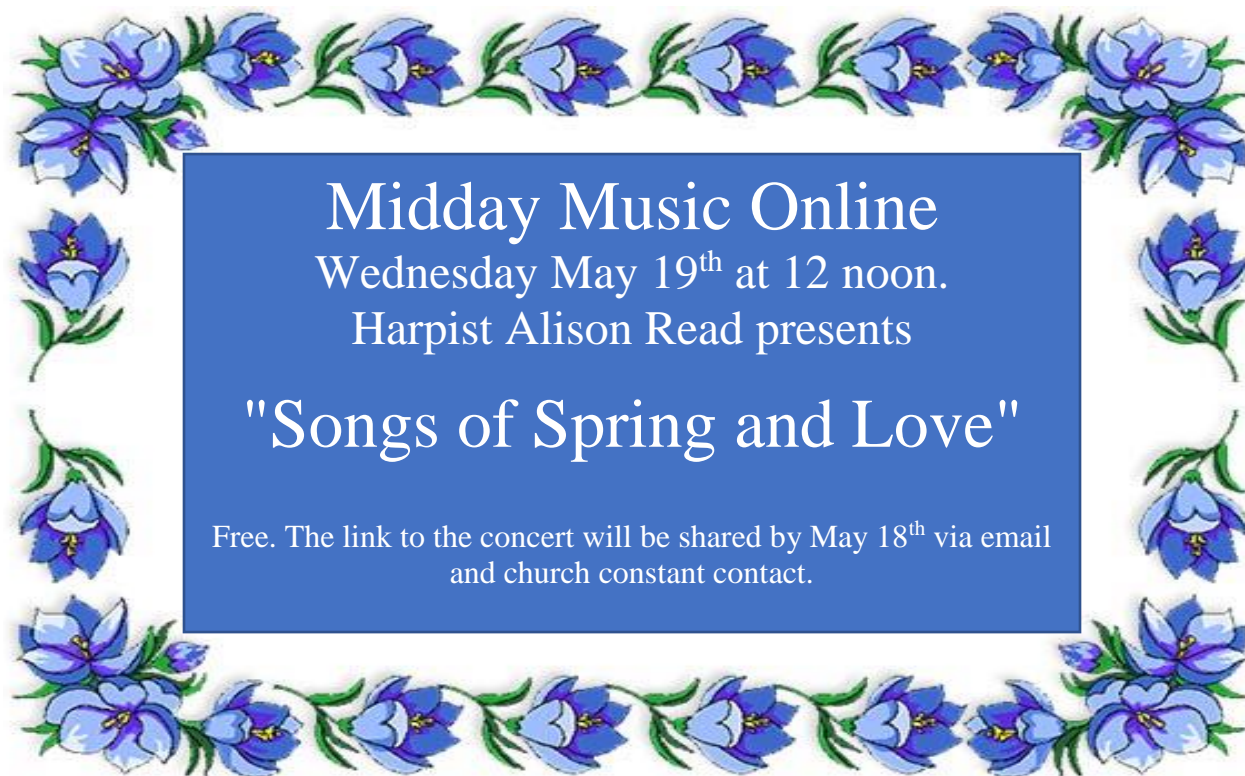
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist

Alisa Cassola, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Harvey Guillaume, Rev. Dr. Sheila. "Easter 7 B-May 16." *United Church of Christ*, 23 Apr. 2021, www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-7-b-may-16/.

²Calder, Rev. Bryce. "Re:Worship." *Ascension*, 18 May 2017, re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Ascension.



Midday Music Online
Wednesday May 19th at 12 noon.
Harpist Alison Read presents
"Songs of Spring and Love"
Free. The link to the concert will be shared by May 18th via email
and church constant contact.

We Are Walking

(Siyahamba/Caminando)

We are walk ing* in the light of God, we are
Si - ya - hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos', si - ya -
Ca - mi - nan - do en la luz de Dios, ca - mi -

walk - ing in the light of God. We are
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos. Si - ya -
nan - do en la luz de Dios. Ca - mi -

of God we are
kwen - khos' si - ya
de Dios ca - mi

walk - ing in the light of the light of God. We are
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen kha - nyen' kwen - khos'. Si - ya
nan - do en la luz de la luz de Dios. Ca - mi -

of God
kwen - khos'
de Dios

* marching/singing/dancing/praying

WORDS and MUSIC: South Africa (20th century)

SIYAHAMBA
Irr.

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walk - ing We are
ham - ba Si - ya
nan - do Ca - mi

walk - ing, we are walk - ing, walk - ing, we are
ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya - ham - ba, ham - ba, si - ya -
nan - do va - mos, ca - mi - nan - do va - mos, ca - mi -

Oo

walk - ing in the light of God.
hamb' e - ku - kha - nyen' kwen - khos.
nan - do en la luz de Dios.

Unison

1. Help us ac - cept each oth - er as Christ ac - cept - ed us;
 2. Teach us, O Lord, your les - sons, as in our dai - ly life
 3. Let your ac - cep - tance change us, so that we may be moved
 4. Lord, for to - day's en - coun - ters with all who are in need,

teach us as sis - ter, broth - er, each per - son to em - brace.
 we strug - gle to be hu - man and search for hope and faith.
 in liv - ing sit - u - a - tions to do the truth in love;
 who hun - ger for ac - cep - tance, for righ - teous - ness and bread,

Be pres - ent, Lord, a - mong us and bring us to be - lieve
 Teach us to care for peo - ple, for all, not just for some,
 to prac - tice your ac - cep - tance, un - til we know by heart
 we need new eyes for see - ing, new hands for hold - ing on;

we are our - selves ac - cept - ed and meant to love and live.
 to love them as we find them or as they may be - come.
 the ta - ble of for - give - ness and laugh - ter's heal - ing art.
 re - new us with your Spir - it; Lord, free us, make us one!

WORDS: Fred Kaan, 1974
 MUSIC: John Ness Beck, 1977

ACCEPTANCE
 76.76D

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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.

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.

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

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

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