



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



June 13, 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: Come and give thanks to our God. Sing praises to the holy name.

People: With the melody of the lute and the harp and the song in our hearts, we declare God's steadfast love in the morning and faithfulness at night.

Leader: God's works make us glad.

People: Your works are great, O God! We lift our praise and joy to you.

OPENING PRAYER

HYMN

'Many And Great, O God'

No. 58

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION *(in unison)*

Gracious God, you are indeed generous. You give us the gifts of the Spirit which enable us to have so much. We forget, however, that we have been recipients of other people's generosity. Believing that what we have is ours, we forget that all we have is yours. Forgive us. Help us to remember that being made in your image, we should be as generous as you are. Amen.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

SCRIPTURE

2 Corinthians 5:1-17

For we know that if the earthly tent we live in is destroyed, we have a building from God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. For in this tent we groan, longing to be clothed with our heavenly dwelling— if indeed, when we have taken it off we will not be found naked. For while we are still in this tent, we groan under our burden, because we wish not to be unclothed but to be further clothed, so that what is mortal may be swallowed up by life. He who has prepared us for this very thing is God, who has given us the Spirit as a guarantee.

So we are always confident; even though we know that while we are at home in the body we are away from the Lord— for we walk by faith, not by sight. Yes, we do have confidence, and we would rather be away from the body and at home with the Lord. So whether we are at home or away, we make it our aim to please him. For all of us must appear before the judgment seat of Christ, so that each may receive recompense for what has been done in the body, whether good or evil.

Therefore, knowing the fear of the Lord, we try to persuade others; but we ourselves are well known to God, and I hope that we are also well known to your consciences. We are not commending ourselves to you again, but giving you an opportunity to boast about us, so that you may be able to answer those who boast in outward appearance and not in the heart. For if we are beside ourselves, it is for God; if we are in our right mind, it is for you. For the love of Christ urges us on, because we are convinced that one has died for all; therefore all have died. And he died for all, so that those who live might live no longer for themselves, but for him who died and was raised for them.

From now on, therefore, we regard no one from a human point of view; even though we once knew Christ from a human point of view, we know him no longer in that way. So if anyone is in Christ, there is a new creation: everything old has passed away; see, everything has become new!

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

HYMN

'God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending'

No. 606

(scroll down to music)

PASTORAL PRAYER

Leader: Reconciling Christ, bless our efforts to bring about reconciliation. Give us the strength to persevere without counting the hurts, and to find within ourselves the capacity to keep on loving.

ALL: Give us the grace to be able to stand in the middle of situations, and to be a conduit for the deep listening which can lead to healing and forgiveness.

Leader: Help us to conduct ourselves with dignity, giving and expecting respect, moving from prayer to action, and from action back again into prayer.

ALL: Grant that we may be so grounded in your love, that our security is not threatened if we change our minds, or begin to see a better way to act.

Leader: We pray for those in our midst - on our prayer list and also those whose needs are not yet known to us - and we ask that you provide, through us, the healing and comfort and presence that they need.

ALL: Healing Christ, use our hands to reach out to your people in this beloved community and beyond. Move us with your love to care for and comfort all of God's children.

Leader: Bless those who are called to reconcile on a large-scale - politicians, world leaders, leaders of business and industry, and those who stand in the midst of bitter conflict.

ALL: Reconciling Christ, bless us and bless all who engage in the sacred work of envisioning new wholeness, and bringing people and nations together. AMEN.

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.

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow'

No. 620

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Jesus' teachings give us many seeds to sow in this community and beyond. It is, however, through our offering that we can nurture these seeds so all may know the gospel's promise.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN

(scroll down to music)

'I Love to Tell the Story'

New Century Hymnal No. 522

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

¹Chin, Rev. Quentin. "Pentecost 3-June 13." *United Church of Christ*, 18 May 2021, www.ucc.org/worship-way/pentecost-3-june-13/.

²Siddall, Ann. *Prayer of Intercession: 2 Corinthians 5*, 8 July 2016, re-worship.blogspot.com/2016/02/prayer-of-intercession-2-corinthians-5.html.

³Sweet, Leonard. *Prayer: Encounters with Jesus*, 3 Nov. 2016, re-worship.blogspot.com/2016/11/prayer-encounters-with-jesus.html.



MIDDAY MUSIC LIVE

Matthew Dion, guest organist and recent graduate of Oberlin Conservatory, will perform on our completed organ on Wednesday June 16th at 1 pm. Church COVID protocols in place. Sign up is required; please call the church office, email to organ@brocktonucc.org, or use the form in the church Nearly Weekly or on the Facebook page, "Christ Church Pipe Organ Series."

Many and Great, O God

1. Man - y and great, O God, are thy things, Mak - er of
 2. Grant un - to us com - mu - nion with thee, thou star a -

earth and sky. Thy hands have set the heav - ens with stars;
 bid - ing one; come un - to us and dwell with us;

thy fin - gers spread the moun - tains and plains. Lo, at thy
 with thee are found the gifts of life. Bless us with

word the wa - ters were formed; deep seas o - bey thy voice.
 life that has no end, e - ter - nal life with thee.

Suggested percussion part for hand drum or tom - tom:



WORDS: Joseph R. Renville, c. 1846; para. Philip Frazier, 1929
 MUSIC: Native American melody; harm. Richard Proulx, 1986

LACQUIPARLE
 Irr.

606 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store,
 2. Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:
 3. Treas-ure too you have en-trust-ed, gain thru powers your grace con-ferred;

na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:
 all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.
 ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel Word.

gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our-selves in praise;
 Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;
 O - pen wide our hands, in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,

thank-ful song shall rise for - ev - er, gra-cious do - nor of our days.
 born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.
 heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

WORDS: Robert L. Edwards, 1961
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON
 87.87D

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.



WORDS and MUSIC: Thomas A. Dorsey, 1943

SOMEHOW
Irr.

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♩ = 92-100

I Love to Tell the Story

Katherine Hankey, 1866; alt.

1 I love to tell the sto - ry of un - seen things a - bove.
 2 I love to tell the sto - ry; more won - der - ful it seems
 3 I love to tell the sto - ry; it's pleas - ant to re - peat
 4 I love to tell the sto - ry, for those who know it best

Born in Clapham, England, Katherine Hankey belonged to the Clapham Sect of Evangelicals and established a Bible class for girls in London's West End. This hymn is drawn from her extended poem on the life of Jesus, which also contains "Tell me the old, old story."

Tune: HANKEY 7.6.7.6.D. with refrain
 William G. Fischer, 1869

WITNESS

Of Je - sus' ra - diant glo - ry, of Je - sus' end - less love.
 than all the gold - en vi - sions of all our gold - en dreams.
 what seems, each time I tell it, more won - der - ful - ly sweet.
 seem hun - ger - ing and thirst - ing to hear it, like the rest.

I love to tell the sto - ry, be - cause I know it's true;
 I love to tell the sto - ry, I tell it now to you
 I love to tell the sto - ry, for some have nev - er heard
 And when I sing in glo - ry, I know the new, new song

it sat - is - fies my long - ings as noth - ing else can do.
 be - cause I want to share it, be - cause I know it's true.
 the mes - sage of sal - va - tion from God's own ho - ly Word.
 will be the old, old sto - ry that I have loved so long.

Refrain

I love to tell the sto - ry; and when I am in glo - ry

I'll tell the old, old sto - ry of Je - sus' end - less love.