



**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



June 27, 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**

Sue Koza

### **STATEMENT OF WELCOME**

THE LOVE OF CHRIST FOR EACH PERSON KNOWS NO BOUNDS, AND...

We, at Christ Congregational Church, United Church of Christ of Brockton, celebrate the diversity of God's creation and seek to be a community of Christians who live in openness to the voice of the Still Speaking God.

We celebrate family in all its diverse forms and honor, support, and bless all loving and committed relationships.

As we seek to live our our mission to live Christ's compassion and promote justice, healing, and wholeness of life, we welcome into our community persons of every gender, sexual orientation, gender identity and expression, mental and physical ability, age, race, nationality, economic and social status, faith background, marital standing and family structure.

We invite and welcome all to share in the life, leadership, ministry, fellowship, worship, sacraments, responsibilities, blessings, and joys of our congregation as we seek to grow together in faith and love.

We remember our promises made at baptism, therefore no matter who you are or where you are on life's journey, you are welcome to this United Church of Christ.

## CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: Sing praises to God, O you faithful ones,

**People: and give thanks to God's holy name.**

Leader: Weeping may linger for the night,

**People: but joy comes with the morning.**

Leader: You have turned my mourning into dancing,

**People: so that my soul may praise you and not be silent.**

**ALL: O God, I will give thanks to you forever.**

## OPENING PRAYER

### HYMN

'In the Midst of New Dimensions'

No. 391 NCH

*(scroll down to music)*

## A TIME FOR ALL AGES

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Jesus said, "Everyone is welcome into my kingdom, especially those on the margins.

**People: We say, "Everyone is welcome into the kingdom, except those on the margins.**

Leader: Jesus said, "Everyone is equal in the eyes of God."

**People: We say, "We have made a nice, hierarchical Church where men hold most of the power.**

Leader: Jesus said, "Everyone is made in the image of God."

**People: We say, "God is male, white, Western and definitely heterosexual."**

Leader: Jesus said, "Nothing is impossible to God."

**People: We say, "We would rather stick to the things we know are possible."**

Leader: Jesus said, Love your neighbor as yourself.

**People: We say, "I'll love my neighbor as long as they are the same as me."**

Leader: Jesus said, "Sell all you have and follow me."

**People: We say, "I would rather leave Jesus and his challenging statements at the Church's door."**

Leader: Jesus said, "Feed the hungry."

**People: We say, "I think that means feed myself first."**

Leader: Jesus said, "I have come to turn the world and its values upside down.

**People: We say, "We have turned the world back up the right way."**

**ALL: Almighty God, forgive us for the ways we seek to form the world in our own image, rather than embracing a world already created in your image. Help us to see with your eyes, to embrace with your arms, and to recognize your divine spark in each one of your children.**

**Amen.**

## WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

### SCRIPTURE

#### Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had again crossed over by boat to the other side of the lake, a large crowd gathered around him while he was by the lake. Then one of the synagogue leaders, named Jairus, came, and when he saw Jesus, he fell at his feet. He pleaded earnestly with him, "My little daughter is dying. Please come and put your hands on her so that she will be healed and live." So Jesus went with him.

A large crowd followed and pressed around him. And a woman was there who had been subject to bleeding for twelve years. She had suffered a great deal under the care of many doctors and had spent all she had, yet instead of getting better she grew worse. When she heard about Jesus, she came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, because she thought, "If I just touch his clothes, I will be healed." Immediately her bleeding stopped and she felt in her body that she was freed from her suffering.

At once Jesus realized that power had gone out from him. He turned around in the crowd and asked, "Who touched my clothes?"

"You see the people crowding against you," his disciples answered, "and yet you can ask, 'Who touched me?'"

But Jesus kept looking around to see who had done it. Then the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came and fell at his feet and, trembling with fear, told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has healed you. Go in peace and be freed from your suffering."

While Jesus was still speaking, some people came from the house of Jairus, the synagogue leader. "Your daughter is dead," they said. "Why bother the teacher anymore?"

Overhearing what they said, Jesus told him, "Don't be afraid; just believe."

He did not let anyone follow him except Peter, James and John the brother of James. When they came to the home of the synagogue leader, Jesus saw a commotion, with people crying and wailing loudly. He went in and said to them, "Why all this commotion and wailing? The child is not dead but asleep." But they laughed at him.

After he put them all out, he took the child's father and mother and the disciples who were with him, and went in where the child was. He took her by the hand and said to her, "*Talitha koum!*" (which means "Little girl, I say to you, get up!"). Immediately the girl stood up and began to walk around (she was twelve years old). At this they were completely astonished. He gave strict orders not to let anyone know about this, and told them to give her something to eat.

## **SERMON**

*Talitha Koum*

Rev. Katrina Clinton

## **HYMN**

'Draw us in the Spirit's Tether'

No. 392

*(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.**

## **ANTHEM**

'Sweet, Sweet Spirit'

No. 261

*(scroll down to music)*

## CALL FOR OFFERINGS

*A Gay Psalm (written by Sigrid Rutishauser-James)*

Give praise to God, Give praise with all your being!  
Let lips that have not dared to speak should words of praise!  
Let hearts restrained through hurt and fear share love in praise!  
Let hands rejected, tied, and ignored build works of praise!  
Let minds, crushed by silent torment, create new praise!  
Let every life constricted and cramped release its praise!  
Give praise to God, offer God your praise with all your being!

[www.brocktonucc.org/donate/](http://www.brocktonucc.org/donate/)

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

### HYMN

'In This Very Room'

No. 295

*(scroll down to music)*

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor  
Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor  
Rev. Katrina Clinton, Guest Preacher  
Murray Kidd, Music Director  
Sylvia Berry, Accompanist  
Alisa Cassola, Soloist  
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter  
Adam Morales, Worship Leader  
Eva Lomba, Worship Leader

<sup>1</sup>Written by Rev. Katrina Clinton for Christ Congregational Church's PRIDE worship service, June 27<sup>th</sup> 2021.

<sup>2</sup>Duncan, Geoffrey, and Jay Hulme. *Courage to Love: Liturgies for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community*, Pilgrim Press, 2002, pp. 97–97.

<sup>3</sup>B, Suzi. *Courage to Love: Liturgies for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community*, edited by Geoffrey Duncan, Pilgrim Press, 2002, pp. 92–93.

<sup>4</sup>Tuck, Duncan L. *Courage to Love: Liturgies for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community*, edited by Geoffrey Duncan, Pilgrim Press, 2002, pp. 42–42.

<sup>5</sup>Hulme, Jay. *Courage to Love: Liturgies for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community*, edited by Geoffrey Duncan, Pilgrim Press, 2002, pp. 100–101. Adapted.

<sup>6</sup>Rutishauser-James, Sigrid. *Courage to Love: Liturgies for the Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual and Transgender Community*, edited by Geoffrey Duncan, Pilgrim Press, 2002, pp. 219–219.

# In the Midst of New Dimensions

391

Julian Rush, 1985; alt.

Gen. 9:12-16; Exod. 13:21-22; Num. 14:14

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G7sus4 G7

1 In the midst of new di-men-sions, in the face of chang-ing ways,  
 2 Through the flood of starv-ing peo - ple, war-ring fac-tions and de - spair,  
 3 As we stand a world di - vid - ed by our own self - seek - ing schemes,  
 4 We are man and we are wom-an, all per-sua-sions, old and young,  
 5 Should the threats of dire pre-dic-tions cause us to with - draw in pain,

C C/B F C F Am7 Dm7 G C

Who will lead the pil - grim peo - ples wan-dering in their sep - arate ways?  
 Who will lift the ol - ive branch-es? Who will light the flame of care?  
 Grant that we, your glob - al vil - lage, might en - vi - sion wid - er dreams.  
 Each a gift in your cre - a - tion, each a love song to be sung.  
 May your blaz-ing phoe-nix spir - it res - ur - rect the church a - gain.

*Refrain*  
 Am Em F C F C G7 C Dsus4 D7 G7sus4/G7 Am

God of rain-bow, fier - y pil - lar, lead-ing where the ea-gles soar, We your

Em F C F C/E F C/E F C/E Dm7 G7 C

peo-ple, ours the jour-ney now and ev - er, now and ev - er, now and ev - er - more.

Julian Rush, an ordained minister in the United Methodist Church, has spent more than a decade as director of the Colorado AIDS Project. He wrote this hymn on the theme of "diversity" for a meeting of the Rocky Mountain Conference (United Methodist).

Tune: NEW DIMENSIONS 8.7.8.7. with refrain  
 Julian Rush, 1985  
 Arr. The New Century Hymnal, 1994

*Unison*

1. Draw us in the Spir-it's te - ther, for when hum - bly  
 2. As dis - ci - ples used to gath - er in the name of  
 3. All our meals and all our liv - ing make as sac - ra -

in your name, two or three are met to - geth - er, you are  
 Christ to sup, then with thanks to God the giv - er break the  
 ments of you, that by car - ing, help - ing, giv - ing, we may

in the midst of them; Al - le - lu - ya! Al - le -  
 bread and bless the cup, Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le -  
 be dis - ci - ples true. Al - le - lu - ya, Al - le -

lu - ya! Touch we now your gar - ment's hem.  
 lu - ya, so now bind our friend - ship up.  
 lu - ya, we will serve with faith a - new.

WORDS: Percy Dearmer, 1931, alt.  
 MUSIC: Harold Friedell, 1957; adapt. Jet Turner, 1967

UNION SEMINARY  
 87.87.44.7

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 Brothers Publications; adapt. © 1967 Chalice Press

There's a sweet, sweet Spir - it in this place, and I

know that it's the Spir - it of the Lord; there are

sweet ex - pres - sions on each face, and I

know they feel the pres - ence of the Lord.

*Refrain*

Sweet Ho - ly Spir - it, sweet heav - en - ly Dove, stay right here

WORDS and MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1962

SWEET, SWEET SPIRIT  
Irr. w. refrain

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with us, fill - ing us with your love; and for these bless - ings

we lift our hearts in praise; with - out a doubt we'll know

that we have been re - vived when we shall leave this place.

## In This Very Room

1. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for one like me,  
 2. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all of us,  
 3. In this ver-y room there's quite e-nough love for all the world,

and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for one like me;  
 and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all of us;  
 and in this ver-y room there's quite e-nough joy for all the world;

and there's quite e-nough hope, and

quite e-nough pow'r to chase a-way an-y gloom, for

Je - sus, Lord Je - sus, is in this ver-y room.

WORDS and MUSIC: Ron and Carol Harris, 1979

IN THIS VERY ROOM  
 lrr.

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