



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

Communion Sunday



July 4, 2021

9:55 am

Welcome to worship! We are glad to join together for worship in person and 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

Moriah Illsley

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: The prophets of old spoke of God's justice, even when it was unwelcome.
Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Responding to God's call, Jesus traveled, preaching and teaching all who would listen.
Who will hear his message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: Christ sent out disciples two by two, to spread the good news in any place that would welcome them. Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

Leader: God's prophets are among us still, around the world and in these pews.
Who will hear their message?

Congregation: We will listen and we will hear!

HYMN

'Just a Closer Walk with Thee'

No. 557

(scroll down to music)

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Holy One of Nazareth,

We see you calm storms, heal illness, even restore life,

Yet we still struggle to trust you.

You send us out,

But we want to stay home.

You provide partners for the journey,

But we want to go it alone.

You give us authority over evil,

But we don't know how to use it.

You say we need only the clothes on our back and a staff in our hand,

But we pile the car full of food, clothes, tools and toys.

We make sure our phones are charged and our GPS is on.

You tell us to accept hospitality,

But we don't like to put people out.

You say that if people are unkind,

we should simply shake the dust off of our feet,

But we would rather get mad and post about it on Facebook.

We have much to learn from you, Jesus,

about traveling gracefully through this life.

Forgive our failings and grant us a deeper trust.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

HYMN

'There's a Wideness in God's Mercy'

No. 73

(scroll down to music)

SCRIPTURE

Mark 6:1-13

He left that place and came to his hometown, and his disciples followed him. On the sabbath he began to teach in the synagogue, and many who heard him were astounded. They said, "Where did this man get all this? What is this wisdom that has been given to him? What deeds of power are being done by his hands! Is not this the carpenter, the son of Mary and brother of James and Joses and Judas and Simon, and are not his sisters here with us?" And they took offense at him. Then Jesus said to them, "Prophets are not without honor, except in their hometown, and among their own kin, and in their own house." And he could do no deed of power there, except that he laid his hands on a few sick people and cured them. And he was amazed at their unbelief.

Then he went about among the villages teaching. He called the twelve and began to send them out two by two, and gave them authority over the unclean spirits. He ordered them to take nothing for their journey except a staff; no bread, no bag, no money in their belts; but to wear sandals and not to put on two tunics. He said to them, "Wherever you enter a house, stay there until you leave the place. If any place will not welcome you and they refuse to hear you, as you leave, shake off the dust that is on your feet as a testimony against them." So they went out and proclaimed that all should repent. They cast out many demons, and anointed with oil many who were sick and cured them.

SERMON

Pastor Ann-Marie Illsley

HYMN

'Be Still, My Soul'

No. 566

(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.

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

Having heard God's call to generosity, let us listen and respond with open hearts.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Richard Spicer

Movement from "Handel's Celebrated *Water Musick* Compleat Set for the Harpsichord"
George Frideric Handel (1685-1759)

PRAYER OF DEDICATION



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

GREAT PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Leader: Friends, God is here.

People: God's Spirit is with us.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to the God of love.

People: It is right to offer thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right to give you our thanks and praise, O God, for you have sent your Own as the Savior of the world and your Spirit to graft us into the vine of life. In your Child, Jesus Christ, we have seen your promises fulfilled, and through the resurrection...

People: Christ has broken the power of death.

Leader: In your perfect love, our fear is cast out and now, like branches of a vine, we live in Christ and draw our life from Christ...

People: ...that we might bear much fruit to your glory.

REMEMBERING THE STORY

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND THE POURING OF THE CUP

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

Leader: This bread that we have broken is the bread of life. It is the sign of Christ's body.

People: It is the sign of our unity with one another in the Spirit of love and peace.

Leader: Take, eat, and be one with him.

Leader: This is Jesus, the true vine, without whom we can do nothing. This cup is a sign of God's ever flowing love, through the true vine, into our very lives.

People: Through this cup we receive God's love, which will enable us to bear good fruit.

Leader: Take, drink, and be one in his love.

COMMUNION HYMN

No. 111

C G7 Am F G C
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

F G7 C Am F G7 C
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!

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

God of all fruitfulness, we thank you for giving us the true vine, Jesus Christ. We know that Christ abides in us by the Spirit given to us. Separated from Christ we can do nothing. Enable us to love one another, not only in word, but in truth and action, just as Christ has commanded us. We ask this in the name of our Savior. Amen.

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Voluntary in A Major

William Selby (1738?-1798)

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor

Richard Spicer, Accompanist

Carol Bradford, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Taylor, Rev. Dr. Laurel Koepf Susan A. "To Hear and Be Heard: An Intergenerational Service for the Sixth Sunday after Pentecost July 4, 2021." *United Church of Christ*, 28 June 2021, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/pentecost-6-july-4/>.

²Harader, Joanna. "Prayer of Confession." *re:Worship*, 2 July 2018, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2018/07/prayer-of-confession-mark-6.html>



Just a Closer Walk with Thee 557

1. I am weak, but thou art strong; Je - sus, keep me from all wrong;
 2. Through this world of toil and snares, if I fal - ter, Lord, who cares?
 3. When my fee - ble life is o'er, time for me will be no more;
 Refrain: Just a clos - er walk with thee, grant it, Je - sus, is my plea,

D. C. for Refrain

I'll be sat - is - fied as long as I walk, let me walk close to thee.
 Who with me my bur - den shares? None but thee, dear Lord, none but thee.
 guide me gent - ly, safe - ly o'er to thy shore, dear Lord, to thy shore.
 dai - ly walk - ing close to thee: let it be, dear Lord, let it be.

WORDS and MUSIC: Anonymous

CLOSER WALK
 Irr. w. refrain

There's a Wideness in God's Mercy

73

1. There's a wide-ness in God's mer-cy like the wide-ness of the sea;
2. There is wel-come for the sin-ner, and more grac-es for the good!
3. For the love of God is broad-er than the meas-ure of our mind;
4. If our love were but more sim-ple, we should rest up-on God's word;

there's a kind-ness in God's jus-tice, which is more than lib - er - ty.
There is mer - cy with the Sav-ior; there is heal - ing in his blood.
and the heart of the E - ter-nal is most won-der - ful - ly kind.
and our lives would be il - lu-mined by the pres-ence of our Lord.

WORDS: Frederick W. Faber, 1854

MUSIC: Lizzie S. Tourjee, 1877; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

WELLESLEY
87.87

Harm. © 1989 The United Methodist Publishing House

1. Be still, my soul: for God is on your side;
 2. Be still, my soul: for God will un - der - take
 3. Be still, my soul: the hour is has - tening on

bear pa - tient - ly the cross of grief or pain.
 to guide the fu - ture sure - ly as the past.
 when we shall dwell with God for - ev - er more,

Trust in your God, your sav - ior and your guide,
 Your hope, your con - fi - dence let noth - ing shake;
 when dis - ap - point - ment, grief, and fear are gone,

who through all chang - es faith - ful will re - main.
 all now mys - te - rious shall be bright at last.
 sor - row for - got, love's pur - est joys re - stored.

WORDS: Katharina von Schlegel, 1752; tr. Jane Borthwick, 1855, alt.
 MUSIC: Jean Sibelius, 1899; arr. *The Hymnal*, 1933

FINLANDIA
 11 10.11 10.11 10

Arr. © 1933, renewed 1961, Presbyterian Board of Christian Education

Be still, my soul: your best, your heaven - ly friend
 Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still know
 Be still, my soul: when change and tears are past,

through thorn - y ways leads to a peace - ful end.
 the voice that calmed them in this world be - low.
 all safe and bless - ed we shall meet at last.