



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



February 20, 2022

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.

*\*A NOTE ABOUT CONGREGATIONAL SINGING: Over the past several months we have asked that you refrain from singing out loud during hymns if you are worshiping with us in person. **At the most recent meeting of the Phasing Forward Task Force the decision was made to allow congregational humming, or soft singing, during our hymns.** Everyone will be required to remain masked while singing, and we sincerely encourage you to hum or sing softly to help reduce the risk of spread. If you have any questions about this, or any of our other COVID-19 protocols please contact Pastor Jeff or a member of our Phasing Forward Task Force.*

**RINGING OF THE CHIMES (9:55 AM)**

**WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Sue Koza, Moderator

**\*HYMN**

'The Lord Will Make a Way Somehow'

No. 620

*(scroll down to music)*

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: Jesus says - Find me at your table,

**People: We'll share your food.**

Leader: Jesus says - Find me in your resources,

**People: We'll share your riches.**

Leader: Jesus says - Find me in your power,

**People: We'll share your mercy.**

Leader: Jesus says - Find me in your pain,

**People: We'll share your forgiveness.**

Leader: Jesus says - Find me in your generosity,

**People: We'll share all, and expect nothing in return.**

Leader: Jesus says - In community, seek my holiness,

**People: We follow you in love, generosity, and joy.**

Leader: Jesus says - In the world, share my desire,

**People: We follow you in justice, mercy, and peace for all.**

## OPENING PRAYER

### A TIME FOR ALL AGES

*(children may be excused to their program after a time for all ages)*

#### HYMN

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

No. 583

*(scroll down to music)*

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Holy One, your call is deceptively simple - "Do to others as you would have them do to you" and yet we cling to self-serving ways which separate us from your beloved creation. Almighty and grace-filled God, hear us now as we confess together.

You call us to turn our lives around, to risk repentance and learn forgiveness, to work with patience and diligence to prepare the way for your Reign - but we get discouraged and give up too soon.

**ALL: Lord, have mercy.**

Leader: You call us to be full of joyful confidence to create community where all have enough for abundant life, but we burden ourselves with anxiety and fear.

**ALL: Christ, have mercy.**

Leader: You call us to speak out in the presence of injustice, but too often we do not challenge words and actions rooted in hate.

**ALL: Holy One, have mercy. Amen.**

### WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

#### SCRIPTURE

##### Luke 6:27-38

But I say to you who are willing to hear: Love your enemies. Do good to those who hate you. Bless those who curse you. Pray for those who mistreat you. If someone slaps you on the cheek, offer the other one as well. If someone takes your coat, don't withhold your shirt either. Give to everyone who asks and don't demand your things back from those who take them. Treat people in the same way that you want them to treat you.

"If you love those who love you, why should you be commended? Even sinners love those who love them. If you do good to those who do good to you, why should you be commended? Even sinners do that. If you lend to those from whom you expect repayment, why should you be commended? Even sinners lend to sinners expecting to be paid back in full. Instead, love your enemies, do good, and lend expecting nothing in return. If you do, you will have a great reward. You will be acting the way children of the Most High act, for he is kind to ungrateful and wicked people. Be compassionate just as your Father is compassionate.

"Don't judge, and you won't be judged. Don't condemn, and you won't be condemned. Forgive, and you will be forgiven. Give, and it will be given to you. A good portion—packed down, firmly shaken, and overflowing—will fall into your lap. The portion you give will determine the portion you receive in return.

#### SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

#### HYMN

'Help Us Accept Each Other'

No. 487

*(scroll down for words)*

## PASTORAL PRAYER

### LORD'S PRAYER *(in unison)*

Our Creator (Father) who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy Kin-dom 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 Kin-dom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

### HYMN

'Precious Lord, Take My Hand'

No. 628

*(scroll down for words)*

## CALL FOR OFFERINGS

When we give our tithes and offerings, we are witnesses to the transforming love of God in Christ. We invite you to give as generously as you have received as we receive this morning's offering.

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

### OFFERTORY

'There is a Balm in Gilead'

arr. Mark Hayes

### DOXOLOGY

'My Tribute'

No. 39

*(scroll down for words)*

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Leader: Accept these gifts, we humbly pray, O God. Let them give you honor and glory as we serve the needs of your people. And let us all say together, as the called and redeemed of God,  
**ALL: Amen.**

### HYMN

'We've Come This Far by Faith'

No. 533

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

### Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor  
Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor  
Murray Kidd, Music Director  
Sylvia Berry, Organist  
Alisa Cassola, Soloist  
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

<sup>1</sup>Blain, Rev. Susan A. "Epiphany 7C-February 20." *United Church of Christ*, 6 Dec. 2021, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/epiphany-7c-february-20/>.

<sup>2</sup>Mark Landis, Susan. "Reflection: Loving Enemies." *Reflection: Loving Enemies*, 6 Feb. 2014, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2014/02/reflection-loving-enemies.html>.

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## 2022 Lenten Friday Take-Out Dinners Overview

One less thing to do on Friday night. During the 6 Fridays of Lent, Christ Congregational Church (CCC) will be selling dinners for pick-up. Beginning Friday, March 4<sup>th</sup> through Friday, April 8<sup>th</sup> swing by the CCC church kitchen between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. for a fully prepared, delicious meal.

Many of the planned menu items offer recipe options for vegetarians and/or gluten-free needs. Dinners will be sold as small, 2 portion size, and large, 4 portion family size. Generally dinners will be priced small \$20.00 and large \$35.00; please refer to weekly order sheets for details.

Our famous and favorite Macaroni and Cheese will be available every week.

Desserts will be offered each week; no drinks are planned.

Orders and payment must be received by noon the Wednesday (*payments may be made on-line and/or by credit card*) prior to the Friday night dinner.

Please let neighbors and friends know of our Lenten Friday Dinners, everyone is welcome to order. During Lent plan a stop through the CCC kitchen parking area.

Here are the Lenten Friday Weekly Dinner Menus:

- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 2<sup>nd</sup> for Friday March 4<sup>th</sup>: Chicken Divan
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 9<sup>th</sup> for Friday March 11<sup>th</sup>: Chili/ Vegetarian Chili
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 16<sup>th</sup> for Friday March 18<sup>th</sup>: Lasagna and Meatballs
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 23<sup>rd</sup> for Friday March 25<sup>th</sup>: Corn Chowder / Soup
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 30<sup>th</sup> for Friday April 1<sup>st</sup>: Chicken, Broccoli and Ziti  
or Rice
- ❖ Order by noon Wednesday April 6<sup>th</sup> for Friday April 8<sup>th</sup>: Shepherd's Pie

Also Available for Purchase Each Week are:

- Macaroni and Cheese
- Dessert

e-mail us: [LentenTakeOut@brocktonucc.org](mailto:LentenTakeOut@brocktonucc.org)



### [STAR WORD TESTIMONIAL SIGNUP LINK](#)

For 2022 we're going to take a new step with our tradition of star words by leaving open four Sundays where anyone from the congregation can sign up to give a testimonial about what their star word has meant to them. If you don't like speaking in front of folks, but you'd still like to share, please contact Pastor Jeff as we may be able to find someone to read something you've written. You can also feel free to be creative with your testimonial - write a song or a poem, choreograph a dance, paint a picture, or build something... use your creative gifts to express how God is speaking to you this year.

The link below is for the sign up sheet and it has four Sundays already set aside. However, if there are more than four folks out there who would like to share we can certainly always add more throughout the year - just let Pastor Jeff know the list is full by emailing [pastor@brocktonucc.org](mailto:pastor@brocktonucc.org). This is an invitation to our ENTIRE Beloved Community - whether you're 2 or 102 - please step forward and share if you feel so moved. Our Beloved Community will be better for it!

[CLICK HERE TO SIGNUP FOR A STAR WORD TESTIMONIAL DATE](#)



You can also send in a little article, comment, picture, etc. about your Star Word to be put in the monthly Courier. Send it to the office ([office@brocktonucc.org](mailto:office@brocktonucc.org)) or just drop it off on Deana's desk.

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  
 ltr.

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♩ = 92-100

*Refrain*

The Lord will make a way some - how, when be - neath the cross I  
 some - how,

bow; He will take a - way each sor - row, let him have your  
 I bow; way each sor - row,

bur - dens now; when the load bears down so heav - y the  
 all your bur - dens; down so heav - y,

weight is shown up - on my brow, there's a sweet re - lief in  
 on my brow,

know - ing, oh, the Lord will make a way some - how.  
 in know - ing some - how.

## Lead Me, Guide Me

Lead me, guide me, a - long the way,

for if you lead me, I can - not stray.

Lord, let me walk each day with thee.

WORDS: Doris Akers, 1953  
 MUSIC: Doris Akers, 1953; harm. Richard Smallwood

LEAD ME GUIDE ME  
 Irr.

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Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

*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  
 © 1974, 1977, Hope Publishing Co.

ACCEPTANCE  
 76.76D  
 ♩=64-72

1. Pre-cious Lord, take my hand, lead me on, let me stand,  
 2. When my way grows drear, pre-cious Lord, lin-ger near,  
 3. When the dark-ness ap-pears and the night draws near,

I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;  
 when my life is al-most gone,  
 and the day is past and gone,

through the storm, through the night, lead me on to the light:  
 hear my cry, hear my call, hold my hand lest I fall:  
 at the riv-er I stand, guide my feet, hold my hand:

*Refrain*  
 Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

To God be the glo - ry, to God be the glo - ry,

to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done.

With his blood Christ has saved me; with your power you have raised me;

to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done.

WORDS and MUSIC: Andraé Crouch, 1971

MY TRIBUTE  
lrr.

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♩=92-100

# We've Come This Far by Faith 533

*Unison*

We've come this far by faith, lean-ing on the

Lord; trust-ing in his ho-ly word,

he's nev-er failed me yet. O

can't turn a-round, we've come this far by faith.

WORDS: Albert A. Goodson, 1965  
MUSIC: Albert A. Goodson, 1965; harm. Richard Smallwood

FAITH  
Irr.