



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 13, 2022

9:55 am

"GATHER"

People gather around Jesus as his reputation becomes known from town to town. As we gather virtually and physically, we too are yearning for presence, for peace, for help.

PRELUDE (9:50 AM)

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

'Let There Be Peace On Earth'

INTRODUCTION OF LENTEN THEME

THRESHOLD MOMENT - (Music - Holy Vessels - Chuck Bell/Marcia McFee)

Leader: We continue our Lenten "season of recovery" as we focus on health as essential to our spiritual lives.

(sung together)

**Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.**

Leader: God gathers us as a Beachcomber gathers and marvels at every precious surviving piece of beach glass she finds. We are never alone, we are never lost to the One who seeks humanity's wholeness. We affirm our commitment to be the Body of Christ that knows we cannot be personally healed until we see the interconnected community as part of the process of healing. Jesus has the power to re-vision the family of God in which false boundaries are overcome. In a year of devastating loss of livelihood, we consider the economic health that reimagines status quo.

(sung together)

**Vessels, holy and whole
Broken, needing the One
Open, body and soul
Healer, come.**

“APPROACH”

People opened their lives to Jesus. We are also drawn to the Healer - opening our hearts with honesty about our lives and finding assurance that offers peace.

OPENING PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Leader: Let us acknowledge our need to restore, repair, renew our Holy Vessels, which include the communities of which we are a part. Let us pray:

ALL: God of All,

You created us for each other. You set in us a yearning for companionship and an empathy that binds us together, protecting each other and delighting in one another.

Yet too often we have broken down our relationships instead of building them up.

We have been set against one another with the lie of scarcity.

We have built systems and economies that widen the gap of resources rather than safeguarding equitable practices.

Too many, and growing numbers, are suffering hardship, food insecurity, joblessness.

We cannot fathom the proportions of loss and so we look away, sometimes even from the need in our own community.

Help us, Healer.

Show us our empathy.

Forgive our complacency.

Move us to move

one step at a time toward greater care for one another.

In this silence, we sense and acknowledge our yearning for wholeness.

Silence

(sung together)

Vessels, holy and whole

Broken, needing the One

Open, body and soul

Healer, come.

WORDS OF FORGIVENESS

Know this: This love and security is meant for all people.

No. Matter. What.

We are capable of sharing our light and not running out of “enough.”

Christ’s hospitality that broke through false boundaries points the way.

For you, for me, for all.

Take a deep breath in to let this truth fill you...

and breathe out with the relief of assurance.

MOMENT OF PEACE & LIGHTING THE PEACE LAMP/CANDLE

Leader: The peace of Christ is with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Share a socially distant sign of Christ’s peace with those gathered here, and those joining us from home, by waving or some other gesture of wellbeing!

"BELIEVE"

People were fortified by Jesus' words and deeds that revealed care for all - especially those who were marginalized. We strengthen our belief in the possibility for renewed health and vigor for all.

TIME FOR ALL AGES

HYMN

'Community of Christ, Chalice'

No. 655

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 8: 5-13

When he entered Capernaum, a centurion came to him, appealing to him and saying, "Lord, my servant is lying at home paralyzed, in terrible distress." And he said to him, "I will come and cure him." The centurion answered, "Lord, I am not worthy to have you come under my roof; but only speak the word, and my servant will be healed. For I also am a man under authority, with soldiers under me; and I say to one, 'Go,' and he goes, and to another, 'Come,' and he comes, and to my slave, 'Do this,' and the slave does it." When Jesus heard him, he was amazed and said to those who followed him, "Truly I tell you, in no one in Israel have I found such faith. I tell you, many will come from east and west and will eat with Abraham and Isaac and Jacob in the kingdom of heaven, while the heirs of the kingdom will be thrown into the outer darkness, where there will be weeping and gnashing of teeth." And to the centurion Jesus said, "Go; let it be done for you according to your faith." And the servant was healed in that hour.

SERMON

Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley

"ASK"

People who were healed by Jesus were not afraid to ask. And so we come before the Holy One, making our petitions and desires known, trusting the work of the Spirit.

SONG OF PREPARATION

'Day by Day'

No. 599

PASTORAL PRAYER

PRAYER OF JESUS *(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.

"KNOW"

**The parting words Jesus gave to those he healed were often as much balm as the healing act itself. We hear words of encouragement from the One who makes beauty from brokenness.*

ANTHEM

'I Would Be True'

Undine Smith Moore

I would be true, for there are those who trust me;
I would be pure, for there are those who care;
I would be strong, for there is much to suffer;
I would be brave, for there is much to dare.

I would be friend of all—the foe, the friendless;
I would be giving, and forget the gift;
I would be humble, for I know my weakness;
I would look up, and laugh, and love, and lift.

I would be faithful through each passing moment;
I would be constantly in touch with God;
I would be strong to follow where God leads me;
I would have faith to keep the path Christ trod.

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY

'Teach Me Thy Song, O Lord'

Craig Courtney

DOXOLOGY

'My Tribute'

No. 39

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

“RESPOND”

Scriptural accounts of healing often end with responses from the “crowd” of witnesses. How will we proceed into the brokenness of this world and respond as the Body of Christ?

HYMN

'The Voice of God is Calling'

No. 666

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Now go with confidence
that the Holy Beachcomber is gathering us all for “Safe Keeping,”
recovering our depth of love for all
and our joy of living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears:
“I will come.”

And may the Spirit hover, move, and deliver
salve to your soul
and a spring in your step.

Amen.

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

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

Christ Congregational Church, UCC
1350 Pleasant Street
Brockton, MA 02301
508.586.3022 e-mail us: LentenTakeOut@brocktonucc.org

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 4th through Friday, April 8th 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 beginning next week, February 24th.

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.

Orders from the general public are welcome for our Pick-Up Lenten Friday Dinners. 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 2nd for Friday March 4th: Chicken Divan
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 9th for Friday March 11th: Chili/ Butternut Vegetable Chili
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 16th for Friday March 18th: Lasagna and Meatballs
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 23rd for Friday March 25th: Corn Chowder / Soup
- ❖ Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 30th for Friday April 1st: Chicken, Broccoli and Ziti or Rice
- ❖ Order by noon Wednesday April 6th for Friday April 8th: Shepherd's Pie

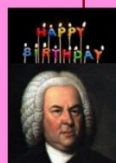
Also Available for Purchase Each Week are:

- Macaroni and Cheese
- Dessert

Questions? Please e-mail us: LentenTakeOut@brocktonucc.org

ARTS & MUSIC AT CHRIST CHURCH PRESENTS

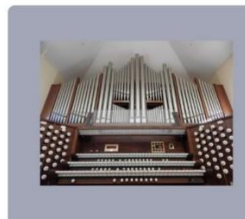
BACH BIRTHDAY BASH
SUNDAY, MARCH 27 at 3:00 PM
Richard Spicer, Organist
Music of the Young
J.S. Bach



At Christ Congregational Church
1350 Pleasant Street, Brockton
508-586-3022
E-mail: boardofmusic@brocktonucc.org
•All parking in rear of building
•Handicapped Accessible

Admission:
\$10 Adults
\$5 Seniors & Students
Children under 12 FREE

With support from
the
**Brockton
Cultural Council**



Christ Congregational Church, UCC

The Board of Christian Education
is hosting

PARENT'S NIGHT OUT

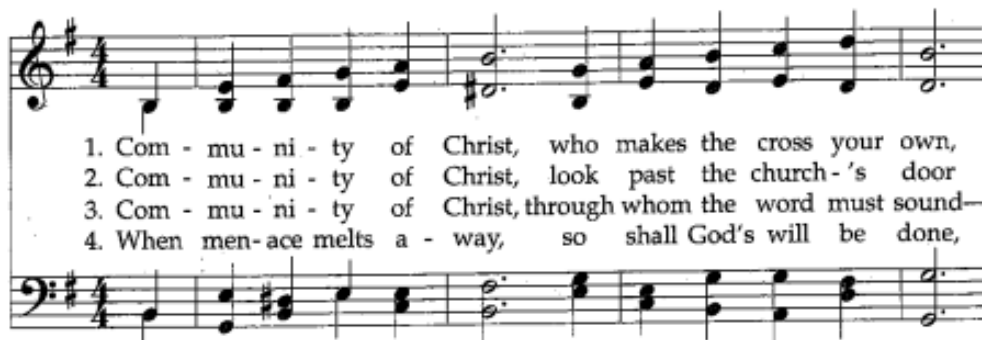
Saturday, March 26, 2022
5-8 PM

Let us care for your little ones while you enjoy some self-care! Kids will have an evening of fun activities, dinner, and a movie at the church. Pajamas encouraged!

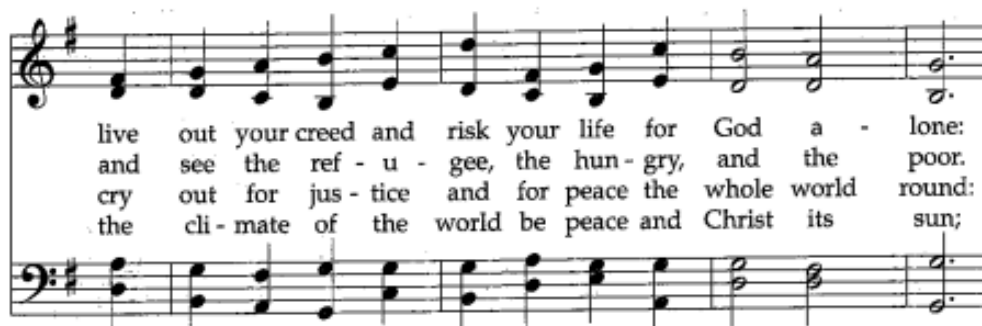
Registration required
Deadline - March 19th

Go to - tinyurl.com/PNOatCCC

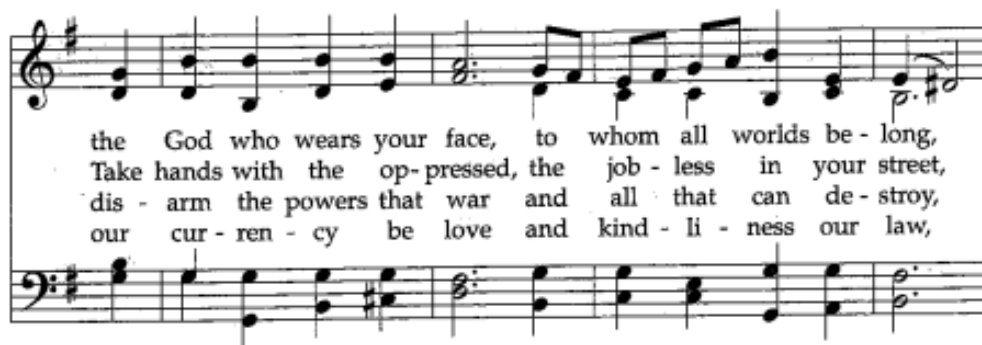
Or take a photo of me



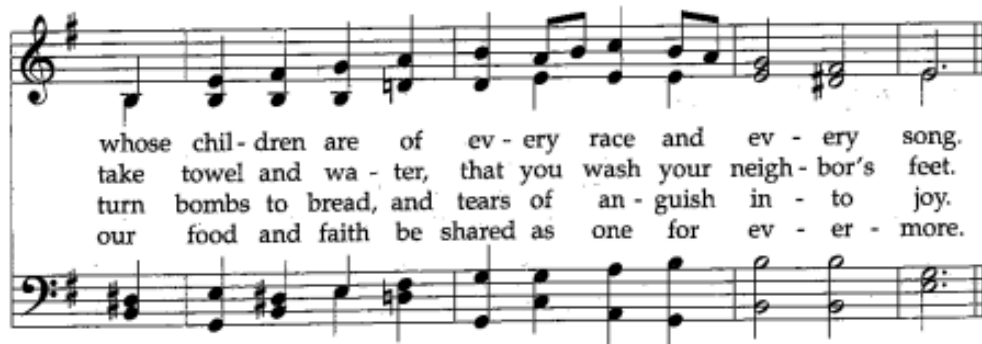
1. Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, who makes the cross your own,
 2. Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, look past the church - 's door
 3. Com - mu - ni - ty of Christ, through whom the word must sound—
 4. When men - ace melts a - way, so shall God's will be done,



live out your creed and risk your life for God a - lone:
 and see the ref - u - gee, the hun - gry, and the poor.
 cry out for jus - tice and for peace the whole world round:
 the cli - mate of the world be peace and Christ its sun;



the God who wears your face, to whom all worlds be - long,
 Take hands with the op - pressed, the job - less in your street,
 dis - arm the powers that war and all that can de - stroy,
 our cur - ren - cy be love and kind - li - ness our law,



whose chil - dren are of ev - ery race and ev - ery song.
 take towel and wa - ter, that you wash your neigh - bor's feet.
 turn bombs to bread, and tears of an - guish in - to joy.
 our food and faith be shared as one for ev - er - more.

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, 1985
 MUSIC: Hebrew melody; arr. Meyer Leoni, 1780

LEONI
 66.84D

Day by Day

Day by day, day by day,

O, dear Lord, three things I pray:

to see thee more clear - ly, love thee more dear - ly,

fol - low thee more near - ly, day by day.

day by day, by day, by day, by day.

* Small notes only on repeat

WORDS: Attr. Richard of Chichester (13th century), alt.
MUSIC: Stephen Schwartz, 1971

GODSPELL
Irr.

Music © 1971 Range Road Music Inc., Quartet Music, Inc., and New Cadenza Music Corp.

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.

© 1971 Communiqué, Inc., a div. of The Sparrow Corp.

♩=92-100

1. The voice of God is call - ing to wom-en and to men;
 2. I hear my peo-ple cry - ing in slum and mine and mill;
 3. We heed, O God, your sum-mons, and an-swer: Here are we!
 4. From ease and plen-ty save us; from pride of place ab - solve;

the voice once heard in Zi - on, re-sounds on earth a - gain:
 no field or mart is si - lent, no cit - y street is still.
 Send us up - on your er - rand; let us your ser - vants be.
 purge us of low de - sire; lift us to high re - solve;

whom shall I send to suc - cor my peo-ple in their need?
 I see my peo-ple fall - ing in dark-ness and de - spair.
 Our strength is dust and ash - es, our years a pass - ing hour,
 take us, and make us ho - ly; teach us your will and way.

Whom shall I send to loos - en the bonds of shame and greed?
 Whom shall I send to shat - ter the fet - ters which they bear?
 But you can use our weak - ness to mag - ni - fy your power.
 Speak, and, be - hold! we an - swer; com - mand, and we o - bey!

WORDS: John Haynes Holmes, 1913, alt.
 MUSIC: William Lloyd, 1840

MEIRIONYDD
 76.76D