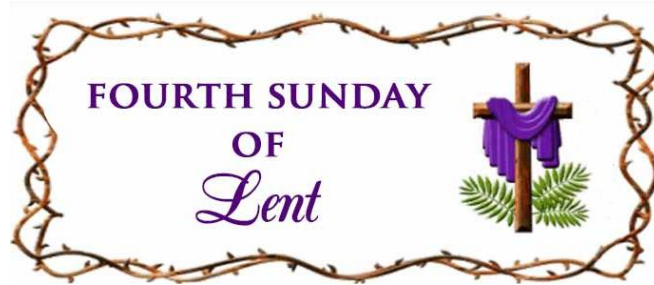




CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 27, 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

‘For the Healing of the Nations’

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: Prolonged times of difficulty can impede our ability to stay creative. The picture of our lives is dulled and hope for a brighter future can fade. We need a touch of inspiration to awaken us from our sleep, as we hear in one of this week’s healing stories. We also awaken to our agency to seek out the Divine Healer, reaching out to touch the power we know can restore our intellect and imagination. We emerge ready to re-engage with the world, seeking and seeing solutions, creating different pictures of life renewed just as a mosaic artist creates beauty from broken pieces of glass.

(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 so that we might be able to create and imagine new possibilities, new solutions. Let us pray:

ALL: God of All Possibilities, made in your image, you have tasked us as co-creators of a better world. You bestowed imagination and the ability to learn and progress. But we are tired. Our energy wanes and enthusiasm wanes. The call for ideas, solutions, work-arounds and adaptations has been non-stop for us all – whether we are needing to find ways to keep children engaged and well, or figuring out how to maintain a passion for our work in the midst of trying times, or needing desperately to undo systems of oppression too long affecting our lives and the lives of our neighbors. Not only our livelihoods, but our liveliness is at stake. Too often we want to give up, declare it all too hard and simply isolate, waiting out the time for better days. It all feels overwhelming and so we look away, sometimes even from the need in our own community.

Help us, Healer. Show us our energy reserves. Forgive our cynicism. 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: We are gifted with agency to affect healing in the world.

No. Matter. What. We are not alone and we can join with others to magnify hope.

Christ will answer when we call, when we reach out for what we know can help. 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.

***HYMN**

‘O Love that Will Not Let Me Go’

No. 540

***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

SONG OF PREPARATION

'Day by Day'

No. 599

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:18-26

While he was saying these things to them, suddenly a leader of the synagogue came in and knelt before him, saying, "My daughter has just died; but come and lay your hand on her, and she will live." And Jesus got up and followed him, with his disciples. Then suddenly a woman who had been suffering from hemorrhages for twelve years came up behind him and touched the fringe of his cloak, for she said to herself, "If I only touch his cloak, I will be made well." Jesus turned, and seeing her he said, "Take heart, daughter; your faith has made you well." And instantly the woman was made well. When Jesus came to the leader's house and saw the flute players and the crowd making a commotion, he said, "Go away; for the girl is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. But when the crowd had been put outside, he went in and took her by the hand, and the girl got up. And the report of this spread throughout that district.

STAR WORD TESTIMONIAL SERMON

Emily Swisher-Rosa

“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.

ANTHEM

'Roll Down, Justice'

arr. Mark A. Miller

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.*

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY 'I Want Jesus to Walk with Me' Traditional, arr. Nansi Carroll

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 'Be Thou My Vision' No. 595

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION & BLESSING

Now go with confidence
that we will awaken, we will seek out and reach for
the healing solutions that our neighbors, our communities, our world needs,
recovering our depth of love for all
and our joy of living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears:
"You are not dead, you are sleeping."

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

Amen.

[reprise of theme song]

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

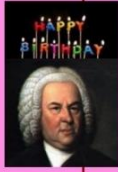
POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

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

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
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 remaining 4 Fridays of Lent, Christ Congregational Church (CCC) will be selling dinners for pick-up. Friday, March 18th through Friday, April 8th swing by the CCC church kitchen between 4 p.m. and 7 p.m. for a fully prepared, delicious meal.

Here are the Lenten Friday Weekly Dinner Menus:

- ❖ **Lasagna and Meatballs - Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 16th for Friday March 18th**
Description: Lasagna is meatless - pasta; ricotta, cheddar and mozzarella cheeses; tomato basil sauce. Meatballs - hamburger, sauce
- ❖ **Corn Chowder or Kale Soup - Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 23rd for Friday March 25th**
Description: Corn Chowder: Corn, potatoes, onion, chicken broth, salt pork Gluten-Free
Kale Soup: Kale, potatoes, chorizo, chicken stock, onions, white beans Gluten-Free
- ❖ **Chicken, Broccoli and Ziti or Rice - Order/Pay by noon Wednesday March 30th for Friday April 1st**
Description: Chicken breast; broccoli; ziti or rice Rice option is Gluten-Free
- ❖ **Shepherd's Pie - Order/Pay by noon Wednesday April 6th for Friday April 8th**
Description: Hamburger, Potatoes, corn, cheddar cheese Gluten-Free

Also Available for Purchase Each Week are:

- Macaroni and Cheese
- Dessert

As noted 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 and Desserts as well.

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.

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.

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

Christ Congregational
Church, UCC

SAVE THE DATE
ARTISAN'S, VENDORS AND
YARD SALERS

Saturday, May 7th 2022

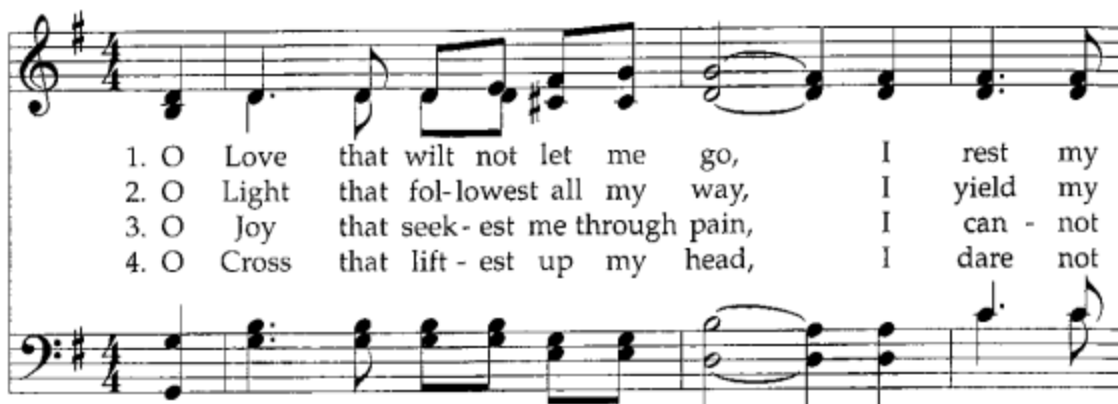
(with a rain date of Saturday, May 14th)

We hope to make this our biggest yard sale yet.
Church tables, Church Family tables, Vendor tables
All are welcome!!

Can you help? Do you have donations?
Should we have food?

Please get the word out early:

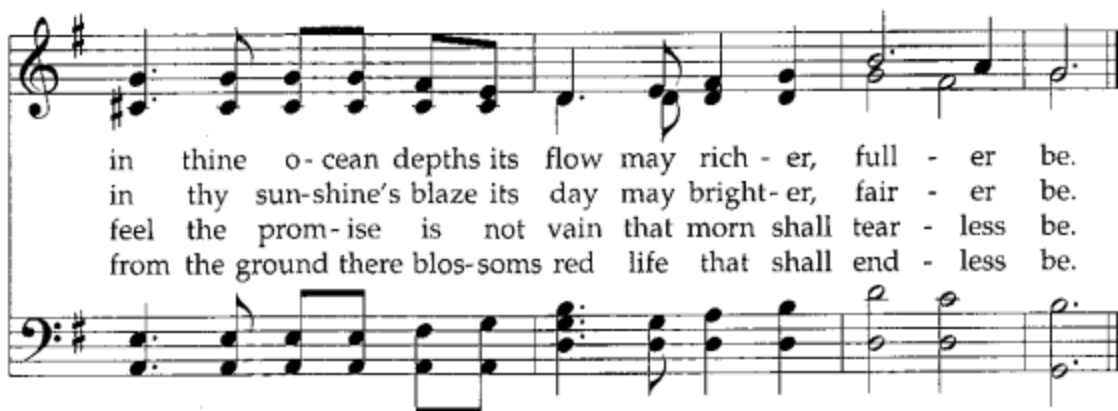
Fun and Fellowship and Lots of Items for Sale!



1. O Love that wilt not let me go, I rest my
 2. O Light that followest all my way, I yield my
 3. O Joy that seek-est me through pain, I can - not
 4. O Cross that lift - est up my head, I dare not



wea - ry soul in thee; I give thee back the life I owe, that
 flick-ering torch to thee; my heart re - stores its bor - rowed ray, that
 close my heart to thee; I trace the rain - bow through the rain, and
 ask to fly from thee; I lay in dust life's glo - ry dead, and



in thine o - cean depths its flow may rich - er, full - er be.
 in thy sun - shine's blaze its day may bright - er, fair - er be.
 feel the prom - ise is not vain that morn shall tear - less be.
 from the ground there blos - soms red life that shall end - less be.

WORDS: George Matheson, 1882
 MUSIC: Albert L. Peace, 1884

ST. MARGARET
 88.886

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

GOSPELL
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.

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♩=92-100

Be Thou My Vision

595

Unison

1. Be thou my vi - sion, O Lord of my heart;
 2. Be thou my wis - dom, and thou my true word;
 3. Rich - es I heed not, nor vain, emp - ty praise,
 4. Great God of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

naught be all else to me, save that thou art
 I ev - er with thee and thou with me, Lord;
 thou mine in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways:
 may I reach heav - en's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!

thou my best thought by day or by night,
 thou my re - deem - er, my love thou hast won,
 thou and thou on - ly, first in my heart,
 Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, thy pres - ence my light.
 thou in me dwell - ing, and I with thee one.
 Great God of heav - en, my trea - sure thou art.
 still be my vi - sion, O Ru - ler of all.

WORDS: Irish song (8th century); tr. Mary E. Byrne, 1905; versed by Eleanor H. Hull, 1912, alt.

MUSIC: Traditional Irish melody; harm. Carlton R. Young, 1963

SLANE
10 10.9 10

Harm. © 1964 The United Methodist Publishing House