



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



April 10, 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

‘Ride On, Ride On In Majesty’

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

Leader: Today we continue our Lenten “season of recovery” with Palm Sunday, the day we remember Jesus’ triumphal entry into the city of Jerusalem just before Passover - transitioning into Holy Week this week and Easter Sunday a week from now... when all is healed and resurrection is made plain. Until that time we continue to call out to the Holy One, in whose image we are made, acknowledging our own need for healing.

(sung together)

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

Leader: We have seen that the stories of Jesus’ healing ministry are filled with words and deeds. When he rode into Jerusalem, the people had hopes he would heal the oppressive system they were living under. We know that his healing was not confined to that moment in history, but offers a new way of life that has made a case for compassion for all, especially “the least,” ever since.

As we head into the events of Holy Week, we begin to see that our ability to forgive ourselves and others is the foundation that can transform infirmities and allow us to move on. We integrate our beliefs and actions for the health of the whole. The parade of compassionate power we celebrate today is underscored by another healing story of transformation, symbolizing our ability to fuel our movement of recovery. We glorify God for beautiful words and works of wholeness and share that treasured beauty with others. We know there will still be pain, but we also know love will win.

(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: We have approached confession each week in Lent in such a way that we lay bare the brokenness in order to begin the process of healing. Along the way we have acknowledged our need to restore our own Holy Vessels while attending to our role in the healing of the community and the world. The work of healing will continue as we integrate all we have learned with all that we will do moving forward. For now, we remember how hard it is to move from thinking to doing. Let us pray:

**ALL: Forgiving God,
We have opened ourselves to healing and sometimes it is easier to pray nice prayers than to do the hard work of putting into action what needs to happen.
Help us remember the sacred nature of the holy vessels that we are, fragile and susceptible to shattering and yet capable of transformation.
Help us to see ourselves as you see us.
Help us to believe in our ability to change and heal as you believe in us.**

**Help us, Healer.
Show us our strength.
Forgive our inertia.
Move us to move
One step at a time toward greater care.**

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

***HYMN**

‘Lift up Your Heads’

No. 129

***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.

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

SONG OF PREPARATION

'I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me'

No. 614

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 9:1-8

Boarding a boat, Jesus crossed to the other side of the lake and went to his own city. People brought to him a man who was paralyzed, lying on a cot. When Jesus saw their faith, he said to the man who was paralyzed, "Be encouraged, my child, your sins are forgiven."

Some legal experts said among themselves, "This man is insulting God."

But Jesus knew what they were thinking and said, "Why do you fill your minds with evil things? Which is easier—to say, 'Your sins are forgiven,' or to say, 'Get up and walk'? But so you will know that the Human One[a] has authority on the earth to forgive sins"—he said to the man who was paralyzed—"Get up, take your cot, and go home." The man got up and went home. When the crowds saw what had happened, they were afraid and praised God, who had given such authority to human beings.

Matthew 21:1-11

When they approached Jerusalem and came to Bethphage on the Mount of Olives, Jesus gave two disciples a task. He said to them, "Go into the village over there. As soon as you enter, you will find a donkey tied up and a colt with it. Untie them and bring them to me. If anyone says anything to you, say that their master needs them." He sent them off right away. Now this happened to fulfill what the prophet said, Say to Daughter Zion, "Look, your king is coming to you, humble and riding on a donkey, and on a colt the donkey's offspring." The disciples went and did just as Jesus had ordered them. They brought the donkey and the colt and laid their clothes on them. Then he sat on them.

Now a large crowd spread their clothes on the road. Others cut palm branches off the trees and spread them on the road. The crowds in front of him and behind him shouted, "Hosanna to the Son of David! Blessings on the one who comes in the name of the Lord! Hosanna in the highest!" And when Jesus entered Jerusalem, the whole city was stirred up. "Who is this?" they asked. The crowds answered, "It's the prophet Jesus from Nazareth in Galilee."

SERMON

Jeff & Patricia Illsley with our First Communion Class

Class of 2022: Ethan Harrigan, Jahannes Kaptimer, Kailana Pelote, Atticus & Ellie Penn, Josephine & Natalie Ribeiro, Kai 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

'Hosanna'

arr. Craig Courtney

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

'Hosanna'

arr. Christian Gregor

DOXOLOGY

'Majesty'

PRAYER OF DEDICATION



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

THE INVITATION

Leader: Let us gather around the table with the offering of bread and drink upon it and the promise of the Living Christ among us. This is the welcome table of God where all who seek to be at peace with their neighbor and all who seek the mercy of God in Christ are embraced. Come, for we are invited into this holy mystery. Come.

People: We are ready!

Leader: Jesus said, "I am the bread of life. All who come to me shall not hunger and all who believe in me shall never be thirsty."

People: We are hungry and thirsty. Jesus, be with us at this table.

THE COMMUNION PRAYER

Leader: God be with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them to God.

Leader: Let us give thanks to God Most High.

People: It is right to give God thanks and praise.

Leader: It is indeed right to give you thanks and praise, O God... So it is that we lift our voices together with all who serve you in heaven and on earth to sing your praises.

HYMN

No. 111

The musical score is for Hymn No. 111, set in 4/4 time. It consists of two systems of music. The first system has a treble clef with a key signature of one flat (Bb) and a bass clef. The melody is written in the treble clef, and the bass line is in the bass clef. The lyrics are written below the melody. The second system continues the melody and bass line. The lyrics are written below the melody. The chords are indicated above the melody line.

Chords: C, G7, Am, F, G, C, F, G7, C, Am, F, G7, C

Lyrics (Spanish):
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

Lyrics (English):
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!

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

On the night in which he gave himself out of love for the whole of creation, Jesus took bread gave thanks, broke the bread, gave thanks to God, and gave it to the disciples saying, "Take, eat; this is my body which is given for you. Do this in remembrance of me."

When the supper was over, he took the cup, gave thanks to God, gave it to the disciples, and said, "Drink from this, all of you; this is my blood of the new covenant, poured out for you and for many for the forgiveness of sins. Do this, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of me."

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

Leader: Through the broken bread we participate in the body of Christ.

People: Amen.

Leader: Through the cup of blessing we participate in the new life Christ gives.

People: Amen.

COMMUNION MUSIC

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(in unison)*

We are so grateful, dear God, that in this place, at this table, we have touched, we have tasted, and we have heard the signs of your love for us. Grant that we may go away from this house filled with our love for you, and overflowing with your love for those who are around us sharing our lives. We pray that this Holy Week will be a time of great awareness for your presence. We pray in the name of Jesus. Amen.

“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

‘All Glory, Laud, and Honor’

No. 192

COMMUNITY ANNOUNCEMENTS

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

Now go with confidence
that we can face the storm with Jesus in the boat,
recovering our depth of love for all
and our joy of living in this world.

May the words of Jesus ring in your ears:
“follow me.”

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/Pianist

Alisa Cassola, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter





TODAY'S ALTAR FLOWERS
are in loving memory of Noah
Goodale on the tenth anniversary
of his passing. Love, Sue & Karl
Koza.

Christ Congregational
Church, UCC

SAVE THE DATE

**ARTISAN'S, VENDORS AND
YARD SALES**

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!

Holy Week
at Christ Congregational, UCC

Mundy Thursday
Tenebrae service
with communion
Thursday, April 14, 2022
at 7:00 PM

Good Friday
Service of remembrance for Jesus
around the Advent wreath
Friday, April 15, 2022
at 7:00 PM

<https://www.brocktonucc.org>

CHRIST CONGREGATION CHURCH INVITES YOU

**REDEEMED &
REJOICING**

CELEBRATE AND WORSHIP WITH US IN
PERSON OR AT HOME ONLINE AS WE SING
ALLELUIA TO THE RISEN ONE

April 17, 2022
9:55am

1350 Pleasant Street
Brockton, MA

Visit www.brocktonucc.org for more details

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

Lift Up Your Heads, O Mighty Gates 129

1. Lift up your heads, O might-y gates; be - hold the glo - rious
 2. Fling wide the por - tals of your heart; make it a tem - ple,
 3. Re - deem - er, come! We o - pen wide our hearts to you; here,
 4. So come, our Sov - ereign; en - ter in! Let new and no - bler

Rul - er waits! The Sov - ereign One is draw - ing
 set a - part from earth - ly use for heav - en's em -
 Christ, a - bide! Let us your in - ner pres - ence
 life be - gin; your Ho - ly Spir - it guide us

near; the Sav - ior of the world is here.
 ploy, a - dorned with prayer and love and joy.
 feel, your grace and love in us re - veal.
 on, un - til the glo - ri - ous crown be won.

WORDS: Georg Weissel, 1642; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1855, alt.
 MUSIC: *Psalmody Evangelica*, 1789

TRURO
 LM

Text revisions courtesy of United Church Board for Homeland Ministries/The Pilgrim Press

614 I'm Gonna Live So God Can Use Me

With a backbeat G C G Am7 G

1. I'm gon-na live so God can use me
(I'm gon-na live so) (God can

G7 C G7 C Am G C

use me,) an - y time (yes an - y time) and an - y - where (yes an - y -

G G C G B7

where) I'm gon-na live so God can use me
(I'm gon-na live so)

Em C G A7 D7 G C G

an - y time (an - y time,) and an - y - where. (yes an - y - where).

2. I'm gonna work... 3. I'm gonna pray... 4. I'm gonna sing...

WORDS: African-American spiritual
MUSIC: African-American spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas, 1994

I'M GONNA LIVE
Irr.

192 All Glory, Laud, and Honor

Desant

3. Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Ho - san - na!

1. All glo - ry, laud, and hon - or, to you, Re - deem - er, King,
 2. The com - pa - ny of an - gels are prais - ing you on high,
 3. To you be - fore your pas - sion they sang their hymns of praise;

Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Our ho - san - nas raise!

to whom the lips of chil - dren made sweet ho - san - nas ring!
 and we with all cre - a - tion in cho - rus make re - ply.
 to you, now high ex - alt - ed, our mel - o - dy we raise.

You heard their prais - es now hear us as we pray.

You are a child of Is - rael, Great Da - vid's great - er son;
 The peo - ple of the He - brews with palms be - fore you went;
 As you re - ceived their prais - es, now hear us as we pray.

WORDS: Theodulph of Orleans c. 821; tr. John Mason Neale, 1854, alt.
 MUSIC: Melchior Teschner, 1615; harm. William Henry Monk, 1861;
 desc. O. L. Crickett Harrison, 1994

ST. THEODULPH
 76.76D

Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press

Ho - san - na! Sing prais - es! Rule in our hearts to - day.

you ride in low - ly tri - umph, Mes - si - ah, bless - ed one!
 our praise and prayer and an - thems be - fore you we pre - sent.
 Since you de - light in good - ness, rule in our hearts to - day.