



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



August 14, 2022

9:55 am

AN ASTERISK IN THE BULLETIN INDICATES THAT ALL FOR WHOM IT IS COMFORTABLE SHOULD RISE FOR THAT PART OF THE SERVICE

RINGING OF THE CHIMES

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Koza

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Welcome to a time of wonder!

People: And music that calls us home.

Leader: Welcome to hearing God's words that inspire and challenge us!

People: and to reminders that we are offered holy hospitality.

Leader: Hospitality that teaches us how to open our lives to others...

People: leading us to fully live with open minds, open hearts, and open doors.

OPENING PRAYER¹

***HYMN**

'Gather Us In'

No. 284

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE²

Leader: For the times we fail to offer hospitality to those in our world who suffer injustice, oppression, and poverty, we pray...

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Leader: For the times we lack courage to address the causes of injustice, oppression, and poverty we pray to you our God...

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Leader: For the times we give in to despair an resignation when confronted with the injustice of our world, we pray to you our God...

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Leader: For the times we allow our fears to triumph over the call to solidarity, we pray to you our God...

People: God, have mercy on us and on your people.

Leader: Let us pray together...

ALL: Merciful God, receive our petitions. Heal the brokenness in our hearts and in our world caused by injustice, indifference, selfishness, and fear. Open our hearts to hear the cries of your suffering people. Support us as we seek to respond in solidarity and with hospitality. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE

***SONG OF PREPARATION**

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

No. 583

SCRIPTURE

Luke 14:16-24

SERMON

A VBS Preview for ALL Ages

During this time, we invite you to reflect on and explore the parable through different activities. Feel free to move to different stations as you are able and at your own pace. If you would prefer to remain in your pew, a leader will bring you an art kit.

Dance - front left by piano

Art - Chapel

Legos - Playground tables

Games - front right by bean bags

Parable Puzzle – Chapel

Post-It Prayer - Chancel

IMPROVISED MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Anton Faynberg

During this time, we invite you to take a moment for quiet reflection

PASTORAL PRAYER

THE 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.

***HYMN**

'My Faith Looks Up to Thee'

No. 576

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

OFFERTORY

'Words'

by June Boyce Tillman

Sung by Doug Anderson

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

'Thank you, Lord'

No. 531

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION** *(in unison)*

Almighty God, we give you thanks for the blessings you have bestowed upon us. We give you thanks that you have invited us to your table and to your kin-dom. We offer these gifts as a portion of the fruit of our lives, asking that you bless them and multiply them. Use our gifts, and use us, to further extend your welcome into your realm of justice and grace. Amen.



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

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.

Let us pray - Loving God whose Divine Lungs exhaled the Spirit into our World. Your breath continues to transform our world, from the still to the stirring. Before the earth was formed, the Spirit of God swirled through voids and shadows. As humans were created, the air of God filled the lungs of Adam, and the soul of Eve. This Divine Air continues to fill us up when our bones are dry and spirits are sluggish.

Therefore with the entire company of the saints in heaven and on earth, we worship and glorify you, God Most Holy.

REMEMBERING THE STORY

The night before Jesus died was a solemn time around the table. Breaking bread. Drinking from the cup. Jesus asking to remember him in our eating and drinking. There was a time to mourn followed by a time to dance. After the day of resurrection the disciples ate on the beach with the risen Christ celebrating new life, new hope, new vitality.

Therefore we proclaim the mystery of our faith,

People: Christ has died. Christ is risen. Christ will come again.

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

Please refrain from consuming the elements until you are prompted to do so, that way everyone may receive the gifts of God together.

SPECIAL MUSIC
Sung by Doug Anderson

'Grateful'

by John Bucchino
(from the musical "Urban Myths")

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

The body of Christ, given for you. Take, eat, and remember him.

The Cup of Salvation, poured out for the forgiveness of sins. Take, drink, and remember him.

*PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (in unison)

Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.

*HYMN

'Lift Every Voice and Sing'

No. 631

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor
Anton Faynberg, Organist
Doug Anderson, Soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Langston-Kirk, Cynthia. "Call to Worship, Prayer: Radical Hospitality." *Call to Worship, Prayer: Radical Hospitality*, 2011, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/07/call-to-worship-prayer-radical.html>.

CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC



PLAY-FILLED PARABLES VBS

AN INTERGENERATIONAL
EVENT FOR ALL AGES!

MONDAY
5:30PM TO 7:30 PM
AUGUST 15TH TO THURSDAY
AUGUST 18TH



TO REGISTER:
[www.tinyurl.com/
Parable-VBS](http://www.tinyurl.com/Parable-VBS)

VBS isn't just for kids anymore! Folks of all ages are invited to vacation bible school this August (even adults without kids). Gathering in the evenings, we'll share dinner and hear one of Jesus' parables. Then participants will be able to explore different activities related to the story including dance, Legos, basketball, field games, art and more! Families will travel together and are invited to move at their own pace. Come for the whole week or as many days as you're able.

The Board of Christian Education is also seeking volunteers to help facilitate activities, prepare dinner and help with clean up. You can sign up as a participant or volunteer. See Ann-Marie. Hope to see you there!

Musical Meditation

With Anton Faynberg

Every Wednesday at 3:30 PM
In the sanctuary at Christ Congregational Church

Come for a meditative musical service that further reflects upon our readings and themes from the previous Sunday.

For more information please contact the church office.



YOU'RE INVITED!

TO:

Wednesday Bible Study

10:00 AM each Wednesday
On Zoom

For more details, or to get the Zoom link, contact:

Pastor Jeff - pastor@brocktonucc.org

Alice Farnsworth - grammy58@comcast.net



NURSERY VOLUNTEERS NEEDED

IN AUGUST & SEPTEMBER



Ang Colby has been doing an amazing job in the nursery this summer filling in for Tammy while she's on medical leave. Our wonderful nursery volunteer Mary, now also will need to be away for a few weeks.

Will you help us continue to care for the youngest members of our faith community by volunteering as a 2nd adult in the nursery for a Sunday or two in August and September? You can sign up for specific dates [HERE](#). Please reach out to Pastor Ann-Marie with any questions!

YOU'RE INVITED TO



A GIFT CARD SHOWER

IN HONOR OF
BABY KARDISCO

SUNDAY, AUGUST 21, 2022 • 1 PM
FELLOWSHIP HALL

FOR THOSE WHO WOULD LIKE TO GIVE A GIFT
BABY BOARD BOOKS AND GIFT CARDS ARE ENCOURAGED.
HOWEVER YOUR PRESENCE TO CELEBRATE
THIS NEW LIFE IS GIFT ENOUGH!

JOIN US IN CELEBRATING BABY KARDISCO

On Sunday, August 21st at 1pm, we'll gather in Fellowship Hall to celebrate the upcoming arrival of the Kardisco family's newest member. All are invited to join in welcoming this new life! For those who would like to give a gift, baby board books and gift cards are encouraged. Some of the family's favorite places include Target, Keeping Pace with Multiple Miracles, Amazon and restaurants. However, your presence in celebrating this joyous event is more than enough. Hope to see you there!

'Words'

by June Boyce Tillman

We shall go out with hope of resurrection, We shall go out from strength to strength go on, We shall go out and tell our stories boldly, Tales of a love that will not let us go. We'll sing our songs of wrongs that can be righted, We'll dream our dreams of hurts that can be healed, We'll weave a cloth of all the world United Within the vision of new life in Christ.

We'll give a voice to those who have not spoken, We'll find the words for those whose lips are sealed, We'll make the tunes for those who sing no longer, Expressive love alive in every heart.

We'll share our joy with those who still are weeping, Raise hymns of strength for hearts that break in grief, We'll leap and dance the resurrection story, Including all in circles of our love.

'Grateful'

by John Bucchino (from the musical "Urban Myths")

I've got a roof over my head, I've got a warm place to sleep.
Some nights I lie awake counting gifts instead of counting sheep.
I've got a heart that can hold love, I've got a mind that can think.
There may be times when I lose the light and let my spirits sink.
But I can't stay depressed when I remember how I'm blessed.

Grateful, grateful, truly grateful I am. Grateful, grateful truly blessed and duly grateful.

In a city of strangers I've got a family of friends.
No matter what rocks and brambles fill the way, I know that they will stay until the end.
I feel a hand holding my hand, it's not a hand you can see.
But on the road to the promised land, this hand will shepherd me.
Through delight and despair, holding tight and always there.

Grateful, grateful truly grateful I am. Grateful, grateful truly blessed and duly grateful.

It's not that I don't want a lot, or hope for more or dream of more.
But giving thanks for what I've got makes me so much happier than keeping score.
In a world that can bring pain I will still take each chance.
For I believe that whatever the terrain our feet can learn to dance.
Whatever stone life may sling, we can moan or we can sing:
Grateful, grateful truly grateful I am.
Grateful, grateful truly blessed and duly grateful. Truly blessed and duly grateful.

Gather Us In

Unison D A C G Gm/B^b Dm

1. Here in this place, the new light is stream-ing, sha-dows of doubt are
 2. We are the young—our lives are a mys-tery; we are the old, who
 3. Here we re-ceive new life in the wa-ters; here we re-ceive the
 4. Not just in build-ings, small and con-fin-ing, not in some heav-en,

C G D A C G

van-ish a-way. See in this space our fears and our dream-ings,
 yearn for your face. We have been sung through-out all of his-tory,
 bread of new birth; here you shall call your sons and your daugh-ters,
 light years a-way, here in this place the new light is shin-ing,

Gm/B^b Dm C Am7 D

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu-man race.
 call us a-new to be salt for the earth.
 now is God pres-ent, and now is the day.

WORDS and MUSIC: Marty Haugen, 1981

GATHER US IN
Irr.

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♩ = 54-60

A C/G D/F[♯] G A C/G

Gath-er us in, the lost and for-sak-en; gath-er us in; our
 Gath-er us in— the rich and the haugh-ty; gath-er us in— the
 Give us to drink the wine of com- pass-ion, give us to eat the
 Gath-er us in and hold us for-ev-er; gath-er us in and

D/F[♯] G A D A C G

spir-its in-flame. Call to us now, and we shall a-wak-en;
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low-ly;
 bread that is you; nour-ish us well, and teach us to fash-ion
 make us your own; gath-er us in, all peo-ples to-geth-er,

Gm/B^b Dm C Am7 D C/D Gm/D D

we shall a-rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour-age to en-ter the song.
 lives that are ho-ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

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.

My Faith Looks Up to Thee

576

1. My faith looks up to thee, thou Lamb of Cal - va - ry,
 2. May thy rich grace im-part strength to my faint - ing heart,
 3. While life's dark maze I tread, and griefs a - round me spread,

Sav - ior di - vine! Now hear me while I pray; take all my
 my zeal in - spire; as thou hast died for me, oh, may my
 be, thou my guide; bid dark-ness turn to day; wipe sor-row's

guilt a - way; oh, let me from this day be whol - ly thine.
 love to thee pure, warm, and change - less be, a liv - ing fire.
 tears a - way; nor let me ev - er stray from thee a - side.

WORDS: Ray Palmer, 1831, alt.
 MUSIC: Lowell Mason, 1832

OLIVET
 664.6664

1. Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
 2. Been so good, been so good, been so
 3. Been my friend, been my friend, been my

Lord,
 good,
 friend,
 I just want to thank you,
 I just want to thank you,
 I just want to thank you,
 Lord.
 Lord.
 Lord.

WORDS: Traditional African-American song
 MUSIC: Traditional African-American melody; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland and
 Verolga Nix, alt.

THANK YOU, LORD
 333.7

Lift Every Voice and Sing

1. Lift ev - ery voice and sing, till earth and heav - en ring,
 2. Ston - y the road we trod, bit - ter the chas - tening rod,
 3. God of our wea - ry years, God of our si - lent tears,

ring with the har - mo - nies of lib - er - ty;
 felt in the days when hope un - born had died;
 thou who hast brought us thus far on the way;

let our re - joic - ing rise high as the lis - tening skies,
 yet with a stead - y beat, have not our wea - ry feet
 thou who hast by thy might led us in - to the light,

let it re - sound loud as the roll - ing sea.
 come to the place for which our peo - ple sighed?
 keep us for - ev - er in the path, we pray.

WORDS: James Weldon Johnson, 1921
 MUSIC: J. Rosamond Johnson, 1921
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LIFT EVERY VOICE
 Ir.
 ♩=64-70

Sing a song full of the faith that the dark past has taught us;
 We have come o - ver a way that with tears has been wa - tered;
 Lest our feet stray from the plac - es, our God, where we met thee;

sing a song full of the hope that the pres - ent has brought us;
 we have come, tread - ing our path thru the blood of the slaugh - tered,
 lest our hearts drunk with the wine of the world, we for - get thee;

fac - ing the ris - ing sun of our new day be - gun,
 out from the gloom - y past, till now we stand at last
 shad - owed be - neath thy hand, may we for - ev - er stand,

let us march on till vic - to - ry is won.
 where the white gleam of our bright star is cast.
 true to our God, true to our na - tive land.