



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



August 28, 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 the banquet of hope, the open bar of prayer, the “anonymous” circle of acceptance.

People: We come because we are invited.

Leader: Welcome to a fiesta of joy or a mercy meal of tenderness, where every seat is a place of honor.

People: We come because we are invited.

Leader: Welcome to a party for God’s love-reveal, where all seating is a circle, and karaoke is never necessary because we sing our own stories.

People: We come because we have an invitation, not on paper, but by our very names.

OPENING PRAYER¹

***HYMN**

‘We Gather Together’

No. 276

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE¹

Leader: God, sometimes we say “I’m too busy,” to invitations to kindness, friendship, or activism, or pretend to be “too busy,” and avoid being indebted, pitied, or rubbing elbows with those who make us uncomfortable.

Sometimes we accept an invitation to be involved, celebrate with someone, or just have coffee, but back out or “no-show.”

ALL: Forgive us when we skip your parties.

Leader: God, sometimes we are “imperfect guests,” wanting to be the center of attention, and other times we insist on always being host, giver, one in control, receiver of praise and gratefulness.

ALL: Forgive us when we fail in gratitude or generosity. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE¹

God loves, invites, nudges, and embraces us in all our resistance to simply hold a balloon of joy and clap at the candles of another's cake. We are forgiven; a place is set for us. Thanks be to God. Amen.

*SONG OF PREPARATION

'Lead Me, Guide Me'

No. 583

SCRIPTURE

Luke 14:7-14

When he noticed how the guests picked the places of honor at the table, he told them this parable: "When someone invites you to a wedding feast, do not take the place of honor, for a person more distinguished than you may have been invited. If so, the host who invited both of you will come and say to you, 'Give this person your seat.' Then, humiliated, you will have to take the least important place. But when you are invited, take the lowest place, so that when your host comes, he will say to you, 'Friend, move up to a better place.' Then you will be honored in the presence of all the other guests. For all those who exalt themselves will be humbled, and those who humble themselves will be exalted."

Then Jesus said to his host, "When you give a luncheon or dinner, do not invite your friends, your brothers or sisters, your relatives, or your rich neighbors; if you do, they may invite you back and so you will be repaid. But when you give a banquet, invite the poor, the crippled, the lame, the blind, and you will be blessed. Although they cannot repay you, you will be repaid at the resurrection of the righteous."

SERMON

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

IMPROVISED MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Anton Faynberg

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



Today we celebrate the sacrament of baptism for Emery Shaw to affirm our belief that she is a beloved child of God. Her parents, Jennifer and Andrea, are here to promise to raise her in the life of faith. They are joined by Emery's God-parents; Danielle Shaw and Michael Lopresti.

BAPTISMAL HYMN

'I Was There to Hear Your Borne Cry'

No. 75

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.

CALL FOR OFFERINGS¹

We are invited to offer our resources, our time, our abilities, our compassion, on days when our lives are full and days when our lives feel empty. We are invited to offer what we have and accept what we need. Let us answer that invitation with a profound "YES" as we receive this morning's offering.

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

OFFERTORY

'God Down Moses' (Spiritual)

*Sung by Jay Sparling
Lisa Sparling playing piano*

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

'My Tribute'

No. 39

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹ (in unison)**

Almighty God, we bring our gifts as our response to your extravagant invitation. In this giving, we find ourselves not lessened, but newly joyful, truly honored, and deeply fed by your blessing. Amen.

***HYMN**

'My Life Flows On'

No. 619

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor
Anton Faynberg, Organist/Pianist
Jay Sparling, Soloist
Lisa Sparling, Pianist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

¹Tirabassi, Maren C. "After Pentecost C - August 28." *United Church of Christ*, 5 Aug. 2022, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-c-august-28/>.



Planning Meeting THIS SUNDAY - August 28th, 2022 in Fellowship Hall

The fall fair is one of our most fondly held traditions as a congregation, and it is also one of our biggest fund raisers of the year. To say that the fair is part of the life-force of our congregation is not an understatement. Every year we need volunteers to help make the fair happen, and every year the fair enriches our lives together

THIS SUNDAY AUGUST 28TH following worship we will meet briefly in the Fellowship hall to talk about how people can get involved - now as we prepare, on the dates of our fair events, and in the weeks following as we sort through and put things away. Anyone interested in helping with the fair, in any way, please plan to attend this meeting if you are able

Also, please mark and save the dates below as the dates this fall's fair events:

- SEPTEMBER 24TH, 2022 - Church Yard Sale (Rain Date October 1st.)
- NOVEMBER 5TH, 2022 - Church Fair (throughout the church building)
- DECEMBER, 2022 - Calendar raffle

Gift cards are needed for the calendar raffle - so please consider donating as you're able, and start collecting today!

We Gather Together

276

C Dm7 G C

1. We gath - er to - geth - er to ask for God's bless - ing,
 2. Be - side us to guide us, O God, we per - ceive you
 3. May all sing your prais - es, Re - deem - er tri - um - phant,

G C D G Am D7 G

to turn to a wis - dom sur - pass - ing our own;
 or - dain - ing, main - tain - ing the pow - er of life.
 de - fend us, be - friend us, what - ev - er may be.

G7 C Dm7 G7

the pow'rs that op - press us now cease to dis - tress us.
 Yes, yours be the glo - ry; let all tell the sto - ry.
 May your con - gre - ga - tion es - cape trib - u - la - tion.

F G C Dm7 G7 C

O God, be pres - ent with us, and make your will known.
 Our God, be ev - er with us, in glad - ness and strife.
 Your name be praised for - ev - er, O God, make us free!

WORDS: *Nederlandsche Gebedenclanck*, 1626; tr. Theodore Baker, 1894;
 adapt. Ruth Duck, 1981
 MUSIC: Dutch melody (16th century); arr. Edward Kremser, 1877

KREMSER
 Irr.

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
 Err.

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Lead me, oh Lord, lead me.

75 I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

Unison D7 G D G D G D

1. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be
 3. When you heard the won - der of the word I was
 5. In the mid - dle a - ges of your life, not too
 7. I was there to hear your born - ing cry, I'll be

G D G D G D

there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you
 there to cheer you on; you were raised to praise the
 old, no long - er young, I'll be there to guide you
 there when you are old. I re - joiced the day you

G D G C D7 G *Fine*

were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.
 liv - ing God, to whom you now be - long.
 through the night, com - plete what I've be - gun.
 were bap - tized, to see your life un - fold.

C G

2. I was there when you were but a child, with a
 4. If you find some - one to share your time and you
 6. When the eve - ning gen - tly clos - es in and you

WORDS and MUSIC: John Ylvisaker, 1985

WATERLIFE
97.96

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$\text{♩} = 92-96$

Am D G C

faith to suit you well; in a blaze of light you
 join your hearts as one, I'll be there to make your
 shut your wea - ry eyes, I'll be there as I have

G A7 D

wan - dered off to find where de - mons dwell.
 vers - es rhyme from dusk till ris - ing sun.
 al - ways been with just one more sur - prise.

Deuteronomy 32:11

Cuando el Pobre (When the Poor Ones)

Unisono (Unison) Dm A7 B♭

1. Cuan-do el po-bre na-da tie-ne y aun re-par-te,
2. Cuan-do su-fre un hom-bre y lo-gra su con-sue-lo,
1. When the poor ones who have noth-ing share with stran-gers,
2. When at last all those who suf-fer find their com-fort,

D7 Gm C7 F

cuan-do el hom-bre pa-sa sed ya-gua nos da,
cuan-do es-pe-ra y no se can-sa de es-pe-rar,
when the thirst-y wa-ter give un-to us all,
when they hope though e-ven hope seems hope-less-ness,

F E7 A7 Dm

cuan-do el dé-bil a su her-ma-no for-ta-le-ce,
cuan-do g-ma-mos, aun-que el o-dio nos ro-de-e,
when the wound-ed in their weak-ness strength-en oth-ers,
when we love though hate at times seems all a-round us,

WORDS: J. A. Olivar and Miguel Manzano, 1971; tr. George Lockwood, 1980
MUSIC: J. A. Olivar and Miguel Manzano, 1971; arr. Alvin Schutmaat

EL CAMINO
12 11 12 w. refrain

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United Methodist Publishing House

♩=60

Estrillo (Refrain) B♭ A7 Dm

ya Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar,
then we know that God still goes that road with us,

D7 Gm Dm A7 Dm Gm Dm

ya Dios mis-mo en nues-tro mis-mo ca-mi-nar.
then we know that God still goes that road with us.

3. When our joy fills up our cup to overflowing,
when our lips can speak no words other than true,
when we know that love for simple things is better,
Refrain

4. When our homes are filled with goodness in abundance,
when we learn how to make peace instead of war,
when each stranger that we meet is called a neighbor,
Refrain

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

The first system of music consists of a vocal line and a piano accompaniment line. The vocal line is in a soprano clef with a key signature of one flat and a 4/4 time signature. The lyrics are "To God be the glo - ry, to God be the glo - ry,". The piano accompaniment is in a bass clef with the same key signature and time signature, featuring a steady bass line and chords.

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

The second system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done." The piano accompaniment features a more active bass line with eighth notes.

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

The third system continues the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "With his blood Christ has saved me; with your power you have raised me;". The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords.

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

The fourth system concludes the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are "to God be the glo - ry for the things you have done." The piano accompaniment features a steady bass line and chords, ending with a double bar line.

WORDS and MUSIC: Andraé Crouch, 1971

MY TRIBUTE
lrr.

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♩=92-100

1. My life flows on in end-less song, a-bove earth's lam-en - ta - tion.
 2. Through all the tu - mult and the strife, I hear that mu - sic ring-ing.
 3. What though my joys and com-forts die? I know my Sav - ior liv - eth.
 4. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a foun-tain ev - er spring-ing!

I hear the clear, though far off hymn that hails a new cre - a - tion.
 It finds an ech - o in my soul. How can I keep from sing-ing?
 What though the dark-ness gath-er round? Songs in the night he giv - eth.
 All things are mine since I am his! How can I keep from sing-ing?

Refrain

No storm can shake my in-most calm while to that Rock I'm cling-ing.

Since love is Lord of heav'n and earth, how can I keep from sing-ing?