



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



December 4, 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

'Awake, Awake and Greet the New Morn'

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Sue Koza

PROCESSIONAL HYMN

'All Earth Is Waiting'

No. 139

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Now is the time, let us pause.

All: As we wait, may we hear the voice of God.

One: Now is the time, let us watch.

**All: In our homes, at our work, even while waiting in line,
may we see the face of Christ.**

One: Now is the moment, let us prepare our hearts.

**All: In our words, in our hearts, in all we say and do
may God's extravagant love shine through.**

One: Now is the time, let us feel joy.

**All: Joy that was given to us by Christ, Himself; joy that
cannot be taken away by the world.**

One: Now is the time...

All: Come, Lord Jesus, Come....

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

"JOY"

Rev: In a world of darkness, we have seen a great light!

**All: We join with our siblings around the world, lighting candles to guide our
steps in this Advent journey.**

Rev: Today we light the candle of Joy;

All: Joy that comes in the miracle of birth, in the face a little child.

Rev: It is with joy that we gather and shout:

All: O come, O come, Emmanuel!

ADVENT PRAYER *(in unison)*

God of love and laughter, open our hearts this day in joyful welcome. Remove all that hinders us from receiving Your Word, and from receiving one another. As we listen for the giggles and coos of the baby Jesus, remind us to have the hearts of children who yearn for Your never-ending embrace that surrounds us all in this weary world. Hold us close as we gather around your manger and feel the warmth of Your love! In Your Name we pray; Amen.

MUSICAL RESPONSE	'When God Is A Child' (vs. 3)	No. 132
A TIME FOR ALL AGES		Pastor Ann-Marie
THE ANNUNCIATION	A poem by Christiane Lang Hearlson	
SCRIPTURE READINGS	Luke 1: 26-45	
SONG OF PREPARATION	'Emmanuel, Emmanuel'	No. 134
SERMON	"Of Course Mary Knew!"	Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick
ANTHEM	'Carol for Advent'	Don Besig
PASTORAL PRAYER		

Come and Light a Candle...



IMPROVISED MUSIC FOR REFLECTION Anton Faynberg
During this time, we invite you to take a moment for quiet reflection

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 OFFERINGS

www.brocktonucc.org/donate/

OFFERTORY <i>Chancel Ringers</i>	'To A Wild Rose'	Edward A. MacDowell arr, Paul E. Rosene
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	'Thank You, Lord'	No. 531
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION		



SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Friends, today is a joyful day! It is a day that we gather around Christ's table and partake in the wonder and grace of communion. If you have not yet experienced Christ's meal here at Christ Church, please know that all are invited to this table, because this table does not belong to any of us, this table does not belong to Christ Church, this table does not belong to the Unite Church of Christ; friends this table belongs to God, and all whom God created has a seat at this table. So come, let us join together in Holy Communion.

Rev: Peace be with you!

All: And also with you!

Rev: We gather around this table set before time began.

All: We come to this table to celebrate, share, and experience God's life-giving love!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION

Rev: Holy are You, God of all creation, and blessed is Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord. Yearning for us to know You, He came to earth to be with us. Longing for reconciliation between You and Your children, He became the broken Bread of Life. Aching for our release from the agony of sin and death, He suffered on the cross, so we might be made whole. All this, so we may gather around this table.

WORDS OF INVITATION

Rev: The table is set, the time is right; Your meal, like no other, claims us.

All: We are called to God's table of love, prepared for all people.

Rev: The Table of Christ is long and has many chairs.

All: There is plenty of room here!

Rev: It is the table where LOVE is in charge of the guest list,

All: And reservations are not required.

Rev: Come, approach God's table of love, grace and mercy,

All: We come with open hands and open hearts.

Rev: Come, just as God made you.

All: For the gifts of grace are free

Rev: Come, for all things are ready...

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD

One: On the night of that Jesus was betrayed, He took bread, and, after giving thanks to God, broke it and said,

All: "This is my body broken for you; do this as often as you eat, in remembrance of Me."

POURING OF THE FRUIT OF THE VINE

One: In the same way He took the cup, looked lovingly at each face, and He said,

All: **“This cup is the new covenant sealed in my blood; do this as often as you drink in remembrance of Me.”**

SHARING OF THE ELEMENTS

This morning each of you are invited to come up to the front and receive the elements. Please look to the deacons for direction. You will come up the center aisle and return down the side aisle. While we partake in this holy meal together, you are invited to meditate quietly with God, or to sing along to the music, until all are served and we can pray together...

MUSICAL OFFERING

‘Let All Mortal Flesh Keep Silence’

Gustav Holst

PRAYER OF GRATITUDE *(in unison)*

Thanks be to You, O God, for the blessings of this table. Because of a tiny child many years ago, nations gather around one table of faith and are fed from one body and one cup. During this season of Christmas, let the peace of God and the comfort in our future with God rest our minds and our hearts. Now, nourished with grace and love, may we go forth to serve You; abounding in hope, strengthened by peace, overflowing with joy, and tenacious in love. Amen.

***HYMN**

‘My Soul Gives Glory To My God’

No. 130

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Dr. Holly Norwick, Bridge Pastor
Rev. Ann-Marie Illsley, Associate Pastor
Murray Kidd, Music Director
Anton Faynberg, Organist/Pianist
Alisa Cassola, Soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

All Earth Is Waiting

Unison

D F#m Em A7

1. All earth is wait-ing to see the Prom-ised One,
 2. Thus says the proph-et to those of Is-ra-el,
 3. Moun-tains and val-leys will have to be made plain;
 4. In low-ly sta-ble the Prom-ised One ap-peared,

D F#m G A

and o - pen fur - rows, the sow - ing of our God. All the
 "A vir - gin moth - er will bear Em - man - u - el": one whose
 o - pen new high - ways, new high - ways for our God, who is
 yet feel that pres - ence through - out the earth to - day, for Christ

B#m F#m G D

world, bound and strug - gling, seeks true lib - er - ty; it
 name is "God with us," our Sav - ior shall be, through
 now com - ing clos - er, so come all and see, and
 lives in all Chris - tians and is with us now; a -

B#m F#m Em A7 Em F#7/A D

cries out for jus - tice and search - es for the truth.
 whom hope will blos - som once more with - in our hearts.
 o - pen the door - ways as wide as wide can be.
 gain, on ar - riv - ing Christ brings us lib - er - ty.

WORDS: Alberto Taulé, 1972; tr. Gertrude C. Suppe, 1987, alt.
 MUSIC: Alberto Taulé, 1972; harm. Skinner Chávez-Melo, 1988

TAULÉ
 11 11.12 12

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 Methodist Publishing House; harm. used by permission of Juan Francisco
 Chávez

♩ = 70-76

Unison

1. Hope is a star that shines in the night,
 2. Peace is a ribbon that cir - cles the earth,
 3. Joy is a song that wel - comes the dawn,
 4. Love is a flame that burns in our heart.

lead - ing us on till the morn - ing is bright.
 giv - ing a prom - ise of safe - ty and worth.
 tell - ing the world that the Sav - ior is born.
 Je - sus has come and will nev - er de - part.

Refrain

When God is a child there's joy in our song. The last shall be

first and the weak shall be strong, and none shall be a - fraid.

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1985
 MUSIC: Joan Collier Fogg, 1987

MOON BEAMS
 Irr. w. refrain

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♩=112

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Unison C F Dm7 G7 Em

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,

A7 A/C# Dm G7 C Cmaj7

his name is called Emmanuel.

C7 C F Dm7 G7 Em

God with us, revealed in us,

A7 A/C# Dm G7 C F/C C D.C. (final)

his name is called Emmanuel.

WORDS and MUSIC: Bob McGee, 1976

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McGEE

Irr.

♩=84-92

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

130 My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Cm Fm Eb Ab Db Eb Fm Cm Fm

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

Db Eb7 Ab Bbm Ab Ab Db Eb Ab

1. heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 2. ho - ly is her name. All peo - ple wil de -
 3. mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 4. motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 5. ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

Eb7 Bbm Ab Db Eb Bbm Eb Fm

1. low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 2. clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 3. far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 4. sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 5. prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Guitar and keyboard should not sound together.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1978, 1987
 MUSIC: Wyeth's Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second, 1813;
 harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

MORNING SONG
 CM

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♩=88-96