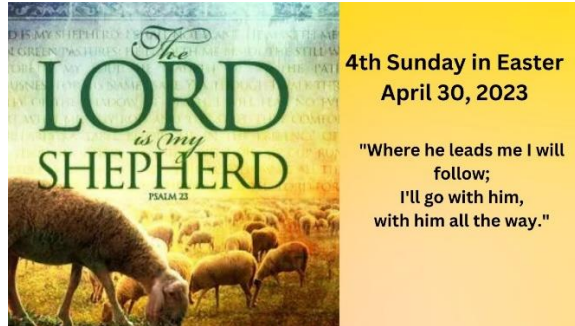




CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



April 30, 2023

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 | 'Christ, the Lord is Risen Today' | EASTER HYMN |
| WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS | | Sue Koza |
| *PROCESSIONAL HYMN | 'Precious Lord, Take My Hand' | Thomas A. Dorsey |

CALL TO WORSHIP¹ (based on Psalm 8 & Genesis 1)

Leader: O God, our God, the majesty of your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. We gather to praise you!

ALL: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth...

Leader: O God, our God, the majesty of your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. We gather to celebrate you!

ALL: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth; And God saw that it was good... We gather to celebrate your God.

Leader: O God, our God, the majesty of your name fills the earth! Your glory is higher than the heavens. We gather to worship you!

ALL: In the beginning God created the heavens and the earth... And God saw that it was very good. We gather to worship our God! All praise, honor, majesty and power belongs to our Creating God! Amen.

OPENING PRAYER²

A TIME FOR ALL AGES Dani Kardisco

***HYMN** 'We Thank You, God, for Water, Soil, and Air' No. 691

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE³ (in unison)

Eternal God, Creator of all that is, in You we live and move and have our being. You have placed us on earth and sustained our being, through the produce of the land, and the cleanness of the air we breathe. You have made use for each - to tend and care for the weak, and ensure a just sharing of the earth's resources.

But we are part of a proud and hard-hearted people, who hoard what the earth provides, and seem loathe to share the fruits of our labors, who live for today with little thought for tomorrow, who are afraid to let pain and suffering affect us.

Incarnate God, you know us in our inner being. In your grace you offer us forgiveness, even before we have the chance to articulate our sorrow. You embrace us in all our sinfulness, and in doing so give us the chance to start again, to learn from the example you have given us in Jesus, who chose the way of the Cross, that all might know the depth of your love for all you have made.

Spirit of God, open our hearts and minds that we may grasp your forgiveness, and forgiven seek to forgive others, and to live a life of reconciling love, modeled on the example of Jesus Christ, in whose name we pray. Amen.

WORDS OF GRACE¹

SONG OF PREPARATION

'Give Thanks'

No. 528

SCRIPTURE

John 10:1-10

I assure you that whoever doesn't enter into the sheep pen through the gate but climbs over the wall is a thief and an outlaw. The one who enters through the gate is the shepherd of the sheep. The guard at the gate opens the gate for him, and the sheep listen to his voice. He calls his own sheep by name and leads them out. Whenever he has gathered all of his sheep, he goes before them and they follow him, because they know his voice. They won't follow a stranger but will run away because they don't know the stranger's voice." Those who heard Jesus use this analogy didn't understand what he was saying.

So Jesus spoke again, "I assure you that I am the gate of the sheep. All who came before me were thieves and outlaws, but the sheep didn't listen to them. I am the gate. Whoever enters through me will be saved. They will come in and go out and find pasture. The thief enters only to steal, kill, and destroy. I came so that they could have life—indeed, so that they could live life to the fullest.

SERMON

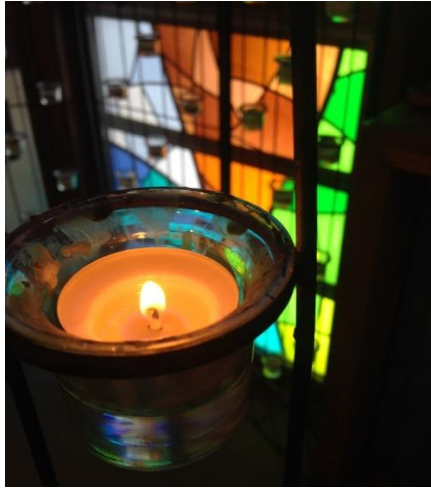
Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco

IMPROVISED MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Anton Faynberg

During this time, we invite you to embrace the transition from hearing the word to gathering ourselves in prayer by taking a moment for quiet reflection either in your pew, or by coming forward to light a candle to give light to the prayer(s) on your heart that have no words to be expressed.

Come and Light a Candle...



PASTORAL PRAYER¹

We will continue to share prayer concerns among the congregation by lifting up the name of a person, or naming a situation, at which point Pastor Jeff will repeat the concern raised. Once Pastor Jeff has repeated the concern the entire congregation will respond with “God in your mercy, hear our prayer”. Once we have concluded sharing our prayer concerns Pastor Jeff will begin today’s pastoral prayer, followed by the prayer of Jesus.

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.

CHOIR ANTHEM

‘All Things Bright and Beautiful’

John Rutter

CALL FOR OFFERINGS⁴

OFFERTORY

‘Precious Lord, Take My Hand’

Thomas A. Dorsey

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE**

‘Majesty’

**ALL SING: Majesty, worship His majesty. Unto Jesus be all glory, honor, and praise.
Majesty, kingdom authority flows from His throne unto His own; His anthem raise.
So exalt, lift up on high the name of Jesus.
Magnify, come glorify Christ Jesus, the King.
Majesty, worship His majesty, Jesus who died, now glorified, King of all kings.**

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION⁴**

***HYMN**

‘Praise to the Lord, the Almighty’

No. 25

BENEDICTION⁵

POSTLUDE

Anton Faynberg

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Murray Kidd, Music Director

Anton Faynberg, Organist/Pianist

Alisa Cassola, Soloist

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

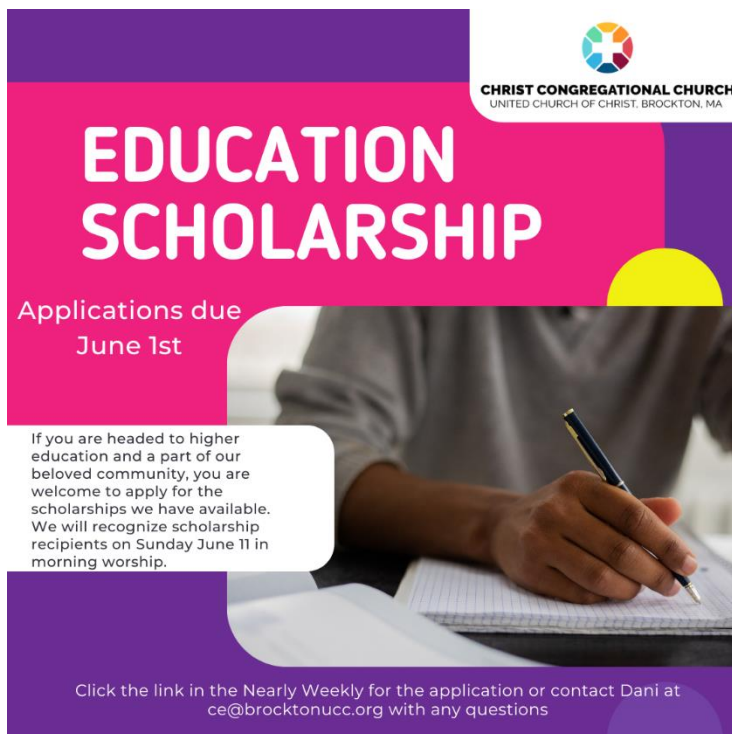
¹Copyright © 2013 Joan Stott – 'The Timeless Psalms' RCL Psalms Year C. Used with permission.

²Shrowder, Jeff. "Call to Worship & Prayer: Psalm 22." *Call to Worship & Prayer: Psalm 22*, 2000, https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/02/call-to-worship-prayer-psalm-22_15.html.

³Very Rev. Dr. Kesting, Sheilagh. "Re:Worship." *Creation Care*, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/search/label/Creation%20care>.

⁴Rev. Makuakāne, Kenneth. "Easter 4a - April 30." *United Church of Christ*, 21 Apr. 2023, <https://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-4a-april-30/>.

⁵Unknown, Author. "Closing Commission: Walk Gently upon the Earth." *Closing Commission: Walk Gently Upon the Earth*, <https://re-worship.blogspot.com/2015/09/closing-commission-walk-gently-upon.htm>



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA

EDUCATION SCHOLARSHIP

Applications due
June 1st

If you are headed to higher education and a part of our beloved community, you are welcome to apply for the scholarships we have available. We will recognize scholarship recipients on Sunday June 11 in morning worship.

Click the link in the Nearly Weekly for the application or contact Dani at ce@brocktonucc.org with any questions



SCHOLARSHIP **SPRING FLING!** **FUNDRAISER**

Join us for a FUN FILLED night of games, raffles, yummy food & good friends!

Saturday May 6th.
5:00 – 8:00 pm

Tickets - \$20
(\$25 at the door)

- Work with a team and WIN raffle tickets for a chance at some AMAZING prizes!
- You can also buy extra raffle tickets, for even more possibilities to win!
- Allergy friendly food options will be available.

Tasty Appetizers! **Scrumptious Desserts!**

Tickets will be on sale after church starting 4/16 or at the office.

Childcare with pizza, fruit & cookies will be available.

Hosted by your Vitality Team: Michelle, Lorraine, Maryann & Elisha

691 We Thank You, God, for Water, Soil, and Air

Unison

1. We thank you, God, for wa - ter, soil, and
 2. We thank you, God, for min - er - als and
 3. We thank you, God, for price - less en - er -
 4. We thank you, God, for weav - ing na - ture's
 5. We thank you, God, for mak - ing plan - et

1. air, large gifts sup - port - ing ev - ery -
 2. ores the ba - sis of all build - ing
 3. gy, stored in each at - om, gath - ered
 4. life in - to a seam - less robe, a
 5. Earth, a home for us and ag - es

1. thing that lives. For - give our
 2. wealth, and speed. For - give our
 3. from the sun. For - give our
 4. frag - ile whole. For - give our
 5. yet un - born. Help us to

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1973
 MUSIC: William Rowan, 1985

YOGANANDA
 10.10.10.9

Words © 1975 Hope Publishing Co.; music © 1985 Selah Publishing Co., Inc.; all rights reserved

♩=112-120

1. spoil - ing and a - buse of them. Help
 2. reck - less plun - der - ing and waste. Help
 3. greed and care - less - ness of power. Help
 4. haste, that tam - pers un - a - ware. Help
 5. share, con - sid - er, save, and store. Come

1. us re - new the face of the earth.
 2. us re - new the face of the earth.
 3. us re - new the face of the earth.
 4. us re - new the face of the earth.
 5. and re - new the face of the earth.

Give Thanks

528

Unison ♩

Give thanks with a grate-ful heart, give thanks to the Ho-ly One; give

thanks be-cause he's giv-en Je-sus Christ his Son. Give

Son. And now let the weak say "I am strong"; let the

poor say "I am rich" be-cause of what the Lord has done for

us And us. Give us. Give thanks!

WORDS and MUSIC: Henry Smith, 1978

GIVE THANKS
Irr.

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♩ -60-68

Descant

5. Praise to the Lord! O let all of earth's peo - ples and

1. Praise to the Lord, the Al - might - y, who rules all cre -
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros - per thy work and de -
 4. Praise to the Lord, who doth nour - ish thy life and re -
 5. Praise to the Lord! O let all of earth's peo - ples and

rac - es, all that hath life and breath, give thanks for man - i - fold

1. a - tion. O my soul, wor - ship the well - spring of health and sal -
 2. reign - eth, who, as on wings of an ea - gle up - lift - ed, sus -
 3. fend thee. Sure - ly God's good - ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at -
 4. store thee, fit - ting thee well for the tasks that are ev - er be -
 5. rac - es, all that hath life and breath, give thanks for man - i - fold

WORDS: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.;
 st. 4 tr. Rupert E. Davies, 1983

LOBE DEN HERREN
 14.14.478

MUSIC: *Erneueren Gesangbuch*, 1665; desc. Craig Sellar Lang, 1953

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grac - es. Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a -

1. va - tion. All ye who hear, now to God's tem - ple draw
 2. tain - eth. Hast thou not seen? All that is need - ful hath
 3. tend thee. Pon - der a - new what the Al - might - y can
 4. fore thee. Then to thy need God as a moth - er doth
 5. grac - es. Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a -

gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er sing prais - es.

1. near. Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion.
 2. been grant - ed in what God or - dain - eth.
 3. do, who with great love doth be - friend thee.
 4. speed, spread - ing the wings of grace o'er thee.
 5. gain. Glad - ly for - ev - er sing prais - es.