



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



November 5, 2023

10:00 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

Moriah Park

***CALL TO WORSHIP**

Leader: In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,
People: we come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,
People: we come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,
People: we come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and
People: we come to be your people, O God.

May we truly become your people today. Amen.

***OPENING SONG**

'This is the Day' (twice)

Les Garrett

Pulpit: This is the day

Eagle: This is the day

Pulpit: That the Lord has made

Eagle: That the Lord has made

Pulpit: We will rejoice

Eagle: We will rejoice

Pulpit: And be glad in it

Eagle: And be glad in it

**ALL: This is the day that the Lord has made.
We will rejoice and be glad in it.
This is the day, this is the day,
That the Lord has made**

PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE

People: *raise hands*

God you created our hands beautiful and capable but...

People: *grab the air*

Too often we use them to grab what we want

People: *fight stance*

We ball them up into fists to hit.

People: *hug self*

We use them to hug only ourselves.

People: *hands behind backs*

We hide them behind our backs, pretending there is nothing we could do to help when we know there is.

People: *arms out, palms up*

So, we turn our hands up to you asking for forgiveness.

Forgive all the bad we have done with our hands.

People: *wash hands*

Wash our hands and make them clean.

Lead us to use our hands well.

People: *open arms wide*

Teach us to open our hands to share with others.

People: *give fist bumps to neighbors*

Give us the power to shake hands with our neighbors.

People: *hold hands or wave to your neighbors*

Show us how to join hands with our neighbors to build your kingdom of love.

People: *prayer hands*

We pray in Jesus' name, remembering his loving hands.

Amen

WORDS OF GRACE

***SONG OF PREPARATION**

Sanctuary

Lord, Prepare Me
Sanctuary

Lord, pre - pare me to be a sanc - tu - ar - y, pure and
ho - ly, tried and true. With thanks - giv - ing,
I'll be a liv - ing sanc - tu - ar - y for you.

TEXT: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982
MUSIC: John Thompson and Randy Scruggs, 1982; arr. Nylea L. Butler-Moore

SANCTUARY
CCLI # 1543869

SCRIPTURE

Acts 2:42-47, 4:32-37

The people in the first church learned about God together. They prayed and praised God together. They broke bread and ate together happily.

The people in the first church shared everything they had. When they made clothes or tools they did not say, "These things are mine. You can't have them." They said, "These things belong to all of us!" When they made food, they did not say, "This food is only for me." Instead, they shared the food with others.

If someone needed money, the people said, "We can help." Some even sold their homes and gave the money away to help others.

They made sure everyone had what they needed: food, a warm bed, clothing, and money. The people felt very happy inside. They loved God and took care of each other.

Every day, more and more people joined the first church. They knew that they would be cared for and loved.

REFLECTION

Pastor Jeff & Dani

PRAYER STATIONS

- **Sharing Book:** We are making a Christ Congregational Church book about how we can share. Draw a picture of yourself and something you can share. Write a sentence at the bottom of the page: _____ can share a bike.
- **Togetherness Towers:** Work with two or three people to build a strong, sturdy tower of at least 15 cups. Make sure to include each member of your team.
- **Joyful Jam:** Just as the people in our Bible story found joy in sharing with one another, so can we. Grab an instrument or use your body (snapping, clapping, stomping, tongue clicking) to make music with others.
- **Whimsical Welcome:** Let's make our entrance way even more welcoming by creating Welcome signs to greet visitors and members alike to our worship space. Use the art materials to create signs.

MUSIC FOR REFLECTION

Alex Green

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...





ALL SAINTS REMEMBRANCE & BUBBLE PRAYER PASTORAL PRAYER

**Today for All Saints Sunday we will observe our time of prayer together by remembering the beloved Saints who have passed in the past year, along with all those who have been lifted up by our community to be remembered. As we read the names of those who have passed we will ring the bell, and at that time we invite everyone in the congregation to also blow their bubbles to lift up that person's name with our breath.*

*If you did not have the opportunity before today to share someone's name to be read, but you would like us to remember a loved one, when invited please feel free to share your loved one's name and we will ring the bell and blow bubbles to remember them.**

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.

SONG 'Jesu, Jesu' (refrain, twice) No. 600

CALL FOR OFFERINGS

OFFERTORY 'Down in the Valley to Pray' American folk/Althouse

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** 'Halle, Hallelujah' (twice) No. 41

***PRAYER OF DEDICATION**




SACRAMENT OF COMMUNION

THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

SONG OF THANKSGIVING

Johnny Appleseed Prayer



The Lord is good to me, and so I thank the Lord, for
giving me the things I need, the sun and the rain and the
apple seed, the Lord is good to me.

SHOUT: AMEN!

REMEMBERING THE STORY

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

BREAKING OF THE BREAD & POURING THE CUP

SHARING THE ELEMENTS

For communion today people are invited to come down the center aisle when signaled by one of our Deacons. Come to the front of the church to receive your elements, and then once you've consumed your bread and cup please proceed to your seat using one of the side aisles. If you are unable to come forward please let a member of our Deacons' board know so that we can bring communion to you in your seat.

COMMUNION MUSIC

'In All Our Living'

Mexican folk/Eslinger

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING *(sign language with Mr. David)*

"Thank you God." "You are Good" "We are loved" "Amen"

*CLOSING SONG

'God's Got the Whole World in God's Hands'

God's got the whole world in God's hands x3
God's got the whole world in God's hands

God's got the wind and the rain in God's hands x3
God's got the whole world in God's hands.

God's got you and me sibling in God's hands x3
God's got the whole world in God's hands

God's got the whole world in God's hands x3
God's got the whole world in God's hands

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

'Amen!'

No. 317

POSTLUDE

'Gather Us In'

Haugen/Hayes

Participating in Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Alex Green, Music Director

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director