



**CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**  
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 3, 2024

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

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

'For the Fruit of All Creation'

No. 714

**CALL TO WORSHIP<sup>1</sup>**

Leader: The ads online, on TV, and everywhere we look shout: "Buy me! You deserve me! You're only worthy with me!"

**People: Some days we shout back: Enough!**

Leader: And other days we let a theology and attitude of scarcity overtake us.

**People: On those days we allow what we have to define us, to control us, and to restrict us.**

Leader: God provides enough. God created each of us as enough. God creates a world of abundance.

**People: But our certainty of scarcity, our idolatry of the shiny, and our fears of others prevent us from gratitude, graciousness, and sharing.**

Leader: We live in an abundant world.

**People: Our creator makes it so.**

Leader: Move our hearts and lessen our fears in this hour.

**People: There is enough for all of us.**

Leader: Praise be to the God of Abundant Love!

**People: Praise to the God of Enough!**

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>2</sup>**

Leader: You call your people to prayer and praise in many ways. This day, bring us together just as you called the people of Israel — to gather manna in the desert to eat and sustain life.

**People: God of unity, give us this day our daily bread.**

Leader: Offer us the nutrients we need to remain connected to you. As spiritual beings, we desire to receive food that endures — faith, hope, and love.

**People: God of grace, give us this day our daily bread.**

Leader: All life is created and nourished by you! May we grow into new circles of understanding and being, reflecting the ways in which we have been touched by your holy manna.

**People: Holy Spirit, come! Give us this day our daily bread.**

### **\*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**ALL: O God of Bread and Abundance, we receive your blessings daily. Some we can see. Some we never even know about. Yet, despite our many blessings we are not always grateful. We are like the Israelites in the desert - we complain, only seeing our short sighted vision of the world while you have promised us eternity. Our perception of scarcity leads us to live counter to how you call us. Forgive us God, and give us bread to feed not only ourselves, but to feed others also. Help us to gather the manna in the wilderness, in the midst of beloved community, so that we might be led to better see your way. Amen.**

### **\*WORDS OF GRACE<sup>3</sup>**

#### **\*SUNG RESPONSE**

‘Great Is Thy Faithfulness’ (refrain only)

No. 86

#### **A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

Dani Kardisco

#### **\*HYMN OF PREPARATION**

‘Wellspring of Wisdom’ (vs. 1&3)

No. 596

### **SCRIPTURE**

#### **Matthew 6:5-13**

<sup>5</sup>“When you pray, don’t be like hypocrites. They love to pray standing in the synagogues and on the street corners so that people will see them. I assure you, that’s the only reward they’ll get. <sup>6</sup> But when you pray, go to your room, shut the door, and pray to your Father who is present in that secret place. Your Father who sees what you do in secret will reward you.

<sup>7</sup>“When you pray, don’t pour out a flood of empty words, as the Gentiles do. They think that by saying many words they’ll be heard. <sup>8</sup> Don’t be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask. <sup>9</sup> Pray like this:

*Our Father who is in heaven,  
uphold the holiness of your name.*

<sup>10</sup> *Bring in your kingdom*

*so that your will is done on earth as it’s done in heaven.*

<sup>11</sup> *Give us the bread we need for today.*

<sup>12</sup> *Forgive us for the ways we have wronged you,  
just as we also forgive those who have wronged us.*

<sup>13</sup> *And don’t lead us into temptation,  
but rescue us from the evil one.*

#### **Exodus 16:2-5, 13-18**

<sup>2</sup> The whole Israelite community complained against Moses and Aaron in the desert. <sup>3</sup> The Israelites said to them, “Oh, how we wish that the LORD had just put us to death while we were still in the land of Egypt. There we could sit by the pots cooking meat and eat our fill of bread. Instead, you’ve brought us out into this desert to starve this whole assembly to death.”

<sup>4</sup> Then the LORD said to Moses, “I’m going to make bread rain down from the sky for you. The people will go out each day and gather just enough for that day. In this way, I’ll test them to see whether or not they follow my Instruction. <sup>5</sup> On the sixth day, when they measure out what they have collected, it will be twice as much as they collected on other days.”

<sup>13</sup> In the evening a flock of quail flew down and covered the camp. And in the morning there was a layer of dew all around the camp. <sup>14</sup> When the layer of dew lifted, there on the desert surface were thin flakes, as thin as frost on the ground. <sup>15</sup> When the Israelites saw it, they said to each other, “What is it?” They didn’t know what it was.

Moses said to them, “This is the bread that the LORD has given you to eat. <sup>16</sup> This is what the LORD has commanded: ‘Collect as much of it as each of you can eat, one omer per person. You may collect for the number of people in your household.’” <sup>17</sup> The Israelites did as Moses said, some collecting more, some less. <sup>18</sup> But when they measured it out by the omer, the ones who had collected more had nothing left over, and the ones who had collected less had no shortage. Everyone collected just as much as they could eat.

## SERMON

Pastor Jeff Kardisco

## 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...



## 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 OFFERINGS

### OFFERTORY

‘Let All The World’

(Alex Green)

### \*OFFERTORY RESPONSE

‘Jesu, Jesu’ (Refrain and vs. 5)

No. 600

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>4</sup>



## SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION<sup>5</sup>

**\*At Christ Congregational Church we serve communion at an open table, which means ALL are welcome to participate. This means a few things:**

1. *None of the cups for communion contain wine.*
2. *People of all ages are welcome to receive communion.*
3. *People of all faiths are welcome to receive communion.*
4. *People of all gender identities and sexual orientations are welcome to receive communion.*
5. *People who are not able to come forward to receive communion are still welcome to receive it, please let a deacon know if you need the pastor or another server to bring the elements to you.*

### THE GREAT THANKSGIVING

Leader: May the God of all mornings be with you!

**People: And also with you!**

Leader: Children of God, welcome the One who shares grace with childlike abandon.

**People: We open our hearts so we might savor the sweet taste of joy and wonder.**

Leader: People of God, bring your emptiness to this Table of hope and peace.

**People: We sing praises to the One who fills us with Christ's presence for service to others.**

### SONG OF THANKSGIVING

'Santo, Santo, Santo'

No. 111

### REMEMBERING THE STORY

### PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

### BREAKING OF THE BREAD AND POURING OF THE CUP

### SHARING OF 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

'Prayer Of Peace'

(Traditional Navajo/Haas)

## PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**ALL:** Almighty God, as close to us as breathing and as distant as the farthest star, we thank you for filling us at this table. We thank you for nourishing us in body and in spirit. May the provision we've received here today empower us to be your hands and feet in the world, to share the good news of the gospel everywhere that we go. Amen.

## HYMN

'God Be with You Till We Meet Again'

No. 434

## BENEDICTION

## POSTLUDE

'Toccata'

(Pachelbel)

### **Participating In Today's Worship Service:**

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Alex Green, Music Director

Susannah Thornton, Soloist

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

<sup>1</sup>Graves, Tim. "Confession: God of Enough." *Confession: God of Enough*, Liturgy Bits, re-worship.blogspot.com/2018/07/confession-god-of-enough.html. Accessed 26 Feb. 2024.

<sup>2</sup>Lizardy-Hajbi, Rev. Kristina. "Opening Prayer: Our Daily Bread." *Opening Prayer: Our Daily Bread*, United Church of Christ Worship Ways, re-worship.blogspot.com/2012/07/opening-prayer-our-daily-bread.html. Accessed 26 Feb. 2024.

<sup>3</sup>Unknown, Author. "Act of Confession: Proper 20A." *Act of Confession: Proper 20A*, re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/act-of-confession-proper-20a.html. Accessed 26 Feb. 2024.

<sup>4</sup>Unknown, Author. "Offering Prayer: Exodus 16: 2-16." *Offering Prayer: Exodus 16: 2-16*, Thematic, Intercessory and Scripture Prayers for the RCL, Vanderbilt Divinity Library, re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/09/offering-prayer-exodus-16-2-16.html. Accessed 26 Feb. 2024.

<sup>5</sup>Shuman, Thom M. "Liturgy with Communion for September 24, 2017 (Pentecost 16/Trinity 15/Proper 20/Ordinary 25 - A)." *Liturgy with Communion for September 24, 2017 (Pentecost 16/Trinity 15/Proper 20/Ordinary 25 - A)*, Lectionary Liturgies, 24 Sept. 2017, lectionaryliturgies.blogspot.com/2017/09/liturgy-with-communion-for-september-27\_15.html. - ADAPTED



Lent. A journey to the cross and beyond

Purple is the color for Lent. The color is associated with royalty and reminds us of the upside down world of Jesus who was mocked with a crown of thorns and a purple robe as he was tried for insurrection in the Roman Court. The sign at the cross named him the King of the Jews. His sentence was crucifixion. But we know that was not the end of the story. Followers of Jesus, the Christ, acknowledge him as Lord of God's New Kingdom to be established with Christ as the head of the church. Now we understand the purple to signify penitence and preparation as we make the journey with Jesus. The side panels depict the world ready to birth new beauty as it turns to Spring for us in this hemisphere once again.

1. For the fruit of all cre - a - tion, thanks be to God;  
 2. In the just re - ward of la - bor, God's will is done;  
 3. For the har - vests of the Spir - it, thanks be to God;

for good gifts to ev - ery na - tion, thanks be to God; for the  
 in the help we give our neigh - bor, God's will is done; in our  
 for the good we all in - her - it, thanks be to God; for the

plow - ing, sow - ing, reap - ing, si - lent growth while we are sleep - ing,  
 world - wide task of car - ing for the hun - gry and de - spair - ing,  
 won - ders that as - tound us, for the truths that still con - found us,

fu - ture needs in earth's safe - keep - ing, thanks be to God.  
 in the har - vests we are shar - ing, God's will is done.  
 most of all, that love has found us, thanks be to God.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1970  
 MUSIC: Traditional Welsh melody; harm. Luther Orlando Emerson, 1906

AR HYD Y NOS  
 84.84.888.4

## Great Is Thy Faithfulness

86

1. Great is thy faith-ful-ness, O God my Fa-ther, there is no shad-ow of  
 2. Sum-mer and win-ter, and spring-time and har-vest, sun, moon and stars in their  
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en-dur-eth, thy own dear pres-ence to

turn- ing with thee; thou chang- est not, thy com- pas- sions, they fail not;  
 cours- es a - bove, join with all na- ture in man - i - fold wit- ness  
 cheer and to guide; strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,

*Refrain*

as thou hast been thou for - ev - er wilt be. Great is thy faith-ful-ness!  
 to thy great faith-ful-ness, mer-cy and love.  
 bless-ings all mine, with ten thou-sand be-side!

Great is thy faith-ful-ness! Morn-ing by morn-ing new mer-cies I see; all I have

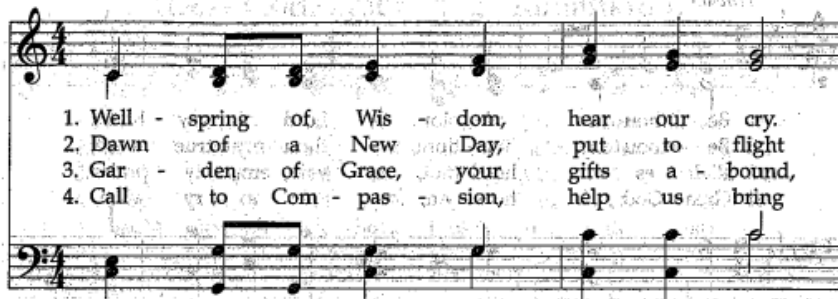
need-ed thy hand hath pro-vid-ed—Great is thy faith-ful-ness, Lord, un-to me!

WORDS: Thomas O. Chisholm, 1923  
 MUSIC: William M. Runyan, 1923

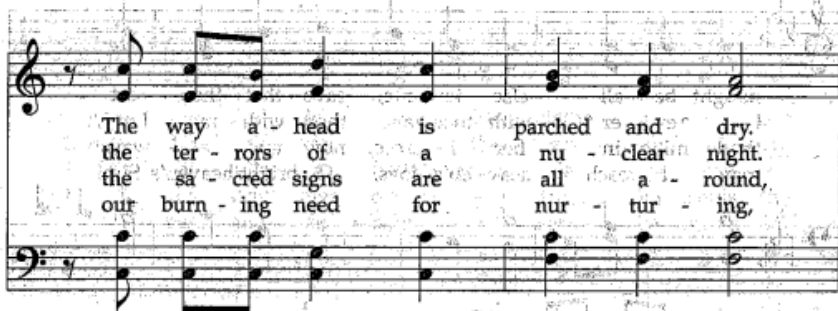
FAITHFULNESS  
 11 10.11 10 w. refrain

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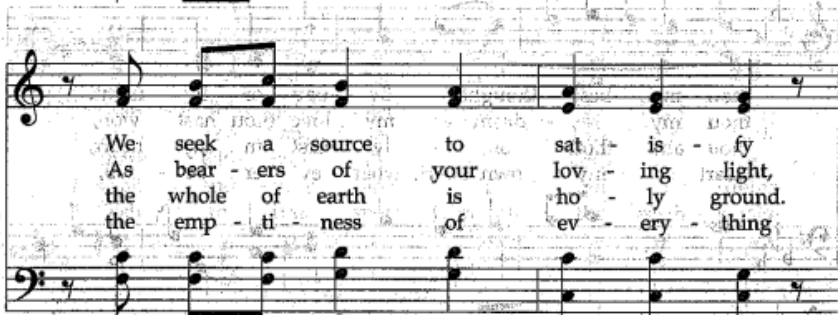




1. Well - spring of Wis - dom, hear our cry.  
 2. Dawn of a New Day, put us to flight  
 3. Gar - den of Grace, your gifts a bound,  
 4. Call to Com - pas - sion, help us bring



The way a head is parched and dry,  
 the ter - rors of a nu - clear night.  
 the sa - cred signs are all a - round,  
 our burn - ing need for nur - tur - ing,



We seek a source to sat - is - fy  
 As bear - ers of your lov - ing light,  
 the whole of earth is ho - ly ground.  
 the emp - ti - ness of ev - ery - thing

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987

MUSIC: Miriam Therese Winter, 1987; harm. Don McKeever, 1987

WELLSPRING

888.9 10

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#-88-96



our thirst for sanc - ti - fy - ing wa - ters,  
 we hid - dle clos - er to your fire,  
 We learn, from all of life ex - press - ing,  
 to your em - brace, as we en - deav - or



wis - dom for your faith - filled sons and daugh - ters.  
 lift the lamp of hope a lit - tle high - er.  
 how to grow in sow - ing seeds of bless - ing.  
 to pro - claim your ho - ly name for - ev - er.

Refrain (Unison)

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2. Neigh - bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
 4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are  
 5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

1. feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 2. race, neigh - bors are near and far a - way.  
 3. love; all these are neigh - bors to us and you.  
 4. slaves, this is the way we should live with you.  
 5. feet, this is the way we should live with you.

WORDS: Tom Colvin, 1969  
 MUSIC: Ghana folk song; arr. Tom Colvin, 1969; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

CHEREPONI  
 arr. w. refrain

# Santo, Santo, Santo

(Holy, Holy, Holy)

111

The musical score is written in 4/4 time. The first system consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: C, G7, Am, F, G, C. The lyrics for the first system are: "San - to, san - to, san - to. ¡Mi co - ra - zón te a - do - ra! Mi Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly. My heart, my heart a - dore you! My". The second system also has a treble and bass staff. Chords are indicated above the treble staff: F, G7, C, Am, F, G7, C. The lyrics for the second system are: "co - ra - zón te sa - be de - cir: ¡San - to e - res Señ - or! heart knows how to say to you: Ho - ly are you, Lord!". The piece ends with a double bar line and a fermata over the final note.

WORDS: Latin America (20th century)  
MUSIC: Latin America (20th century); arr. 1990 Iona Community

Arr. © 1990 Iona Community; used by permission of GIA Publications, Inc.

SANTO  
67.67

♩=96

# God Be with You Till We Meet Again 434

1-4. God be with you till we meet a - gain;

lov - ing coun - sels guide, up - hold you, with a shep - herd's  
un - seen wings, pro - tect - ing, hide you, dai - ly man - na  
when life's per - ils thick con - found you, put un - fail - ing  
keep love's ban - ner float - ing o'er you, smite death's threat - ening

care en - fold you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
still pro - vide you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
arms a - round you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
wave be - fore you: God be with you till we meet a - gain.

*Refrain*  
Till we meet till we meet, till we meet at Je - sus' feet;  
Till we meet, till we meet, till we meet, till we meet;

till we meet, till we meet, God be with you till we meet a - gain.  
till we meet, till we meet,

WORDS: Jeremiah E. Rankin, 1880, alt.  
MUSIC: William G. Tomer, 1880

GOD BE WITH YOU  
98.89 w. refrain

a