



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



March 10, 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**

'God of Grace and God of Glory'

No. 464

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

One: It is the light of God's love in Christ that brings a rich harvest of goodness and truth.

All: So we would live like people who belong to the light.

One: We would have nothing to do with worthless things that belong to the world of darkness.

All: In the name of Jesus we would live in the light, giving thanks to God the Father.

OPENING PRAYER

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

ALL: We confess, O God, that we have not always turned ourselves over completely to the new life you've called us to. We still cling to the things that get in the way of your most precious ideals - justice, mercy, peace, equity, and inclusion. We are happy to receive your grace, but we admit that sometimes we have taken it for granted. Forgive us and transform us to better pursue the things that make your kin-dom, so that we might have them for ourselves, and so that we might offer them to others too. Amen.

***WORDS OF GRACE**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

'Great Is Thy Faithfulness' (refrain only)

No. 86

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

'Open My Eyes, That I May See'

No. 586

SCRIPTURE

Matthew 6:5-13

⁵ “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. ⁶ 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. ⁷ “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. ⁸ Don’t be like them, because your Father knows what you need before you ask. ⁹ Pray like this:

*Our Father who is in heaven,
uphold the holiness of your name.
¹⁰ Bring in your kingdom
so that your will is done on earth as it’s done in heaven.
¹¹ Give us the bread we need for today.
¹² Forgive us for the ways we have wronged you,
just as we also forgive those who have wronged us.
¹³ And don’t lead us into temptation,
but rescue us from the evil one.*

Romans 6:1-11

6 So what are we going to say? Should we continue sinning so grace will multiply? ² Absolutely not! All of us died to sin. How can we still live in it? ³ Or don’t you know that all who were baptized into Christ Jesus were baptized into his death? ⁴ Therefore, we were buried together with him through baptism into his death, so that just as Christ was raised from the dead through the glory of the Father, we too can walk in newness of life. ⁵ If we were united together in a death like his, we will also be united together in a resurrection like his. ⁶ This is what we know: the person that we used to be was crucified with him in order to get rid of the corpse that had been controlled by sin. That way we wouldn’t be slaves to sin anymore, ⁷ because a person who has died has been freed from sin’s power. ⁸ But if we died with Christ, we have faith that we will also live with him. ⁹ We know that Christ has been raised from the dead and he will never die again. Death no longer has power over him. ¹⁰ He died to sin once and for all with his death, but he lives for God with his life. ¹¹ In the same way, you also should consider yourselves dead to sin but alive for God in Christ Jesus.

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 'Some of These Mornings' (Traditional Spiritual/Hayes)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** 'Jesu, Jesu' (Refrain and vs. 5) No. 600

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

HYMN 'Amazing Grace' No. 546

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE 'Every Time I Feel the Spirit' (Traditional Spiritual/Nix)

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

†Brown, Rev. Bob. "Call to Worship: People of the Light." *Call to Worship: People of the Light*, Church of Scotland, 26 June 2011, re-worship.blogspot.com/2011/06/call-to-worship-people-of-light.html.





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.

God of Grace and God of Glory 464

1. God of grace and God of glo - ry, on thy peo - ple
 2. Lo! the hosts of e - vil round us scorn thy Christ, as -
 3. Cure thy chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4. Set our feet on loft - y pla - ces; fill our lives that
 5. Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

1. pour thy power; crown thine an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 2. sail thy ways! From the fears that long have bound us,
 3. thy con - trol; shame our wan - ton, self - ish glad - ness,
 4. we may be strength - ened with all Christ - like gra - ces
 5. we de - plore; let the search for thy sal - va - tion

1. bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 2. free our hearts to faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 3. rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 4. pledged to set all cap - tives free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 5. be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

1. for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 2. for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 3. lest we miss thy righ - teous goal, lest we miss thy righ - teous goal.
 4. lest we fail our call from thee, lest we fail our call from thee.
 5. serv - ing thee whom we a - dore, serv - ing thee whom we a - dore.

WORDS: Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930
 MUSIC: John Hughes, 1907

CWM RHONDDA
 87.87.877

Alt. tune: REGENT SQUARE

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

Open My Eyes, That I May See

586

1. O - pen my eyes, that I may see glimps-es of truth thou
 2. O - pen my ears, that I may hear voic - es of truth thou
 3. O - pen my mouth, and let me bear glad - ly the warm truth

hast for me; place in my hands the won - der - ful key
 send - est clear; and while the wave - notes fall on my ear,
 ev - ery - where; o - pen my heart and let me pre - pare

Refrain

that shall un - clasp and set me free.
 ev - ery - thing false will dis - ap - pear. Si - lent - ly now I
 love with thy chil - dren thus to share.

wait for thee, read - y, my God, thy will to see.

O - pen my eyes,
 O - pen my ears, il - lu - mine me, Spir - it di - vine!
 O - pen my heart,

WORDS and MUSIC: Clara H. Scott, 1895

OPEN MY EYES
 88.98 w. refrain

Jesu, Jesu

600

Refrain (Unison)

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

Fine

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

D.C.

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

Amazing Grace!

546

1. A - maz - ing grace! How sweet the sound that
 2. 'Twas grace that taught my heart to fear, and
 3. Through man - y dan - gers, toils, and snares, I
 4. When we've been there ten thou - sand years, bright

saved a wretch like me! I once was lost, but
 grace my fears re - lieved; how pre - cious did that
 have al - read - y come; 'tis grace hath brought me
 shin - ing as the sun, we've no less days to

now am found; was blind, but now I see.
 grace ap - pear the hour I first be - lieved.
 safe thus far, and grace will lead me home.
 sing God's praise than when we'd first be - gun.

WORDS: John Newton, 1779; st. 4 anonymous
 MUSIC: *Virginia Harmony*, 1831; harm. Edwin O. Excell, 1900

NEW BRITAIN
 CM