



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



April 14, 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**

‘Praise to the Lord, the Almighty’

No. 25

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

Leader: Let us fill our hearts and minds with hope as we hear the Words of Jesus Christ.

**ALL: “Peace be with you.”**

Leader: When peace and justice seem uncertain, let us hear anew the Words of Jesus Christ.

**ALL: “Why are you troubled, and why do doubts arise in your minds?”**

Leader: Let us be comforted by the presence of Christ, whose love, and light dwells within us.

**ALL: Let our lives be witnesses of these things.**

Leader: Help us to be instruments of Christ’s peace to all in need of God’s healing love.

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup>**

**\*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE<sup>1</sup>**

**ALL: Loving God, in your infinite wisdom, we are glad that you make all things new. Where there is hate, show your love. Where there is war, bring your peace. Where there is despair, bring your hope. Where there is fear, bring your understanding. Where there is scarcity, bring your abundance. Where there is systemic oppression, bring equal justice for all. By your perfect grace and mercy, make us new. May it be so. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF GRACE<sup>1</sup>**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**

‘God of Grace and God of Glory’

No. 464

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

**\*HYMN OF PREPARATION**

‘Spirit of the Living God’

No. 259

## SCRIPTURE

### Psalm 4

- 4 Answer me when I cry out, my righteous God!  
Set me free from my troubles!  
Have mercy on me!  
Listen to my prayer!
- <sup>2</sup> How long, you people,  
will my reputation be insulted?  
How long will you continue  
to love what is worthless  
and go after lies? *Selah*
- <sup>3</sup> Know this: the Lord takes  
personal care of the faithful.  
The Lord will hear me  
when I cry out to him.
- <sup>4</sup> So be afraid, and don't sin!  
Think hard about it in your bed  
and weep over it! *Selah*
- <sup>5</sup> Bring righteous offerings,  
and trust the Lord!
- <sup>6</sup> Many people say,  
"We can't find goodness anywhere.  
The light of your face has left us, Lord!"<sup>[a]</sup>
- <sup>7</sup> But you have filled my heart with more joy  
than when their wheat and wine are everywhere!
- <sup>8</sup> I will lie down and fall asleep in peace  
because you alone, Lord, let me live in safety.

## 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<sup>1</sup>

Leader: All are invited to give joyously to the church that bears witness to Christ's love.

**ALL: Let us give with a joyful heart.**

Leader: God's loving generous Spirit has given us every good and gracious gift.

**ALL: We offer our gratitude for God's abundant blessings in our lives.**

Leader: Now, let us be a blessing to others in the ways that God has faithfully and generously blessed us. Let us now receive this morning's offering.

OFFERTORY	'Jesu, Lover of My Soul'	(Williamson/Hutson)
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	'Now Thank We All Our God' (vs 1)	No. 715
PRAYER OF DEDICATION <sup>1</sup>		
HYMN	'Great Is Thy Faithfulness'	No. 86
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	'O Praise the Name' by Sampson/Hastings/Ussher/Cumberland	(Anastasis)

### 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>Harvey, Rev. Dr. Sheila. "Easter 3b – April 14." *United Church of Christ*, 28 Mar. 2024, [www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-3b-april-14/](http://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-3b-april-14/).

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

LOBE DEN HERREN  
 14.14.478

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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.

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

## Spirit of the Living God

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spir - it of the liv - ing God, fall a-fresh on me.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD  
75.75.875

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1. Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voices,  
 2. O may this bounteous God through all our life be near us,  
 3. All praise and thanks to God our Father and our Mother,

who wondrous things has done, in whom the world rejoices,  
 with ever joyful hearts and blessed peace to cheer us,  
 to Christ and to the One who binds us to each other,

who, from our mothers' arms, has blessed us on our way  
 and keep us full of grace, and guide us when perplexed,  
 the one eternal God, whom earth and heaven adore,

with countless gifts of love, and still is ours to-day.  
 and free us from all ills in this world and the next.  
 for thus it was, is now, and shall be ever more.

WORDS: Martin Rinkart, 1636; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1858, alt.  
 MUSIC: Johann Crüger, 1647; harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840

NUN DANKET  
 67.67.66.66

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