



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



April 21, 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**

'All Creatures of Our God and King'

No. 22

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

Leader: When we are scattered, Jesus our Good Shepherd gathers us in.

**Many: When we are lost and lonely, we can depend on Christ's love.**

Leader: When we are oppressed, Jesus our Good Shepherd cares for us.

**Many: When we are threatened because of who we are, we can depend on Christ's protection.**

Leader: We know Christ, because Christ's tenderness has guided us for generations.

**Many: Christ knows us by name. Christ will lay down his very life for our sake.**

Leader: Let us worship our Good Shepherd, who cares for all of us with fierce love.

**Many: Let us give thanks for Christ's presence with us.**

**OPENING PRAYER<sup>1</sup> (in unison)**

**Holy God, you sent us Jesus as our comforter and guide. We give you thanks for the ways he cares for us. Help us be empowered to join him in protecting the oppressed and marginalized. We pray this in gratitude for your provision. Amen.**

**\*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE<sup>1</sup> (in unison)**

**Shepherding Christ, even as you lay down your life for us, we confess our unwillingness to support those in need. Too often, we may be more like the one who runs away in times of trouble. We aren't always bold enough to protect the powerless; following your example is rarely easy or comfortable. Forgive us. Help us lay down our apathy and follow your example. Remind us that we belong to one another, and to you. Amen.**

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

Leader: Beloved of God, receive this comfort. It is impossible to respond to every need in this complicated world. A full life of faith gives us the grace to lay down our work, take the rest we need, then refocus our energy toward the cause of the oppressed. Rest in the shelter of your Good Shepherd, knowing you can take up the cause again with restored souls.

**Many: We are forgiven. Thanks be to God!**

## **\*SUNG RESPONSE**

‘Blessed Assurance’ (vs. 3)

No. 543

## **A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

Dani Kardisco

## **\*HYMN OF PREPARATION**

‘Spirit of the Living God’

No. 259

## **SCRIPTURE**

### **John 10:11-18**

<sup>11</sup> “I am the good shepherd. The good shepherd lays down his life for the sheep. <sup>12</sup> The hired hand is not the shepherd and does not own the sheep. So when he sees the wolf coming, he abandons the sheep and runs away. Then the wolf attacks the flock and scatters it. <sup>13</sup> The man runs away because he is a hired hand and cares nothing for the sheep.

<sup>14</sup> “I am the good shepherd; I know my sheep and my sheep know me— <sup>15</sup> just as the Father knows me and I know the Father—and I lay down my life for the sheep. <sup>16</sup> I have other sheep that are not of this sheep pen. I must bring them also. They too will listen to my voice, and there shall be one flock and one shepherd. <sup>17</sup> The reason my Father loves me is that I lay down my life—only to take it up again. <sup>18</sup> No one takes it from me, but I lay it down of my own accord. I have authority to lay it down and authority to take it up again. This command I received from my Father.”

## **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>

OFFERTORY 'Wonderful Words of Life' (Moore)

\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE 'Morning Has Broken' (vs. 1) No. 53

## PRAYER OF DEDICATION<sup>1</sup> *(in unison)*

Gracious God, thank you for your gift of Jesus Christ, who cares for us and protects us. With these gifts we return to you, help us care for others in our communities and around the world. Amen.

HYMN 'Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us' No. 558

## BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE 'Alleluia! Christ Is Risen' (Penfield)

### **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>Nault, Rev. Jacob. "Easter 4b – April 21." *United Church of Christ, UCC Worship Ways*, 4 Apr. 2024, [www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-4b-april-21/](http://www.ucc.org/worship-way/easter-4b-april-21/).

# All Creatures of Our God and King 22

*Unison*

1. All crea-tures of our God and King, lift up your voice and with us  
 2. O rush-ing wind with voice so strong, you clouds that sail in heav'n a-  
 3. O flow-ing wa-ter, pure and clear, make mu-sic for your God to  
 4. And all for-giv-en ten-der hearts, for-giv-ing oth-ers, take your

*Harmony* *Unison*

sing; Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O burn-ing sun with gold-en  
 long, O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia! O ris-ing morn, in praise re-  
 hear, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia! O blaz-ing fire who lights the  
 part, sing prais-es, Al-le-lu-ia! You who long pain and sor-row

*Refrain (Harmony)*

beam, O sil-ver moon with soft-er gleam,  
 joice, you lights of eve-ning find a voice, O praise God,  
 night, pro-vid-ing warmth, en-hanc-ing sight,  
 bear, praise God, who knows your ev-'ry care.

*Unison*

O praise God, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia, Al-le-lu-ia!

WORDS: Francis of Assisi, 1225; tr. William H. Draper, 1925, alt.  
 MUSIC: Geistliche Kirchengesänge, 1623; harm. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

LASST UNS ERFREUEN  
 86.44.88 w. refrain

1. Bless-ed as-sur-ance, Je-sus is mine! O what a fore-taste of glo-ry di-  
 2. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, per-fect de-light, vi-sions of rap-ture now burst on my  
 3. Per-fect sub-mis-sion, all is at rest; I in my Sav-ior am hap-py and

vine! Heir of sal-va-tion, pur-chase of God, born of his  
 sight; an-gels de-scend-ing bring from a-bove ech-oes of  
 blest, watch-ing and wait-ing, look-ing a-bove, filled with his

*Refrain*

Spir-it, washed in his blood.  
 mer-cy, whis-pers of love. This is my sto-ry, this is my  
 good-ness, lost in his love.

song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long; this is my

sto-ry, this is my song, prais-ing my Sav-ior all the day long.

WORDS: Fanny J. Crosby, 1873  
 MUSIC: Phoebe P. Knapp, 1873

ASSURANCE  
 9 10.99 w. refrain

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

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff. The treble staff has a melody line with lyrics underneath. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with chords and single notes.

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

The second system of music continues the melody and accompaniment from the first system.

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

The third system of music features a different melody line in the treble staff, with lyrics underneath. The bass staff continues with a steady accompaniment.

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

The fourth system of music returns to the first melody line and concludes the piece with a double bar line.

WORDS and MUSIC: Daniel Iverson, 1926

LIVING GOD  
75.75.875

© 1935, 1963 Birdwing Music, a div. of The Sparrow Corp.

## Morning Has Broken

C Am Dm G Dm G C

1. Morn - ing has bro - ken like the first morn - ing, black-bird has  
 2. Sweet the rain's new fall sun - lit from heav - en, like the first  
 3. Mine is the sun - light! Mine is the morn - ing born of the

Em Am Em F G C Am F C

spo - ken like the first bird. Praise for the sing - ing! Praise for the  
 dew - fall on the first grass. Praise for the sweet - ness of the wet  
 one light E - den saw play! Praise with e - la - tion, praise ev - ery

Am G C G Am Dm G7 C

morn - ing! Praise for them, spring - ing fresh from the Word!  
 gar - den, sprung in com - plete - ness where God's feet pass.  
 morn - ing, God's re - cre - a - tion of the new day!

WORDS: Eleanor Farjeon, 1931  
 MUSIC: Gaelic melody; arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

BUNESSAN  
 55.54D

Words © 1957 Eleanor Farjeon, used by permission of Harold Ober Associates;  
 arr. © 1987 CRC Publications

# 558 Savior, Like a Shepherd Lead Us

1. Sav-ior, like a shep-herd lead us, much we need thy ten-der care;  
 2. We are thine; do thou be-friend us; be the guard-ian of our way;  
 3. Ear-ly let us seek thy fa-vor; ear-ly let us do thy will;

in thy pleas-ant pas-tures feed us, for our use thy folds pre-pare.  
 keep thy flock; from sin de-fend us; seek us when we go a-stray.  
 bless-ed Lord and on-ly Sav-ior, with thy love our spir-its fill.

Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are;  
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear thy chil-dren when we pray;  
 Bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast loved us, love us still;

bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast bought us, thine we are.  
 bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, hear thy chil-dren when we pray.  
 bless-ed Je-sus, bless-ed Je-sus, thou hast loved us, love us still.

WORDS: Dorothy A. Thrupp, 1836  
 MUSIC: William B. Bradbury, 1859

BRADBURY  
 87.87D