



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



December 15, 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**

'Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming'

No. 136

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

ALL: We seek time to embrace the joy.

Leader: Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

ALL: We create opportunities to embody joy.

Leader: Rejoice, my friends, rejoice!

ALL: Singing songs that announce joy we worship together today!

ADVENT CANDLE LIGHTING

The Creedon Family

MUSICAL RESPONSE

'One Candle Is Lit' (vs. 3)

No. 128

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

HYMN

'My Soul Gives Glory to My God'

No. 130

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE¹ (in unison)**

Loving God, Creator of Wonder and Delight, we have fallen into the crevices of worry. We have allowed the preoccupation of what was said in the past, and what will happen in the future, to distract us from embodying joy now. Clear a pathway to our souls, so that we can find levity and delight again. May we find ways from the chasms of concern, to the daylight of hopefulness. Amen.

***WORDS OF GRACE¹**

SCRIPTURE (*Isaiah 12:2-6 & Luke 1:46-55*)

Isaiah 12:2-6

² God is indeed my salvation;
I will trust and won't be afraid.
Yah, the LORD, is my strength and my shield;
he has become my salvation."

³ You will draw water with joy from the springs of salvation.

⁴ And you will say on that day:
"Thank the LORD; call on God's name;
proclaim God's deeds among the peoples;
declare that God's name is exalted.

⁵ Sing to the LORD, who has done glorious things;
proclaim this throughout all the earth."

⁶ Shout and sing for joy, city of Zion,
because the holy one of Israel is great among you.

Luke 1:46-55

⁴⁶ Mary said,

"With all my heart I glorify the Lord!

⁴⁷ In the depths of who I am I rejoice in God my savior.

⁴⁸ He has looked with favor on the low status of his servant.

Look! From now on, everyone will consider me highly favored

⁴⁹ because the mighty one has done great things for me.

Holy is his name.

⁵⁰ He shows mercy to everyone,
from one generation to the next,
who honors him as God.

⁵¹ He has shown strength with his arm.

He has scattered those with arrogant thoughts and proud inclinations.

⁵² He has pulled the powerful down from their thrones
and lifted up the lowly.

⁵³ He has filled the hungry with good things
and sent the rich away empty-handed.

⁵⁴ He has come to the aid of his servant Israel,
remembering his mercy,

⁵⁵ just as he promised to our ancestors,
to Abraham and to Abraham's descendants forever."

SERMON

Pastor Jeffrey 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 OFFERINGS¹

OFFERTORY	'Abide with Us, Emmanuel'	(Haugen)
*OFFERTORY RESPONSE	'I've God Peace Like a River' (vs. 2)	No. 530
*PRAYER OF DEDICATION ¹		
*HYMN	'Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee'	No. 2
BENEDICTION		
POSTLUDE	'Gloria in Excelsis'	(Martin)

Participating In Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor
Alex Green, Music Director
Laura Ramos, Soloist
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter
Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

¹Torigian, Rev. Michelle. "Advent 3c - December 15." *Worship Ways*, United Church of Christ, 18 Nov. 2024, www.ucc.org/worship-way/advent-3c-december-15/.

136 Christians All, Your Lord Is Coming

1. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, draw-ing near in
 2. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, call-ing you to
 3. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, he will rise up
 4. Chris-tians all, your Lord is com-ing, hope for peace is

ho - ly birth. Ring the bells and sound the trum-pets,
 serve in deed. See the ones who hurt and suf - fer,
 from the dead. Lift the cup, of sin for - giv - en;
 now at hand. Let there be no hes - i - ta - tion,

let your mu - sic fill the earth. Dance and move to
 hear their cry and act with speed. Set all self - ish
 bless the host and eat his bread. Mend the ways where
 walk in faith where life de-mands. Bear the word that

show God's glo - ry; kneel and pause to hear God's word.
 ways be - hind you. Purge your hearts of sin - ful greed.
 peace is bro - ken, give your - selves to true Sha - lom.
 God has giv - en; share the birth that stirs your soul.

WORDS: Jim Miller, 1993
 MUSIC: Joshua Leavitt's *Christian Lyre*, 1830

PLEADING SAVIOR
 87.87D

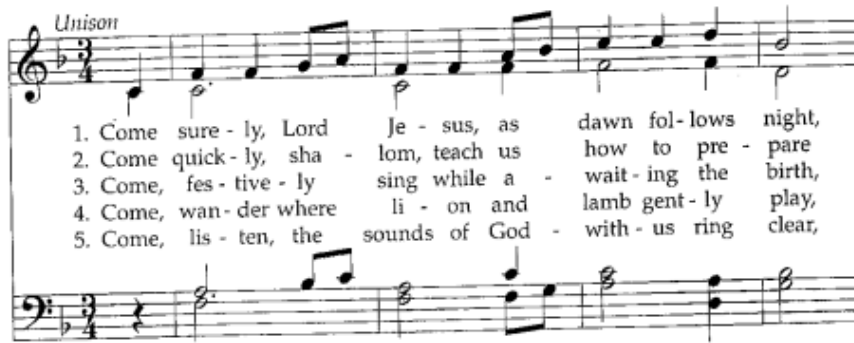
Words © 1995 Chalice Press

♩=104-108

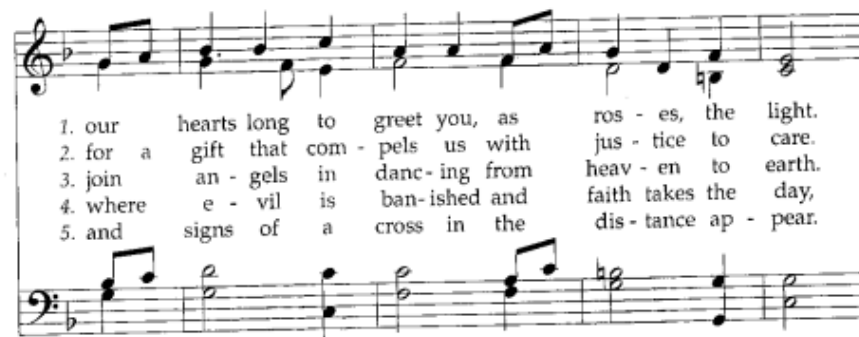
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Rise and let your songs be heard.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ in you will meet their need.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Dwell as one in church and home.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Christ will come and make you whole.

One Candle Is Lit

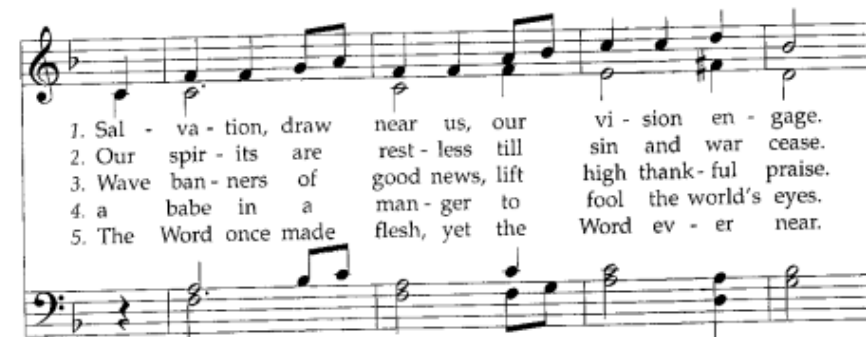
Unison



1. Come sure - ly, Lord Je - sus, as dawn fol - lows night,
2. Come quick - ly, sha - lom, teach us how to pre - pare birth,
3. Come, fes - tive - ly sing while a - wait - ing the birth,
4. Come, wan - der where li - on and lamb gent - ly play,
5. Come, lis - ten, the sounds of God - with - us ring clear,



1. our hearts long to greet you, as ros - es, the light.
2. for a gift that com - pels us with jus - tice to care.
3. join an - gels in danc - ing from heav - en to earth.
4. where e - vil is ban - ished and faith takes the day,
5. and signs of a cross in the dis - tance ap - pear.



1. Sal - va - tion, draw near us, our vi - sion en - gage.
2. Our spir - its are rest - less till sin and war cease.
3. Wave ban - ners of good news, lift high thank - ful praise.
4. a babe in a man - ger to fool the world's eyes.
5. The Word once made flesh, yet the Word ev - er near.

WORDS: Mary Anne Parrott, 1988
MUSIC: William J. Kirkpatrick, 1895

CRADLE SONG
11 11.11 11

Words © 1995 Chalice Press



1. One can - dle is lit for the hope of the age.
2. One can - dle is lit for the reign of God's peace.
3. One can - dle is lit for the joy of these days.
4. One can - dle is lit for God's lov - ing sur - prise.
5. One can - dle is lit for the Christ - birth - day here.

130 My Soul Gives Glory to My God

Cm Fm E \flat A \flat D \flat E \flat Fm Cm Fm

1. My soul gives glo - ry to my God. My
 2. My God has done great things for me: yes,
 3. From age to age, to all who fear, such
 4. Love casts the might - y from their thrones, pro -
 5. Praise God, whose lov - ing cov - e - nant sup -

D \flat E \flat 7 A \flat B \flat m A \flat A \flat D \flat E \flat A \flat

1. heart pours out its praise. God lift - ed up my
 2. ho - ly is her name. All peo - ple wil de -
 3. mer - cy love im - parts, dis - pens - ing jus - tice
 4. motes the in - se - cure, leaves hun - gry spir - its
 5. ports those in dis - tress, re - mem - ber - ing past

E \flat 7 B \flat m A \flat D \flat E \flat B \flat m E \flat Fm

1. low - li - ness in man - y mar - ve - lous ways.
 2. clare me blessed, and bless - ings they shall claim.
 3. far and near, dis - miss - ing self - ish hearts.
 4. sat - is - fied, the rich seem sud - den - ly poor.
 5. prom - is - es with pres - ent faith - ful - ness.

Guitar and keyboard should not sound together.

WORDS: Miriam Therese Winter, 1978, 1987
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813;
 harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

MORNING SONG
 CM

Words © 1978, 1987 Medical Mission Sisters; harm. © 1989 The United
 Methodist Publishing House

♩=88-96

Emmanuel, Emmanuel

Unison C F Dm7 G7 Em

Em-man - u - el, Em-man - u - el,

A7 A/C# Dm G7 C Cmaj7

his name is called Em-man - u - el.

C7 C F Dm7 G7 Em

God with us, re-vealed in us,

A7 A/C# Dm G7 C F/C C D.C. (final)

his name is called Em-man - u - el.

WORDS and MUSIC: Bob McGee, 1976

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McGEE
Irr.

♩=84-92

I've Got Peace Like a River

530

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
 2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
 3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1
 riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in my
 foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain in my
 o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in my

2
 soul. I've got riv - er in my soul.
 soul. I've got foun-tain in my soul.
 soul. I've got o - cean in my soul.

WORDS: African-American spiritual
 MUSIC: African-American spiritual

PEACE LIKE A RIVER
 77.10

2 Joyful, Joyful, We Adore Thee

Descant

4. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus; stars of morn-ing, take your part;

1. Joy-ful, joy-ful, we a-dore thee, God of glo-ry, Lord of love;
 2. All thy works with joy sur-round thee, earth and heaven re-lect thy rays,
 3. Thou art giv-ing and for-giv-ing, ev-er bless-ing, ev-er blest,
 4. Mor-tals, join the hap-py cho-rus; stars of morn-ing, take your part;

love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, bind-ing those of ten-der heart. So

hearts un-fold like flowers be-fore thee, open-ing to the sun a-bove.
 stars and an-gels sing a-round thee, cen-ter of un-bro-ken praise.
 well-spring of the joy of liv-ing, o-cean depth of hap-py rest!
 love di-vine is reign-ing o'er us, bind-ing those of ten-der heart.

sing-ing, move we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife;

Melt the clouds of sin and sad-ness, drive our fear and doubt a-way;
 Field and for-est, vale and moun-tain, flow-ery mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
 Thou our Fa-ther, Christ our Broth-er, all who live in love are thine;
 Ev-er sing-ing, move we on-ward, vic-tors in the midst of strife,

WORDS: Henry van Dyke, 1907, alt.

MUSIC: Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824; arr. Edward Hodges, 1864;
 desc. Susan Adams, 1995

HYMN TO JOY

87.87D

Desc. © 1995 Chalice Press

joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.

giv-er of im-mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
 chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, call us to re-joice in thee.
 teach us how to love each oth-er, lift us to the joy di-vine.
 joy-ful mu-sic leads us sun-ward in the tri-umph song of life.