



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



January 12, 2025

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**

‘Sing of God Made Manifest’

No. 176

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: Come, beloved of God, to remember who you are and whose you are.

People: God in Christ, has names us all “Beloved.”

Leader: Yes, here and now, God’s heaven of love is being poured out answer.

People: May this motion of the Holy One shape our hearts and minds.

Leader: May it brighten the Epiphany light in us and the whole creation.

People: And may it shape our words and work into good news for the world!

OPENING PRAYER¹

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

Loving God, let us enter again into Your baptismal river of grace. Let it soak every stain attached to the fabric of our lives and longings. Yes, Holy One, submerge us in You again and again and again. Cleanse every distracting impulse luring us away from You, who are our hearts’ deepest desire. Let nothing be more urgent, or important, than Your forgiving love which always transforms. Today, help us to choose You above every temptation that lures us to worship lesser things. By Your love forgive us, renew us, and grant us the grace you promised in Jesus Christ. Amen.

***WORDS OF GRACE¹**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

‘Blessed Assurance’ (vs. 3)

No. 543

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

***HYMN OF PREPARATION**

‘What Was Your Vow and Vision’

No. 177

SCRIPTURE

Luke 3:15-17, 21-22

¹⁵ The people were filled with expectation, and everyone wondered whether John might be the Christ.

¹⁶ John replied to them all, "I baptize you with water, but the one who is more powerful than me is coming. I'm not worthy to loosen the strap of his sandals. He will baptize you with the Holy Spirit and fire. ¹⁷ The shovel he uses to sift the wheat from the husks is in his hands. He will clean out his threshing area and bring the wheat into his barn. But he will burn the husks with a fire that can't be put out."

²¹ When everyone was being baptized, Jesus also was baptized. While he was praying, heaven was opened ²² and the Holy Spirit came down on him in bodily form like a dove. And there was a voice from heaven: "You are my Son, whom I dearly love; in you I find happiness."

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 OFFERINGS¹

OFFERTORY 'Soon I Will Be Done/Wade in the Water' (Traditional/Albrecht)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** 'Thank You, Lord' (vs. 1, TWICE) No. 531

PRAYER OF DEDICATION¹

***HYMN** 'What a Friend We Have in Jesus' No. 585

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE 'O the Deep, Deep Love of Jesus' (Williams/Krug)

Participating In Todays Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

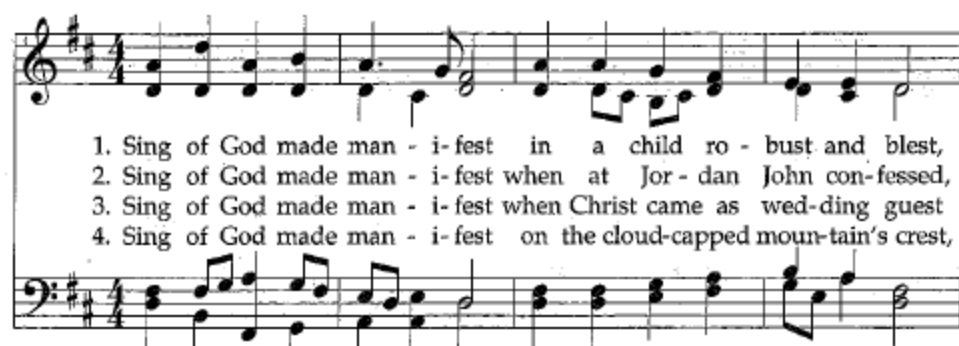
Alex Green, Music Director

Laura Ramos, Soloist

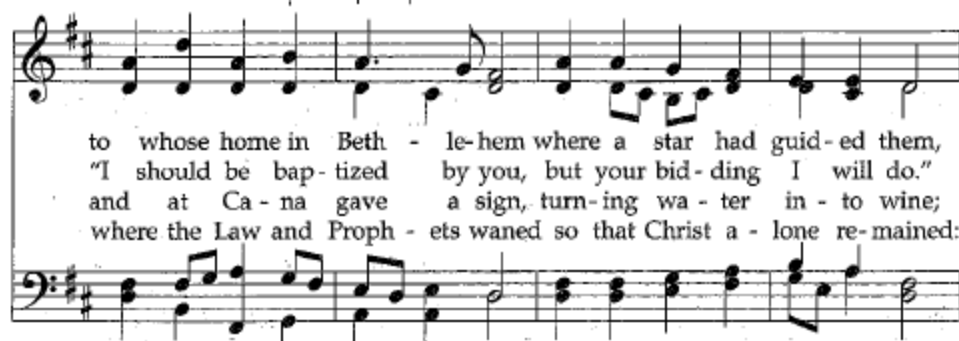
David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

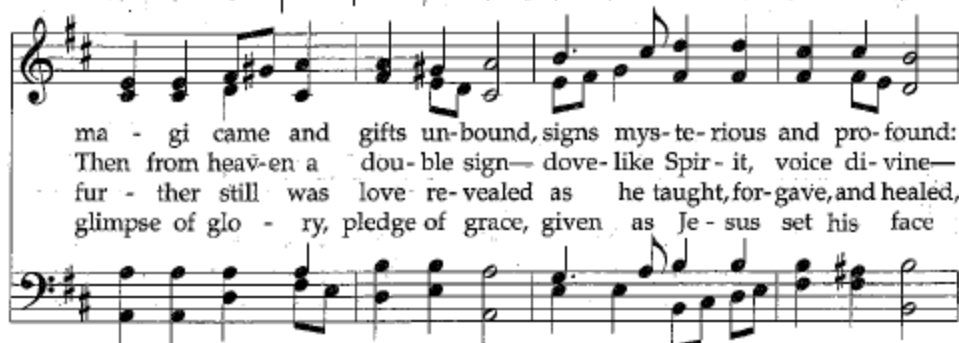
¹Long-Higgins, Rev. Dr. David. "Baptism of Christ C- January 12." *United Church of Christ*, Worship Ways, 14 Dec. 2024, www.ucc.org/worship-way/baptism-of-christ-c-january-12/.



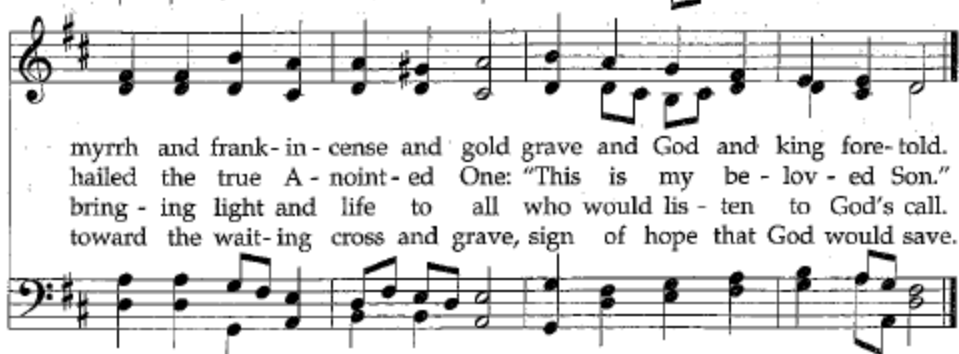
1. Sing of God made man - i - fest in a child ro - bust and blest,
 2. Sing of God made man - i - fest when at Jor - dan John con - fessed,
 3. Sing of God made man - i - fest when Christ came as wed - ding guest
 4. Sing of God made man - i - fest on the cloud - capped moun - tain's crest,



to whose home in Beth - le - hem where a star had guid - ed them,
 "I should be bap - tized by you, but your bid - ding I will do."
 and at Ca - na gave a sign, turn - ing wa - ter in - to wine;
 where the Law and Proph - ets waned so that Christ a - lone re - mained:



ma - gi came and gifts un - bound, signs mys - te - rious and pro - found:
 Then from heav - en a dou - ble sign— dove - like Spir - it, voice di - vine—
 fur - ther still was love re - vealed as he taught, for - gave, and healed,
 glimpse of glo - ry, pledge of grace, given as Je - sus set his face



myrrh and frank - in - cense and gold grave and God and king fore - told.
 hailed the true A - noint - ed One: "This is my be - lov - ed Son."
 bring - ing light and life to all who would lis - ten to God's call.
 toward the wait - ing cross and grave, sign of hope that God would save.

WORDS: Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1989
 MUSIC: Jacob Hintze, 1678; harm. Johann Sebastian Bach (18th century)

SALZBURG
 77.77D

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

1. What was your vow and vi - sion, re - vealed and rec - og -
 2. Was this God's call, the crown - ing of all you had be -
 3. We meet you at the wa - ter and pon - der why and

nized, Christ, when you came to Jor - dan and
 come: "Go, show and tell my com - ing, my
 how, in hope that we may fol - low where

asked to be bap - tized? Was there a sud - den
 own, my cho - sen one? Did scrip - ture join with
 God is go - ing now, a - noint - ed by your

WORDS: Brian Wren, 1975, rev. 1994
 MUSIC: *Southern Harmony*, 1835; harm. Hal H. Hopson, 1986

COMPLAINER
 76.76D

Words © 1975, harm. © 1986, Hope Publishing Co.

♩=100-108

splen - dor or proph - ets, priests and kings, a
 scrip - ture, re - veal - ing in sur - prise the
 Spir - it, re - born, and en - er - gized, through

wind that stirred the wa - ters, a blur of might - y wings?
 tri - umph of a ser - vant re - ject - ed and de - spised?
 deed and word pro - claim - ing: "In Christ we are bap - tized!"

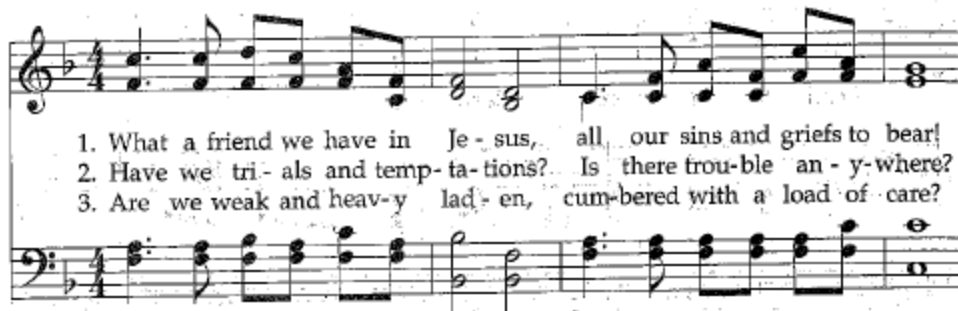
Thank You, Lord

1. Thank you, Lord, thank you, Lord, thank you,
 2. Been so good, been so good, been so
 3. Been my friend, been my friend, been my

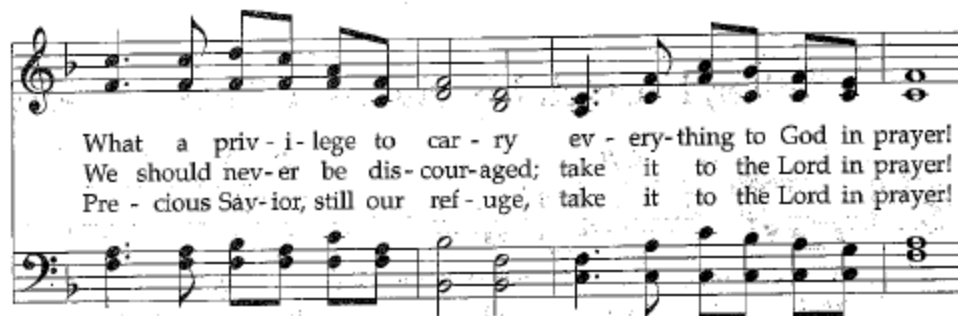
Lord, I just want to thank you, Lord.
 good, I just want to thank you, Lord.
 friend, I just want to thank you, Lord.

WORDS: Traditional African-American song
 MUSIC: Traditional African-American melody; harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland and Verolga Nix, alt.

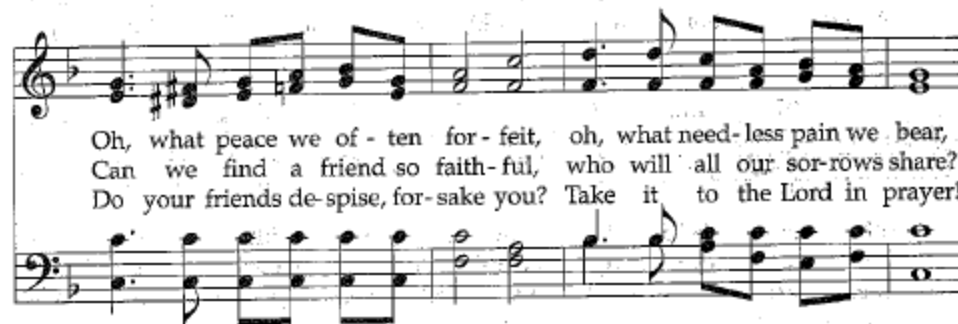
THANK YOU, LORD
 333.7



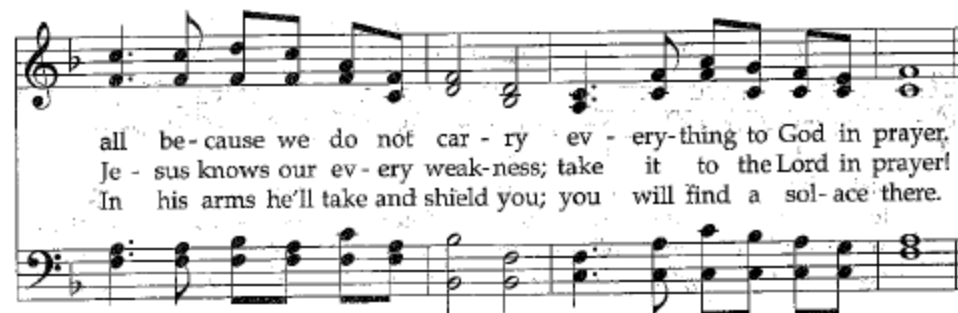
1. What a friend we have in Je - sus, all our sins and griefs to bear!
 2. Have we tri - als and temp - ta - tions? Is there trou - ble an - y - where?
 3. Are we weak and heav - y lad - en, cum - bered with a load of care?



What a priv - i - lege to car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer!
 We should nev - er be dis - cour - aged; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 Pre - cious Sav - ior, still our ref - uge, take it to the Lord in prayer!



Oh, what peace we of - ten for - feit, oh, what need - less pain we bear,
 Can we find a friend so faith - ful, who will all our sor - rows share?
 Do your friends de - spise, for - sake you? Take it to the Lord in prayer!



all be - cause we do not car - ry ev - ery - thing to God in prayer,
 Je - sus knows our ev - ery weak - ness; take it to the Lord in prayer!
 In his arms he'll take and shield you; you will find a sol - ace there.