



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



June 29, 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

OPENING PRAYER

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

'All are Welcome'

(insert)

CALL TO GATHERING

Leader: We are the body of Christ!

ALL: The hand clapping, toe tapping, heart pumping, mouth tasting, arms embracing

Leader: Justice seeing, hymn singing, love making, bread breaking, risk taking

All: Body of Christ!

Leader: Baptized in one Spirit, we are members of one body.

All: Many and varied in gender, color, sexuality, age, class, and ability, we are members of Christ's beautiful body.

Leader: None of us can say to another, "I have no need of you."

All: For only together can we find wholeness.

Leader: None of us can say to another, "I will not care for you."

All: For we are connected like muscle and bone. If one suffers, we all suffer. If one rejoices, we all rejoice!

Leader: Thanks be to God who, in Christ, has made us one.

All: Let us worship God!

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

ALL: Loving God, sometimes we have dishonored ourselves and others in our longing to fit in and to be accepted. At times we have rejected the individuality of others. Sometimes we have allowed the pressure to be popular cause for us to bully ourselves and others. Occasionally we have been silent when we have witnessed people being dishonored because of their truth. Please change our hearts and help us to love our own humanity and the awesomeness of other humans. Please help us forgive ourselves for the harsh things that we have said and thought about ourselves and others. Each person is a unique and beautiful expression of God's divine light and love. We confess that we forget this sometimes and pray that you help us to do better. Starting now.

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

'Amazing Grace' (v. 1)

No. 546

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

HYMN OF PREPARATION

'Swing Low Sweet Chariot'

No. 643

SCRIPTURE

Hebrew Lesson: 2 Kings 2:1-4

Elijah goes to heaven

2 Now the LORD was going to take Elijah up to heaven in a windstorm, and Elijah and Elisha were leaving Gilgal. **2** Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, because the LORD has sent me to Bethel." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went down to Bethel. **3** The group of prophets from Bethel came out to Elisha. These prophets said to Elisha, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master away from you today?" Elisha said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!" **4** Elijah said, "Elisha, stay here, because the LORD has sent me to Jericho." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So they went to Jericho. **5** The group of prophets from Jericho approached Elisha and said to him, "Do you know that the LORD is going to take your master away from you today?" He said, "Yes, I know. Don't talk about it!" **6** Elijah said to Elisha, "Stay here, because the LORD has sent me to the Jordan." But Elisha said, "As the LORD lives and as you live, I won't leave you." So both of them went on together. **7** Fifty members from the group of prophets also went along, but they stood at a distance. Both Elijah and Elisha stood beside the Jordan River. **8** Elijah then took his coat, rolled it up, and hit the water. Then the water was divided in two! Both of them crossed over on dry ground. **9** When they had crossed, Elijah said to Elisha, "What do you want me to do for you before I'm taken away from you?" Elisha said, "Let me have twice your spirit." **10** Elijah said, "You've made a difficult request. If you can see me when I'm taken from you, then it will be yours. If you don't see me, it won't happen." **11** They were walking along, talking, when suddenly a fiery chariot and fiery horses appeared and separated the two of them. Then Elijah went to heaven in a windstorm. **12** Elisha was watching, and he cried out, "Oh, my father, my father! Israel's chariots and its riders!" When he could no longer see him, Elisha took hold of his clothes and ripped them in two.

Elisha succeeds Elijah

13 Then Elisha picked up the coat that had fallen from Elijah. He went back and stood beside the banks of the Jordan River. **14** He took the coat that had fallen from Elijah and hit the water. He said, "Where is the LORD, Elijah's God?" And when he hit the water, it divided in two! Then Elisha crossed over.

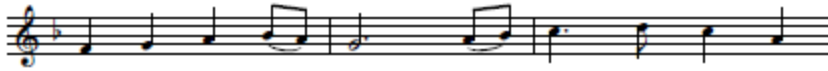
SERMON

Rev. Katrina Clinton

All Are Welcome



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell And
 2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, And
 3. Let us build a house where love is found In
 4. Let us build a house where hands will reach Be -
 5. Let us build a house where all are named, Their



all can safe - ly live, A place where saints and
 words are strong and true, Where all God's chil - dren
 wa - ter, wine and wheat: A ban - quet hall on
 yond the wood and stone To heal and strength - en,
 songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell How hearts learn to for -
 dare to seek To dream God's reign a -
 ho - ly ground, Where peace and jus - tice
 serve and teach, And live the Word they've
 taught and claimed As words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions,
 new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness
 meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus,
 known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger
 Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter,



Rock of faith and vault of grace; Here the
 And as sym - bol of God's grace; Here as
 Is re - vealed in time and space; As we
 Bear the im - age of God's face; Let us
 Prayers of faith and songs of grace, Let this



love of Christ shall end di - vi - sions:
 one we claim the faith of Je - sus:
 share in Christ the feast that frees us: All are wel - come,
 bring an end to fear and dan - ger:
 house pro - claim from floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come, all are wel - come in this place.

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

Swing Low, Sweet Chariot

Refrain

Swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com - ing for to car - ry me home;

swing low, sweet char - i - ot, com - ing for to car - ry me home. *Fine*

1. I looked o - ver Jor - dan, and what did I see,
 2. If you get there be - fore I do,
 3. I'm some - times up, I'm some - times down,

com - ing for to car - ry me home? A band of an - gels
 com - ing for to car - ry me home; tell all my friends I'm
 com - ing for to car - ry me home; but still my soul feels

com - ing af - ter me, com - ing for to car - ry me home.
 com - ing too, com - ing for to car - ry me home.
 heav - en - ly bound, com - ing for to car - ry me home. *D.C.*

WORDS: African-American spiritual

MUSIC: African-American spiritual; arr. Bill Thomas, 1994

SWING LOW

10 8.10 8 w. refrain

Arr. © 1995 Chalice Press

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. Re - new your church, our min - is - tries re - store: both to serve and a - dore.
 2. Teach us your word, re - veal its truth di - vine, on our path let it shine.
 3. Teach us to pray, for you are ev - er near, your still voice let us hear.
 4. Teach us to love, with strength of heart and mind, each and all — hu - man - kind!

Make us a - gain as salt through - out the land, and as light from a stand.
 Tell of your works, your might - y acts of grace, from each page show your face.
 Our souls are rest - less 'til they rest in you: Love's de - sign, ev - er new.
 Break down old walls of pre - ju - dice and hate, leave us not to our fate.

'Mid som - ber shad - ows of the night, where greed and ha - tred spread their blight,
 As you have sent your Christ to save, in love to tri - umph o'er the grave,
 Be - fore your pres - ence keep us still that we may find for us your will.
 As you have loved and giv'n your life to end hos - til - i - ty and strife,

○ send us forth with power en - dued. Help us, God, be re - newed.
 ○ let our hearts with love be stirred, help us, God, know your word.
 and seek your guid - ance ev - ery day. Teach us, God, how to pray.
 ○ share your grace from heav'n a - bove, teach us, God, how to love.

WORDS: Kenneth L. Cober, 1960, alt.
 MUSIC: American folk melody, c. 1840

ALL IS WELL
 10 6.10 6.88.86