



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

**Whatever  
happens,  
God will  
remain at  
your side.**

July 20, 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**

Matt Howard

**\*OPENING HYMN**

'Rejoice in God's Saints'

No. 476

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

Leader: Come and worship Christ,

**ALL: the visible image of the invisible God,**

Leader: the firstborn of creation,

**ALL: the eternal God,**

Leader: the one through whom all things were created,

**ALL: and in whom all things are held together.**

Leader: This is our God!

**ALL: Let us worship God and God's love together!**

**OPENING PRAYER**

**\*PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE**

**ALL: O God, we often forget that all we see is created at your hand - from the trees and grass waving in summer breezes, to the ants and bees and wasps we so easily call pests, all the way through to the very people we come into contact with every day. We forget because we get bogged down in our own understandings, we're blinded by our own shortsightedness. We turn inward, instead of outward as you've taught us to do. Shift our focus, O God, so that we may see with your eyes, hear with your ears, love with your heart, and speak with your Word on our lips. Heal us, and through us heal the world we come in contact with. Amen.**

**\*WORDS OF FORGIVENESS**

**\*SUNG RESPONSE**

'Rise Up, O Saints of God'

No. 611

**A TIME FOR ALL AGES**

Dani Kardisco



## LITURGY OF BAPTISM FOR JAMIE SHAW

*\*Today we celebrate with Jamie, her parents Andrea and Jennifer Shaw, and her big sister Emery as we celebrate the sacrament of baptism with them. Baptism is an outward sign of something that we know to be true through our faith - that God loves us, always has loved us, and will never stop loving us. Through the sacrament of baptism we, as a congregation, promise to be a community of faith for Jamie to always be able to return to so that she can be forever reminded of God's love.\**

### HYMN OF PREPARATION

'Jesu Jesu'

No. 600

### SCRIPTURE

**Colossians 1:15-28**

#### ***Hymn about Christ's work***

*<sup>15</sup> The Son is the image of the invisible God,  
the one who is first over all creation,<sup>[a]</sup>*

*<sup>16</sup> Because all things were created by him:  
both in the heavens and on the earth,  
the things that are visible and the things that are invisible.  
Whether they are thrones or powers,  
or rulers or authorities,  
all things were created through him and for him.*

*<sup>17</sup> He existed before all things,  
and all things are held together in him.*

*<sup>18</sup> He is the head of the body, the church,  
who is the beginning,  
the one who is firstborn from among the dead<sup>[b]</sup>  
so that he might occupy the first place in everything.*

*<sup>19</sup> Because all the fullness of God was pleased to live in him,  
<sup>20</sup> and he reconciled all things to himself through him—  
whether things on earth or in the heavens.  
He brought peace through the blood of his cross.*

*<sup>21</sup> Once you were alienated from God and you were enemies with him in your minds, which was shown by your evil actions. <sup>22</sup> But now he has reconciled you by his physical body through death, to present you before God as a people who are holy, faultless, and without blame. <sup>23</sup> But you need to remain well established and rooted in faith and not shift away from the hope given in the good news that you heard. This message has been preached throughout all creation under heaven. And I, Paul, became a servant of this good news.*

## **Paul's service for the church**

*24 Now I'm happy to be suffering for you. I'm completing what is missing from Christ's sufferings with my own body. I'm doing this for the sake of his body, which is the church. 25 I became a servant of the church by God's commission, which was given to me for you, in order to complete God's word. 26 I'm completing it with a secret plan<sup>[d]</sup> that has been hidden for ages and generations but which has now been revealed to his holy people. 27 God wanted to make the glorious riches of this secret plan<sup>[d]</sup> known among the Gentiles, which is Christ living in you, the hope of glory. 28 This is what we preach as we warn and teach every person with all wisdom so that we might present each one mature in Christ.*

### **SERMON**

Pastor Jeffrey Kardisco

### **MUSIC FOR REFLECTION**

*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**

**OFFERTORY** 'When Hands Reach Out and Fingers Trace' (English/Gillette)

**\*OFFERTORY RESPONSE** 'Here I Am, Lord' (vs. 3) No. 452

### **PRAYER OF DEDICATION**

**\*HYMN** 'God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending' No. 606

### **BENEDICTION**

**POSTLUDE** 'Praise and Glory' (de Giardini/Doane/Schram)

**Participating In Todays Worship Service:**

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Alex Green, Music Director

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

<sup>1</sup>Unknown, Author. "Call to Worship: Colossians 1: 15-17." *Call to Worship: Colossians 1: 15-17*, [re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/10/call-to-worship-colossians-1-15-17.html](http://re-worship.blogspot.com/2013/10/call-to-worship-colossians-1-15-17.html). Accessed 3 July 2025.

## Rejoice in God's Saints

1. Re - joice in God's saints, to - day and all days;  
 2. Some march with e - vents to turn them God's way;  
 3. Re - joice in those saints, un - praised and un - known,  
 4. Re - joice in God's saints, to - day and all days;

a world with - out saints for - gets how to praise.  
 some need to with - draw, the bet - ter to pray.  
 who bear some - one's cross or shoul - der their own.  
 a world with - out saints for - gets how to praise.

Their faith in ac - quir - ing the hab - it of prayer,  
 Some car - ry the gos - pel through fire and through flood;  
 They shame our com - plain - ing, our com - forts, our cares;  
 In lov - ing, in liv - ing, they prove it is true:

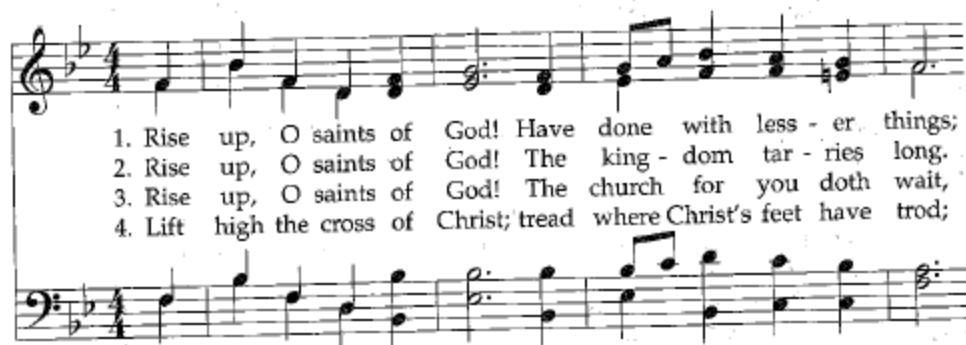
their depth of a - dor - ing, God, help us to share.  
 our world is their par - ish; their pur - pose is God.  
 what pa - ti - ence in car - ing, what cour - age, is theirs!  
 the way of self - giv - ing, God, leads us to you.

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1977  
 MUSIC: Attr. William Croft, 1708

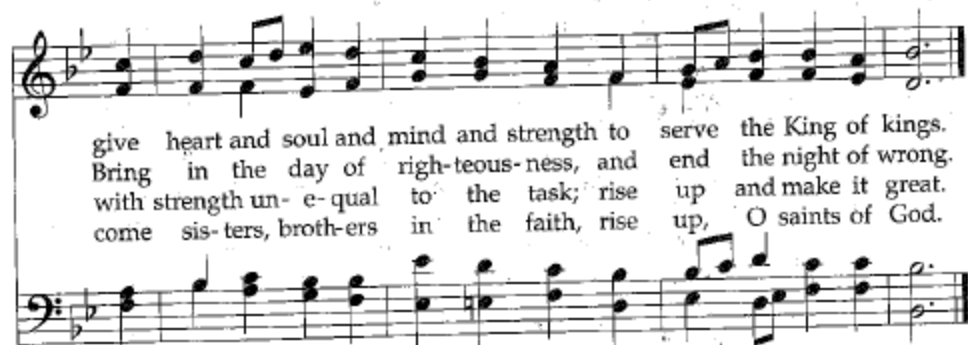
HANOVER  
 10 10.11 11

# Rise Up, O Saints of God!

611



1. Rise up, O saints of God! Have done with less - er things;  
2. Rise up, O saints of God! The king - dom tar - ries long.  
3. Rise up, O saints of God! The church for you doth wait,  
4. Lift high the cross of Christ; tread where Christ's feet have trod;



give heart and soul and mind and strength to serve the King of kings.  
Bring in the day of righ-teous-ness, and end the night of wrong.  
with strength un-equal to the task; rise up and make it great.  
come sis-ters, broth-ers in the faith, rise up, O saints of God.

WORDS: William F. Merrill, 1911, alt.  
MUSIC: William H. Walter, 1894

FESTAL SONG  
SM

Refrain (Unison)

Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show

Fine

us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.

1. Kneels at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - es their  
 2. Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and  
 3. These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should  
 4. Lov - ing puts us on our knees, serv - ing as though we are  
 5. Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their

D.C.

1. feet, Mas - ter who acts as a slave to them.  
 2. race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.  
 3. love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.  
 4. slaves, this is the way we should live with you.  
 5. feet, this is the way we should live with you.

WORDS: Tom Colvin, 1969  
 MUSIC: Ghana folk song; arr. Tom Colvin, 1969; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1988

CHEREPONI  
 lyr. w. refrain

*Unison*

1. I, the Lord of sea and sky, I have heard my peo-ple cry.  
 2. I, the Lord of snow and rain, I have borne my peo-ple's pain.  
 3. I, the Lord of wind and flame, I will tend the poor and lame.

All who dwell in deep - est sin, my hand will save.  
 I have wept for love of them, they turn a - way.  
 I will set a feast for them, my hand will save.

I who made the stars of night, I will make their dark-ness bright.  
 I will break their hearts of stone, give them hearts for love a - lone.  
 Fin-est bread I will pro- vide, till their hearts be sat - is - fied.

WORDS: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981  
 MUSIC: Daniel L. Schutte, 1981; harm. James Snyder, 1994

HERE I AM, LORD  
 77.74 w. refrain

© 1981 Daniel L. Schutte and New Dawn Music; all rights reserved; used with permission.

♩=110

Who will bear my light to them? Whom shall I send?  
 I will speak my word to them. Whom shall I send?  
 I will give my life to them. Whom shall I send?

*Harmony*

Here I am, Lord. Is it I, Lord? I have heard you call-ing in the

night. I will go, Lord, if you lead me. I will

hold your peo-ple in my heart. heart.  
 heart, in my heart.  
 heart, in my heart.

# 606 God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

1. God, whose giv-ing knows no end-ing, from your rich and end-less store,  
 2. Skills and time are ours for press-ing toward the goals of Christ, your Son:  
 3. Trea-sure too you have en-trust-ed, gain thru powers your grace con-ferred;

na-ture's won-der, Je-sus' wis-dom, cost-ly cross, grave's shat-tered door:  
 all at peace in health and free-dom, rac-es joined, the church made one.  
 ours to use for home and kin-dred, and to spread the gos-pel Word.

gift-ed by you, we turn to you, of-fering up our-selves in praise;  
 Now di-rect our dai-ly la-bor, lest we strive for self a-lone;  
 O-pen wide our hands, in shar-ing, as we heed Christ's age-less call,

thank-ful song shall rise for-ev-er, gra-cious do-nor of our days.  
 born with tal-ents, make us ser-vants fit to an-swer at your throne.  
 heal-ing, teach-ing, and re-claim-ing, serv-ing you by lov-ing all.

WORDS: Robert L. Edwards, 1961  
 MUSIC: Wyeth's *Repository of Sacred Music, Part Second*, 1813

NETTLETON  
 87.87D

Words © 1961, renewed 1989, The Hymn Society; used by permission of Hope Publishing Co.