



CHRIST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST, BROCKTON, MA



August 10, 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

***PROCESSIONAL HYMN**

‘Morning Has Broken’

No. 53

CALL TO WORSHIP¹

Leader: The Mighty One, God the Holy One, speaks and summons the earth from the rising of the sun to its setting.

ALL: Out of the kin-dom, the perfection of beauty, the splendor of creation, the wonder of ages, God shines forth.

Leader: The Mighty One, God the Holy One, speaks and calls to the heavens above and to the earth in order to judge the people justly.

ALL: Out of justice and righteousness, God shines forth.

Leader: The Mighty One, God the Holy One, speaks and receives our thanksgiving, honor, and praise.

ALL: Out of our witness, worship, and testimony, God shines forth.

GATHERING PRAYER¹

A TIME FOR ALL AGES

Dani Kardisco

***HYMN**

‘Come and Find the Quiet Center’

No. 575

***PRAYER FOR TRANSFORMATION AND NEW LIFE¹**

ALL: O God, our hands are full and stained with the fruit of devastation and despair. We lament a world filled with genocide and war even as we acknowledge our complicity and inaction with rampant evil in the world. Too often, we benefit from our neighbor’s suffering and remain complacent and compliant when the cost of loving our neighbor seems to address illusions of safety and security. Move us to action. Arm us with hearts bursting with love. Equip us as agents of the kin-dom’s peace. Assure us that when we seek forgiveness through our actions as well as our words, your grace will meet us. Amen.

***WORDS OF FORGIVENESS¹**

***SUNG RESPONSE**

‘God Who Stretched The Spangled Heavens’ (vs. 1)

No. 651

SCRIPTURE (Luke 12:32-40 & Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16)

Luke 12:32-40

³² “Don’t be afraid, little flock, because your Father delights in giving you the kingdom. ³³ Sell your possessions and give to those in need. Make for yourselves wallets that don’t wear out—a treasure in heaven that never runs out. No thief comes near there, and no moth destroys. ³⁴ Where your treasure is, there your heart will be too.

³⁵ “Be dressed for service and keep your lamps lit. ³⁶ Be like people waiting for their master to come home from a wedding celebration, who can immediately open the door for him when he arrives and knocks on the door. ³⁷ Happy are those servants whom the master finds waiting up when he arrives. I assure you that, when he arrives, he will dress himself to serve, seat them at the table as honored guests, and wait on them. ³⁸ Happy are those whom he finds alert, even if he comes at midnight or just before dawn.^[a] ³⁹ But know this, if the homeowner had known what time the thief was coming, he wouldn’t have allowed his home to be broken into. ⁴⁰ You also must be ready, because the Human One^[b] is coming at a time when you don’t expect him.”

Hebrews 11:1-3, 8-16

¹¹ Faith is the reality of what we hope for, the proof of what we don’t see. ² The elders in the past were approved because they showed faith. ³ By faith we understand that the universe has been created by a word from God so that the visible came into existence from the invisible.

⁸ By faith Abraham obeyed when he was called to go out to a place that he was going to receive as an inheritance. He went out without knowing where he was going.

⁹ By faith he lived in the land he had been promised as a stranger. He lived in tents along with Isaac and Jacob, who were coheirs of the same promise. ¹⁰ He was looking forward to a city that has foundations, whose architect and builder is God.

¹¹ By faith even Sarah received the ability to have a child, though she herself was barren and past the age for having children, because she believed that the one who promised was faithful.

¹² So descendants were born from one man (and he was as good as dead). They were as many as the number of the stars in the sky and as countless as the grains of sand on the seashore. ¹³ All these people died in faith without receiving the promises, but they saw the promises from a distance and welcomed them. They confessed that they were strangers and immigrants on earth. ¹⁴ People who say this kind of thing make it clear that they are looking for a homeland. ¹⁵ If they had been thinking about the country that they had left, they would have had the opportunity to return to it. ¹⁶ But at this point in time, they are longing for a better country, that is, a heavenly one. Therefore, God isn’t ashamed to be called their God—he has prepared a city for them.

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.

INVITATION TO GENEROSITY¹

OFFERTORY 'I'm Stepping Out on Your Word' (Angelou/Green)

***OFFERTORY RESPONSE** 'In The Bulb There Is A Flower' No. 638

PRAYER OF THANKSVIVING AND DEDICATION¹

***HYMN** 'Let There Be Peace On Earth' No. 677

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE 'Ceremony For Peace' (Faber)

Participating In Today's Worship Service:

Rev. Jeffrey Kardisco, Senior Pastor

Alex Green, Music Director

David Wilcox, ASL Interpreter

Dani Kardisco, Christian Education Director

¹Lindsay, Rev. Dr. Cheryl A. "After Pentecost 9C - August 10." *United Church of Christ Worship Ways*, United Church of Christ, 31 July 2025, www.ucc.org/worship-way/after-pentecost-9c-august-10/.

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
 35.54D

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

575 Come and Find the Quiet Center

Unison F B \flat C7

1. Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we
 2. Silence is a friend who claims us, cools the heat and slows the
 3. In the Spirit let us travel, open to each other's

F F B \flat

lead, find the room for hope to enter, find the
 pace, God it is who speaks and names us, knows our
 pain, let our loves and fears unravel, cease-

C7 F Am7

frame where we are freed: clear the chaos and the
 being, touches base, making space within our
 brate the space we gain: there's a place for deepest

Dm Am7 Dm Am7 B \flat (C7)

clutter, clear our eyes, that we can see all the
 thinking, lifting shades to show the sun, raising
 dreaming, there's a time for heart to care, in the

WORDS: Shirley Erena Murray, 1989
 MUSIC: Traditional American melody; arr. Jack Schrader

BEACH SPRING
 87.87D

Words and arr. © 1992 Hope Publishing Co.

♩ =70-74

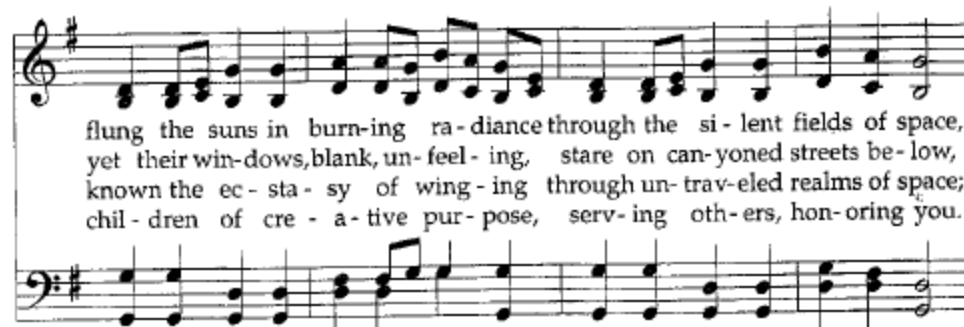
F B \flat C7 F

things that really matter, be at peace, and simply be.
 courage when we're shrinking, finding scope for faith begun.
 Spirit's live-ly scheming there is always room to spare!

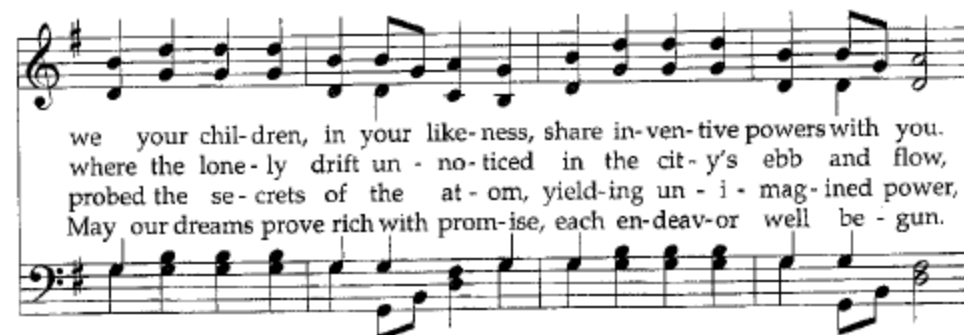
God, Who Stretched the Spangled Heavens 651



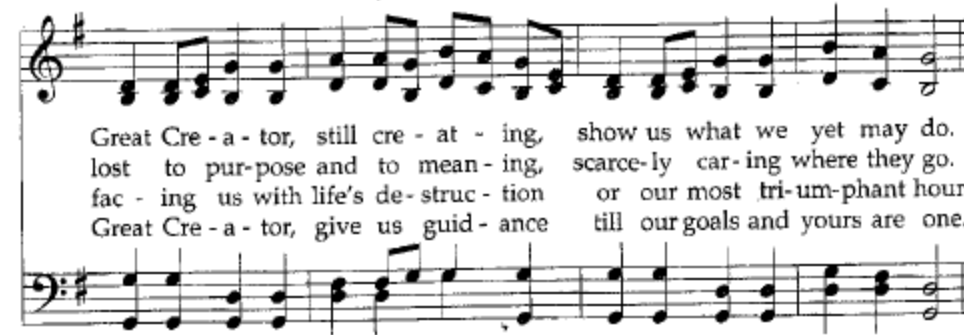
1. God, who stretched the span-gled heav-ens, in - fi - nite in time and place,
2. Proud - ly rise our mod-ern cit - ies, state-ly build-ings, row on row;
3. We have ven-tured worlds un-dreamed of since the child-hood of our race;
4. As each far ho - ri - zon beck - ons, may it chal-lenge us a - new,



flung the suns in burn-ing ra - dian-ce through the si - lent fields of space,
yet their win-dows, blank, un - feel - ing, stare on can-yoned streets be - low,
known the ec - sta - sy of wing - ing through un - trav-eled realms of space;
chil - dren of cre - a - tive pur - pose, serv - ing oth - ers, hon - oring you.



we your chil - dren, in your like - ness, share in - ven - tive powers with you.
where the lone - ly drift un - no - ticed in the cit - y's ebb and flow,
probed the se - crets of the at - om, yield - ing un - i - mag - ined power,
May our dreams prove rich with prom - ise, each en - deav - or well be - gun.



Great Cre - a - tor, still cre - at - ing, show us what we yet may do.
lost to pur - pose and to mean - ing, scarce - ly car - ing where they go.
fac - ing us with life's de - struc - tion or our most tri - um - phant hour.
Great Cre - a - tor, give us guid - ance till our goals and yours are one.

WORDS: Catherine Cameron, 1967
MUSIC: William Moore, *Columbian Harmony*, 1825
Words © 1967 Hope Publishing Co.

HOLY MANNA
87.87D
♩ = 100-106

Unison

1. In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2. There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3. In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise; but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn in ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

WORDS and MUSIC: Natalie Sleeth, 1986

PROMISE
87.87D

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♩=84-92

Let There Be Peace on Earth

C Am Dm7 G7 C F C Dm G7

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me;

C B7 Em B7 G G7

let there be peace on earth, the peace that was meant to be.

Am Em C7 F G7 C

*With God our cre - a - tor, chil - dren all are we.

Am7 D7 G Am7 D7 G7

Let us walk with each oth - er in per - fect har - mo - ny.

C Am Dm7 G7 C F C Dm G7

Let peace be - gin with me; let this be the, mo - ment now.

* Original words: "With God as our Father, brothers all are we. Let me walk with my brother in perfect harmony."

WORDS: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, 1955

WORLD PEACE

MUSIC: Sy Miller and Jill Jackson, 1955; harm. Charles H. Webb, 1967

1ra.

© 1955, renewed 1983, Jan-Lee Music

C B7 Em B7 G

With ev - ery step I take, let this be my sol - emn vow:

C C+ F D7 D°7

to take each mo - ment and live each mo - ment in peace e - ter - nal - ly.

C E7 F C F G7 C

Let there be peace on earth, and let it be - gin with me.