



*The First Congregational Church
of the United Church of Christ
Stockbridge, Massachusetts
October 11, 2020
10:00 a.m.*

*You are invited to text the names of those attending to
617-513-0185 that we might welcome you. You may also include
prayers of joys and concerns that will be lifted later in worship.*

GATHERING MUSIC

*Intermezzo in A Major, Op. 118, No. 2. Johannes Brahms
Grand Choeur Dialogue
Eugène Gigout
Sándor Szabó, piano and organ*

FRAMING WORDS

Rev. Brent Damrow

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

INTROIT

We Praise You, O God

Julia B. Corry
Deryl Godshall, tenor

CALL TO WORSHIP

Written by Moira Laidlaw

One: Let us praise God,
whose goodness and steadfast love are everlasting.

All: **With joy we praise God's wonderful deeds.**

One: Happy are those who act justly
and whose lives reflect God's righteousness at all times;

All: **so look on us with favour, O God,
for we rejoice in all your faithful dealings
with those who have gone before us.**

One: Like them, we have sinned;
we fall far short of your goodness.

All: **Like them, we forget you
and replace you with idols of our own making.**

One: Yet, as you heard Moses' prayer for his people
and delivered them from certain death and destruction,

All: **so you hear Jesus' prayers for us,
and graciously grant us the gift of salvation.**

One: Let us together praise God,
whose goodness and steadfast love are everlasting.

HYMN

Verses

1 & 3

276

Great Is Thy Faithfulness

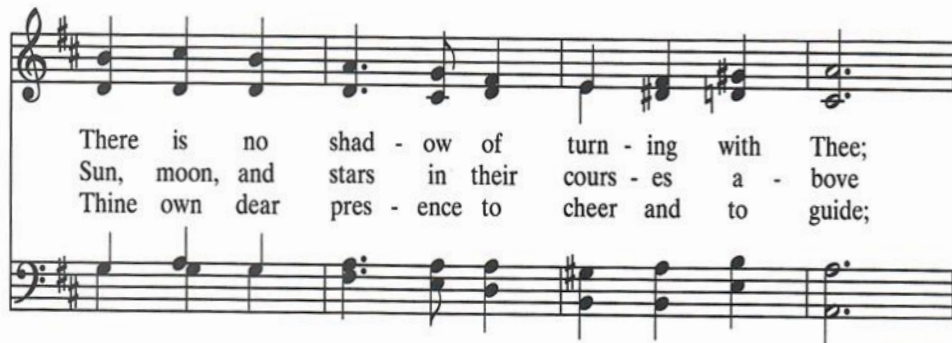
FAITHFULNESS 11.10.11.10 with refrain

Thomas Obediah Chisholm, 1923

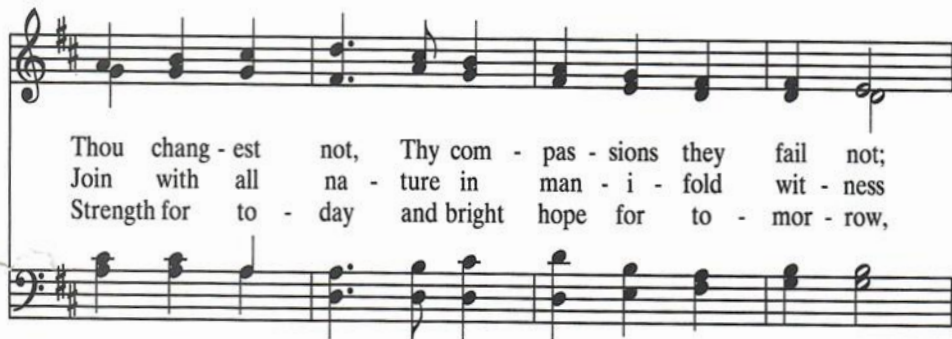
William Marion Runyan, 1923



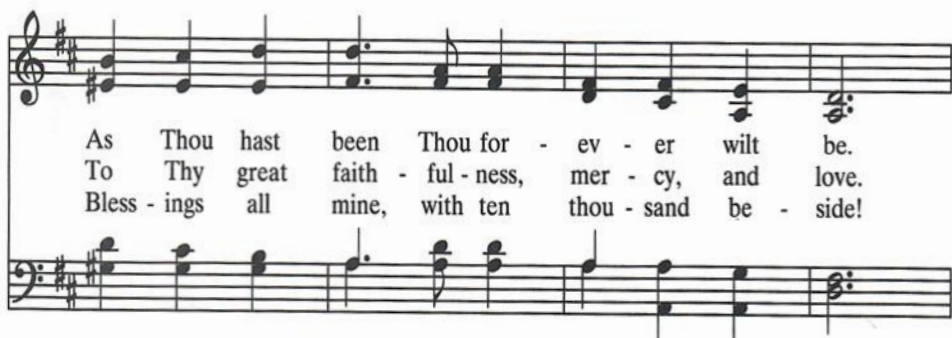
1. *Great is Thy faith - ful - ness, O God my Fa - ther,
 2. Sum - mer and win - ter, and spring-time and har - vest,
 3. Par - don for sin and a peace that en - dur - eth,



There is no shad - ow of turn - ing with Thee;
 Sun, moon, and stars in their cours - es a - bove
 Thine own dear pres - ence to cheer and to guide;



Thou chang - est not, Thy com - pas - sions they fail not;
 Join with all na - ture in man - i - fold wit - ness
 Strength for to - day and bright hope for to - mor - row,



As Thou hast been Thou for - ev - er wilt be.
 To Thy great faith - ful - ness, mer - cy, and love.
 Bless - ings all mine, with ten thou - sand be - side!

Refrain

Great is Thy faithfulness! Great is Thy faithfulness!

Morning by morning new mercies I see; All I have needed Thy
 Hand hath provided; Great is Thy faithfulness, Lord, unto me!

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

TIME WITH CHILDREN based on Psalm 106:1-6, 19-23

Talking Together *Mistakes Happen*

Lord's Prayer

**Our God, who art in Heaven, hallowed be Thy name. Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us.
Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the
kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.**

SCRIPTURE READING Isaiah 25: 1, 4-9

O LORD, you are my God; I will exalt you, I will praise your name;
for you have done wonderful things, plans formed of old, faithful and sure.
For you have been a refuge to the poor,
a refuge to the needy in their distress,
a shelter from the rainstorm and a shade from the heat.
When the blast of the ruthless was like a winter rainstorm,
the noise of aliens like heat in a dry place,
you subdued the heat with the shade of clouds;
the song of the ruthless was stilled.

On this mountain the LORD of hosts will make for all peoples
a feast of rich food, a feast of well-matured wines,
of rich food filled with marrow, of well-matured wines strained clear.
And he will destroy on this mountain
the shroud that is cast over all peoples,
the sheet that is spread over all nations;
he will swallow up death for ever.
Then the Lord GOD will wipe away the tears from all faces,
and the disgrace of his people he will take away from all the earth,
for the LORD has spoken.
It will be said on that day,
Lo, this is our God; we have waited for him, so that he might save us.
This is the LORD for whom we have waited;
let us be glad and rejoice in his salvation.

SERMON

Swallowed Up and Wiped Away

Rev. Damrow

SUNG RESPONSE *Christ Jesus Lay in Death's Strong Bands*

Christ Jesus lay in death's strong bands for our offenses
Given; But now at God's right hand Christ stands and
Brings us life from heaven; Therefore let us joyful be
And sing to God right thankfully loud songs of alleluia! Alleluia!

It was a strange and dreadful strife when life and death contended;
The victory remained with life; The Reign of death was ended. Holy Scripture
plainly saith That death is swallowed up by death; Its sting is lost forever!
Alleluia!

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

BRINGING OUR PRAYERS

Rev. Damrow

If you have not yet done so, please text any joys or concerns to 617-513-0185.

PRAYER RESPONSE

Deryl Godshall, *tenor*

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Damrow

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *The Publican*

Beardsley Van De Water

Two men went up into the temple to pray, the one a Pharisee and other publican.
The Pharisee stood and prayed thus within himself: God, I thank Thee, that I am not
as other men, extortioners, unjust, or even as this publican. I fast twice in the week, I
give tithes to all that I possess. And the publican standing afar off, would lift up so
much as his eyes unto heav'n, but smote upon his breast, saying:

God be merciful unto me, a sinner. I tell you this man went down to his house
justified rather than the other; for he that exalted himself shall be abased and he that
humbleth himself shall be exalted. God be merciful unto me.

DOXOLOGY

Lasst uns Erfreuen

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ the Word in flesh born low; Alleluia, Alleluia
Praise Holy Spirit evermore; One God, Triune, whom we adore.
Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.**

BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

INVITATIONS

Rev. Damrow

Be Still, My Soul

Ps. 37:7; Ps. 46:10; 1 Tim. 4:10

Katharina von Schlegel, 1752

Transl. Jane Laurie Borthwick, 1855; alt.

1 Be still, my soul: for God is on your side; bear pa-tient -
 2 Be still, my soul: for God will un-der-take to guide in
 3 Be still, my soul: the hour will soon be here when we shall

ly the cross of grief or pain; Leave to your God to
 fu-ture days as in the past. Your hope, your con-fi-
 be with God whom we a-dore, with dis-ap-point-ment

or-der and pro-vide; in ev-ery change God
 dence let noth-ing shake; all now mys-te-rious
 gone, no grief nor fear, sor-row re-placed with

faith-ful will re-main. Be still, my soul: your best e-ter-nal
 shall be clear at last. Be still, my soul: the waves and winds still
 joy for-ev-er-more. Be still, my soul: when change and tears are

friend through thorn-y ways leads to a joy-ful end.
 know how Je-sus' pow-er ruled them long a-go.
 past, all safe and bless-ed we shall meet at last.

Little is known about Katharina von Schlegel, the author of twenty-six hymns, except that she seems to have been a member of the duke's court at Cöthen, Germany. The tune is adapted from an orchestral work by Finland's great composer Jean Sibelius.

Tune: FINLANDIA 10.10.10.10.10.10.

Jean Sibelius, 1899

Arr. The Hymnal, 1933

BENEDICTION

Rev. Damrow



POSTLUDE

Toccata in B Minor

Eugène Gigout
Sándor Szabó, *organ*

Music Notes

Eugène Gigout (March 23, 1844–December 9, 1925) was a French organist and a composer, mostly of music for his own instrument. In his youth he began his music training at the Cathédrale Notre-Dame-de-l'Annonciation de Nancy. From 1857 he studied under Camille Saint-Saëns and Clément Loret at the Ecole Niedermeyer. After graduation he joined the faculty at Ecole Niedermeyer and held the post concurrently when he began serving as organist at the French capital's Saint-Augustin Church in 1863, where he continued for 62 years. He became widely known as a teacher and his output as a composer was considerable.

By the mid-1880s, Gigout was regularly producing organ and vocal works of merit, with the 6 Pieces for organ (1881), including the Grand chœur dialogué, which dates from 1881. In 1885 Gigout, renowned as an expert improviser, founded his own music school for organ and improvisation. This would be a fertile period for the composer, with the 10 Pieces for organ coming in 1890, a set containing some of his most popular pieces, including the imaginative Toccata in B minor, Gigout's best-known creation, which turns up as a frequent encore at organ recitals.



The First Congregational Church, UCC, Stockbridge is an Open and Affirming Church, inviting persons of every sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, racial and cultural identity, age, physical ability, economic circumstance, faith background and family structure to share fully in the ministry, leadership and fellowship of this congregation's life in Christ.

For information about us, please visit our website: stockbridgeucc.org

Join us for these opportunities this week:

- Evening Worship – Sunday 5:00 p.m. *In-person gathering.*
- Morning Prayer – Wednesday 8:00 a.m. *Via Zoom.*
- Bible Study – Wednesday 1:00 p.m. *Via Zoom.*
- Morning Prayer – Thursday 8:00 a.m. *In-person gathering, under the tent.*

**To receive weekly emails or to be placed on our mailing list, please contact
Will at office@stockbridgeucc.org | (413) 298-3137**

**Online giving is available through our website or you may mail a check to
PO Box 825, Stockbridge, MA 01262**

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Thank you to all who made this online service possible.

The Rev. Brent Damrow, Pastor

Dr. Sándor Szabó, Minister of Music

Will Garrison, Administrator | Ron Hanft, Financial Secretary

(413) 298-3137