



*The First Congregational Church
of the United Church of Christ
Stockbridge, Massachusetts*

SUNDAY WORSHIP
January 16, 2022 – 10:00 a.m.

For those worshipping at home: you are invited to text the names of those attending to 413-644-6435 that we might welcome you. You may also include prayers of joys and concerns that will be lifted later in worship.

For those in church: remember that masks, covering nose and mouth, are required for everyone over the age of two. Thanks!

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

Note: Candle stations are available at the back of the Sanctuary to use during worship to lift up a prayer when/as needed. Please observe social distancing.

GATHERING MUSIC	<i>Take Me to the Water</i>	traditional spiritual John Demler, <i>baritone</i> David Anderegg, <i>piano</i>
REGATHERING UPDATE		Ronnie Cunningham
FRAMING WORDS		Rev. Brent Damrow

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

***All who are able, please stand.**

INTROIT	<i>Just As I Am</i>	John Demler, <i>baritone</i>
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*CALL TO WORSHIP

Ted Randolph

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to encounter the Living Christ.

All: With bright eyes, let us search.

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to understand the Living Christ.

All: With engaged minds, let us ponder.

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to be moved by the Living Christ.

All: With compassionate hearts, let us feel.

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to respond to the Living Christ.

All: With solid devotion, let us follow.

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to serve the Living Christ.

All: With humble intention, let us act.

One: This new day is fresh with possibility to praise the Living Christ.

All: With strong voices, let us sing.

~ written by Rev. Christine Sobania Johnson on her blog, Freshly Squeezed
Liturgy.

*HYMN

Morning Has Broken

See page 5

WELCOME

Rev. Damrow

CONFESSION

God, you who we know as love; God, you who seeks us when we wander; help us to turn and seek you. Grant us the courage to come before you just as we are, including those places that are rough, incomplete, or less than we would want.

As we come to you, we pray that you, God, come to us. Whisper our belovedness into us that we may open our hearts to you in silent prayer.

*WORDS OF ASSURANCE

from the *Brothers Karamazov* by Dostoevsky

*PASSING OF THE PEACE

Rev. Damrow

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

STORY

Jesus Walked

Rev. Damrow

TIME WITH CHILDREN

The 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.

SUNG RESPONSE

I Want Jesus to Walk with Me

John Demler

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 3:21-22

Now when all the people were baptized, and when Jesus also had been baptized and was praying, the heaven was opened, and the Holy Spirit descended upon him in bodily form like a dove. And a voice came from heaven, 'You are my Son, the Beloved; with you I am well pleased.'

SERMON

Moments of Joyful Opening

Rev. Damrow

If you have not yet done so, please text any joys or concerns to 413-644-6435.

*HYMN

Peace Like a River

See page 6

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Damrow

PRAYER RESPONSE

David Anderegg

EXPRESSING OUR GRATITUDE

CALL TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Damrow

You are invited to leave your offering in the donation box after worship.

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *Lord, When You Came to Jordan*

John Demler

*DOXOLOGY

Old 100th

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

*BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

Cathy Clark

One: Compassionate God, thank you that you are our strength and our song,
you fill our hearts with joy.

All: May we give our offerings to you with gladness and joy.

One: Everything we have belongs to you and we rejoice to give some of your
abundant gifts back to you.

All: Bless the tithes and offerings we give today.

One: Let the majesty of our God be the light that guides us, the compassion of
the Son be the love that inspires us and the presence of the Spirit be the
power that empowers us.

All: Amen

GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

*INVITATIONS

Rev. Damrow

*HYMN

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

see page 7

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Damrow



POSTLUDE

Morning Has Broken

469

BUNESSAN 5.5.5.4 D

Eleanor Farjeon, 1931

Gaelic melody
Arr. Dale Grotenhuis, 1985

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

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!

I've Got Peace Like a River

368

African-American spiritual

7.7.11

African-American spiritual

1. I've got peace like a riv - er, I've got peace like a
2. I've got joy like a foun-tain, I've got joy like a
3. I've got love like an o - cean, I've got love like an

1
riv - er, I've got peace like a riv - er in - a my
foun-tain, I've got joy like a foun-tain in - a my
o - cean, I've got love like an o - cean in - a my

2
soul. I've got riv - er in - a my soul.
soul. I've got foun-tain in - a my soul.
soul. I've got o - cean in - a my soul.

482

Praise Ye the Lord, the Almighty

LOBE DEN HERREN 14.14.4.7.8

Joachim Neander, 1680

Trans. Catherine Winkworth, 1863; alt.

Stralsund *Ernewerten Gesangbuch*, 1665Harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

Desc. Craig Sellar Lang, 1953

1. Praise ye the Lord, the Al - might - y, the King of cre -
 2. Praise ye the Lord, who o'er all things so won - drous - ly
 3. Praise ye the Lord! O let all that is in me a -

a
 reign - tion! O my soul, praise Him, for He is thy
 dore eth, Shel - ters thee un - der His wings, yea, so
 Him! All that hath life and breath, come now with

health and sal - va - tion! All ye who hear, Now to His
 gen - tly sus - tain - eth! Hast thou not seen How thy de -
 prais - es be - fore Him! Let the a - men Sound from His

tem - ple draw near; Join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 sires e'er have been Grant - ed in what He or - dain - eth?
 peo - ple a - gain; Glad - ly for aye we a - dore Him.

We welcome our visitors this morning. We are an Open and Affirming Church which means that we invite 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.

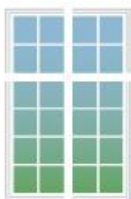
The Rev. Brent Damrow, Pastor

Will Garrison, Administrator | Ron Hanft, Financial Secretary

Diego Salinetti, Livestream Technician

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

Stockbridge, Massachusetts