



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

June 26, 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. **Please also include prayers of joys and concerns as we will name them in worship.**

For those on the front lawn: Masks are optional, but welcome.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC *Simple Gifts*, arr. Hassell Tracy Wilson, *piano*
This is My Father's World, arr. Rodriquez
O What a Beautiful Morning, Rodgers & Hammerstein
John Demler, *baritone*

FRAMING WORDS Rev. Brent Damrow

GATHERING IN WORSHIP

INTROIT *God's Glory Fills the Heaven*, vs. 1 John Demler

*CALL TO WORSHIP Michael Deegan
by Nancy C. Townley, posted on the *Ministry Matters* website

One: All heaven and earth proclaim the majesty of God's creative power!

All: Praise God for the amazing and awesome beauty.

One: God has given to us codes by which to live together in harmony and peace.

All: In these commandments, God has summed up the ways we must respect one another.

One: Rejoice in the goodness of God.

All: Praise God for God's complete and steadfast love for us. Amen.

*HYMN

All Things Bright and Beautiful

Cecil Frances Alexander, 1848

English melody, 17th century
Adapt. Martin Shaw, 1915
Harm. for *The Hymnbook*, 1953

Refrain

All things bright and beau-ti - ful, All crea-tures great and small,

All things wise and won - der - ful: The Lord God made them all. *Fine*

1. Each lit - tle flower that o - pens, Each lit - tle bird that sings:
2. The pur - ple-head - ed moun-tain, The riv - er run-ning by,
3. The cold wind in the win - ter, The pleas-ant sum-mer sun,
4. God gave us eyes to see them, And lips that we might tell

God made their glow-ing col - ors, God made their ti - ny wings.
The sun - set, and the morn - ing That bright-ens up the sky,
The ripe fruits in the gar - den: God made them ev - ery one.
How great is God Al - might - y, Who has made all things well.*

PRAYER RESPONSE *May the Words of My Mouth*, arr. Blafield

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY ANTHEM *My Lord What a Morning*, arr. Burleigh John Demler

*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

*SENDING CHARGE adapted from a prayer by Rev. Abi
Creator God, we listen as the heavens declare your glory,
We seek to likewise sing of your glory.
Lord let your presence be in us, around us
breathing new life into us,
so that we may do this work you have called us to
Now, as we go forth,
let the words of our mouths
and the meditation of our hearts be acceptable to you,
O LORD, our rock and our redeemer.

*HYMN *God Reigns O'er All the Earth* See page 6



POSTLUDE *When Morning Gilds the Skies*, arr. Rodriquez

FOREST GREEN CMD

English folk melody

Frances Whitmarsh Wile, 1911

Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906

1. All beau - ti - ful the march of days, As sea - sons come and go;
 2. O'er white ex - pans - es spar - kling pure The ra - diant morns un - fold;
 3. O Thou from whose un - fath - omed law The year in beau - ty flows,

The hand that shaped the rose hath wrought The crys - tal of the snow;
 The sol - emn splen - dors of the night Burn bright - er through the cold;
 Thy - self the vi - sion pass - ing by In crys - tal and in rose,

Hath sent the hoar - y frost of heaven, The flow - ing wa - ters sealed,
 Life mounts in ev - ery throbb - ing vein, Love deep - ens round the hearth,
 Day un - to day doth ut - ter speech, And night to night pro - claim,

And laid a si - lent love - li - ness On hill and wood and field.
 And clear - er sounds the an - gel hymn, "Good will to all on earth."
 In ev - er - chang - ing words of light, The won - der of Thy name.

This tune in a lower key, 414

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Music: Arrangement from the *English Hymnal*, 1906. Used by permission of Oxford University Press.

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

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Jane Parker Huber, 1981

Isa. 52:7-10

1 God reigns o'er all the earth! Green hills and val-leys low, the
2 God reigns o'er hu-man life! Through youth and ag-ing years, in
3 God reigns o'er time and space! In his-tory's by-gone days, Christ's
4 God reigns! Em-man-u-el! God with us ev-ery day, in

farms and towns in golds and browns God's grace and beau-ty show.
death, in birth, in grief, in mirth, in all our hopes and fears.
faith-ful folk in rev-erence spoke to bring God earn-est praise.
all our past and to the last, our com-fort and our stay.

God reigns o'er all the earth! Stone banks and spread-ing plains, in
God reigns o'er hu-man life! Our in-spi-ra-tion still. Through
God reigns o'er time and space! O'er gal-ax-y and sun, through
God reigns! Em-man-u-el! Let praise to Christ be sung! God's

rain-bow hues— reds, yel-lows, blues— of streams and coun-try lanes.
all our schemes, in all our dreams, we see God's reign-ing will.
time-less years the cos-mos hears the heav-en-ly mu-sic run.
pres-ence here makes all things dear. Let joy-ful bells be rung!

The author's notes on this text describe it as a progression of awareness of God's reign among us—in physical surroundings, in the various stages of life, in time and space, and supremely in Christ, God with us.

Tune: TERRA BEATA S.M.D.
Traditional English melody
Adapt. Franklin L. Sheppard, 1915

Music Notes

The music selected this morning celebrates our beautiful planet, the welcoming of summer, and the gift of our morning worship.

Book Discussion Group – Four Tuesdays in July, 4:00-5:00pm

Join Linda Russell to discuss *Love Is The Way (Holding on to Hope in Troubling Times)* by Bishop Michael Curry. We will gather in person under the shade of the trees in front of the church. If it is too hot or too wet we can sit socially distanced inside the church. Please contact Linda Russell with questions and/or to sign up for the discussion group by contacting Linda at LindaBox594@gmail.com or (203) 536-6110.

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.

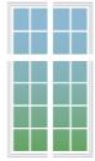
The Rev. Brent Damrow, Pastor

Will Garrison, Administrator

Marion Pomeroy, Financial Secretary

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FIRST CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
Stockbridge, Massachusetts

CALL TO MEETING

To all members of the First Congregational Church
of the United Church of Christ
Stockbridge, Massachusetts

In accordance with the bylaws of the church, The Church Council hereby calls a
Special Meeting of the church for

Sunday, June 26, 2022 immediately following worship.

The business to be transacted is as follows:

- I. Call to Order
- II. To act upon this business:
 - A. Authorize Cathy Clark, as Moderator, to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with the Berkshire Waldorf High School regarding the establishment of a 180-day period of exclusive relationship during which we would explore the possibility of and the mechanisms for entering into partnership regarding the use of Proctor Hall.
 - B. Appoint a Task Force to represent the congregation in that work: Bronly Boyd, Cathy Clark, Brent Damrow, Margaret Hornick, and Buck Smith.

Jeremy Ridenour, Clerk

Catherine Clark, Moderator

All are invited to remain for a time of food and fellowship.