



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

SUNDAY WORSHIP

September 25, 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.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC *Air* by Gottlieb Muffat (18c.) Peter Frost

FRAMING WORDS Rev. Brent Damrow

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

INTROIT *Here I Am, Lord* by Dan Schutte Kids Choir

*CALL TO WORSHIP Sarah Conly

One: Look around, everyone!

All: This is God's house,

One: Look around, everyone!

All: These are God's children!

One: So get ready!

All: Rise!

One: Open your eyes!

All: Shine!

One: Look around everyone!

All: God is here let us give God the glory!

*HYMN

Rise and Shine

Chorus:

Rise and shine and give God your glory, glory!
Rise and shine and give God your glory, glory!
Rise and shine and (*clap once*) give God your glory, glory!
Children of the Lord.

The Lord said to Noah, "There's gonna be a floody, floody."
Lord said to Noah, "There's gonna be a floody, floody."
"Get those animals (*clap once*) out of the muddy, muddy!"
Children of the Lord.

So Noah, he built them, he built them an arky, arky.
Noah, he built them, he built them an arky, arky.
Made it out of (*clap once*) hickory barky, barky.
Children of the Lord.

The animals, they came on, they came on by twosies, twosies.
The animals, they came on, they came on by twosies, twosies.
Elephants and (*clap once*) kangaroosies, roosies.
Children of the Lord.

Chorus

It rained, and poured, for forty daysies, daysies.
Rained, and poured, for forty daysies, daysies.
Drove those animals (*clap once*) nearly crazy, crazy.
Children of the Lord.

The sun came out and dried up the landy, landy.
Sun came out and dried up the landy, landy.
Everything was (*clap once*) fine and dandy, dandy.
Children of the Lord.

Now this is the end of, the end of my story, story.
This is the end, the end of my story, story.
Everything was (*clap once*) hunky dory, dory.
Children of the Lord.

Chorus

*PASSING OF THE PEACE / WELCOME

Rev. Damrow

ANTHEM *The Butterfly Song* by Debby Kerner & Ernie Rettino Kids Choir

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

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.

Children are invited to take part in Sunday School classes.

SCRIPTURE READING Luke 16:19-31 (see page 5)

Cathy Clark

SERMON

True Riches

Rev. Damrow

*HYMN

Rock of Ages, Cleft for Me

See page 6

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

BRINGING OUR PRAYERS

Rev. Damrow

PRAYER RESPONSE

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

All Things Bright and Beautiful

John Demler, *bass*

C.F. Alexander/English melody, adapted M. Shaw

*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

INVITATION TO SERVE

Carl Bradford, Mission & Action

*HYMN

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way

See page 7

*BENEDICTION

Rev. Damrow



POSTLUDE

March, by B. Yarnold (18c.)

Peter Frost

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

Peter Frost, Minister of Music

Will Garrison, Administrator

Marion Pomeroy, Financial Secretary

(413) 298-3137 | office@stockbridgeucc.org | stockbridgeucc.org

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Music notes

Our middle hymn, "Rock as Ages" (Toplady) has often been ranked as one of the most popular hymns ever composed. It is believed that the words of the hymn were written by Augustus Toplady as a result of his conversion to Christianity at the age of sixteen. The text was published in 1776.

A very well-known church musician, Thomas Hastings, composed the music in 1830. As a person with albinism, Hastings suffered with problems with his eyesight. Nevertheless, he composed over 50 volumes of church music including over 1000 hymn tunes and wrote over 600 hymn texts. He is considered to have been extremely instrumental in the development of church music in the United States. ~ Peter Frost

Today's Scripture Reading

Luke 16:19-31 The Rich Man and Lazarus

‘There was a rich man who was dressed in purple and fine linen and who feasted sumptuously every day. And at his gate lay a poor man named Lazarus, covered with sores, who longed to satisfy his hunger with what fell from the rich man’s table; even the dogs would come and lick his sores. The poor man died and was carried away by the angels to be with Abraham. The rich man also died and was buried. In Hades, where he was being tormented, he looked up and saw Abraham far away with Lazarus by his side. He called out, “Father Abraham, have mercy on me, and send Lazarus to dip the tip of his finger in water and cool my tongue; for I am in agony in these flames.” But Abraham said, “Child, remember that during your lifetime you received your good things, and Lazarus in like manner evil things; but now he is comforted here, and you are in agony. Besides all this, between you and us a great chasm has been fixed, so that those who might want to pass from here to you cannot do so, and no one can cross from there to us.” He said, “Then, father, I beg you to send him to my father’s house – for I have five brothers – that he may warn them, so that they will not also come into this place of torment.” Abraham replied, “They have Moses and the prophets; they should listen to them.” He said, “No, father Abraham; but if someone goes to them from the dead, they will repent.” He said to him, “If they do not listen to Moses and the prophets, neither will they be convinced even if someone rises from the dead.” ’

*Isa. 26:4; John 19:34**Augustus M. Toplady, 1776; alt.*

1 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel-ter be!
 2 Not the la - bors of my hands can ful - fill your law's de - mands;
 3 Noth-ing in my hand I bring, sim - ply to your cross I cling;
 4 While I draw this fleet-ing breath, when my eyes shall close in death,

Let the wat - er and the blood, from your wound - ed side which flowed,
 Could my zeal no re - spite know, could my tears for - ev - er flow,
 Na - ked, come to you for dress; help-less, look to you for grace;
 When I soar to worlds un - known, meet you at your judg-ment throne,

Be of sin the dou-ble cure, cleanse me from its guilt and power.
 All for sin could not a - tone; you must save, and you a - lone.
 Stained, I to the foun-tain fly; wash me, Sav - ior, or I die!
 Rock of a - ges, cleft for me, let me hide; my shel-ter be!

Augustus Toplady first published this poem as part of an extensive article in which he likened the English national debt to the burden of sin. The present form is a hybrid of the original and revisions in 1815 by Thomas Cotterill.

Tune: TOPLADY 7.7.7.7.7.
 Thomas Hastings, 1830
 Alternate tune: REDHEAD NO. 76

Teach Me, O Lord, Your Holy Way

William Matson, 1866; alt.

1 Teach me, O Lord, your ho - ly way,
 2 Help me, O Sav - ior, here to trace
 3 Guard me, O Christ, that I may ne'er
 4 Bless me in ev - ery task I face,

and give me an o - be - dient mind,
 the sa - cred foot - steps you have trod;
 for - sake the right, or do the wrong;
 be - gun, con - tin - ued, done for you;

That in your ser - vice I may find
 and ful - ly trust - ing in my God,
 A - gainst temp - ta - tion make me strong,
 Ful - fill your will in all I do,

my heart's de - light from day to day.
 to grow in good - ness, truth, and grace.
 and keep me in your shel - tering care.
 and grant me your a - bun - dant grace.

William Matson, English poet and Congregational minister,
 wrote a poem of 321 four-line stanzas titled "The Inner Life"
 (1866). This hymn of obedience to Christ has been drawn from
 that extended poem.

Tune: ROCKINGHAM L.M.
 Anon.
 Adapt. Edward Miller, 1790

People's Pantry

Great Barrington

Donations next week, on Communion Sunday!

Now that we are back to in-person worship, we encourage everyone to remember to bring shelf stable food items, paper products, and toiletries to church on communion Sundays (the first Sunday of the month), as part of our Active Prayer of Thanksgiving following communion. (Please do not bring outdated food.) Monetary donations (cash or checks) are also especially welcome, and may be placed in the baskets at each sanctuary door. Checks should be made payable to First Congregational Church, memo line: People's Pantry.

Here's a list of items the Pantry is requesting:

- ◇ Peanut butter
- ◇ Rice – white, brown, quinoa, other grains
- ◇ Canned tuna, chicken
- ◇ Canned beans
- ◇ Canned fruit/vegetables
- ◇ Canned soup
- ◇ Breakfast cereals including oatmeal
- ◇ Flour – white, whole grain, cornmeal
- ◇ Condiments, cooking oil, coffee, tea
- ◇ Toiletries such as shampoo, soap, toothpaste
- ◇ Paper products – paper towels, Kleenex
- ◇ Sanitary products – pads, tampons

And if you bring items on other days, they may be placed in the church's back hallway in the blue plastic storage bin which is labeled for the GB People's Pantry.