

August 23, 2025 11 a.m.

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

Pastor: Rev. Brent Damrow

Minister of Music: Sean Lewis

*Celebrating the Life and Gifts of Anne Parker McKinstry*

Prelude:

Introit:

John singing to Anne, “Be Thou a Light”

When John and Anne were apart, which was very seldom, John would call her on the phone and he would sing a particular hymn of hers called, “Be Thou a Light”. It is based on a prayer by the Rev. John Cosin, Anglican Bishop of Durham, England who died in 1672.

Opening Words of Welcome:

Rev. Brent Damrow

Prayer and 23<sup>rd</sup> Psalm

**Psalm 23 (KJV)**

The Lord is my shepherd; I shall not want.

He maketh me to lie down in green pastures: he leadeth me beside the still waters. He restoreth my soul: he leadeth me in the paths of righteousness for his name’s sake.

Yea, though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil: for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Thou preparest a table before me in the presence of mine enemies: thou anointest my head with oil; my cup runneth over.

Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever.

**Scripture Reading: Isaiah 40:28-31 (KJV)**

Hast thou not known? hast thou not heard, that the everlasting God, the Lord, the Creator of the ends of the earth, fainteth not, neither is weary? there is no searching of his understanding.

He giveth power to the faint; and to them that have no might he increaseth strength. Even the youths shall faint and be weary, and the young men shall utterly fall: But they that wait upon the Lord shall renew their strength; they shall mount up with wings as eagles; they shall run, and not be weary; and they shall walk, and not faint.

**Scripture Reading: Revelation 21:1-4 (RSV)**

The New Heaven and the New Earth

Then I saw a new heaven and a new earth; for the first heaven and the first earth had passed away, and the sea was no more. And I saw the holy city, new Jerusalem, coming down out of heaven from God, prepared as a bride adorned for her husband; and I heard a loud voice from the throne saying, “Behold, the dwelling of God is with men. He will dwell with them, and they shall be his people, and God himself will be with them; he will wipe away every tear from their eyes, and death shall be no more, neither shall there be mourning nor crying nor pain any more, for the former things have passed away.”

Hymn: “Like Wind the Seasons Change”

Words by Anne McKinstry Tune by Barbara Kershner

Sharing of mom’s poetry:

Rev. Janet McKinstry

Sharing Memories of Anne:

Rev. John McKinstry

I’ll Fly Away

Doug Schmolze

“A Love Story”

film by Laurel McKinstry Petersen

Commendation

Rev. Brent Damrow

Hymn: “Our Gracious Father” The Lord’s Prayer

Adapted by Anne McKinstry

Final Words:

Rev. Brent Damrow

Benediction “Our Arms Have Held”

Anne McKinstry

Postlude

The family wishes to thank everyone for being here and invites you for refreshments in the Johnathan Edwards room.

# THE LORD'S PRAYER

16

Your kingdom come

## OUR GRACIOUS FATHER

Anne McKinstry

St. Clement

1. Our gra - cious Fa - ther, who is in heav'n, so ho - ly,
2. Give us this day our food to nour-ish both soul and
3. lead not our souls in - to Tem-p-ta-tion, but free us

ho - ly is your name. Your king-dom come, your will  
bod - y, Lord, we pray. For-give the harm we cause  
from our sin, O Lord. All king-doms, powers and glories

be done here on our earth as it is in heav'n,  
each oth-er, as we for-give each oth-ers sin.  
are yours; for-ev-er and for-ev-er; a-men.

Plgrim - 48 -

your will be done

part. 6

*A service of gratitude and memory  
Celebrating the Life and Gifts of  
Anne Parker McKinstry  
1937 - 2025*



*This was Anne's favorite painting of John's*

### I'll fly Away

Some glad morning when this life is over,  
I'll fly away;  
To a home on God's celestial shore,  
I'll fly away,

I'll fly away, O glory, I'll fly away.  
When I die, Hallelujah, by and by,  
I'll fly away