

Federated Church of Sturbridge and Fiskdale
Third Sunday of Easter
Sunday, May 1, 2022

PRELUDE

WELCOME AND GATHERING PRAYER

SPECIAL MUSIC

How Beautiful

Words/ Music: Twila Paris arr. Bruce Greer
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Mountain Spring Music (Admin. by Capitol CMG Publishing)
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ANNOUNCEMENTS

UNISON CALL TO WORSHIP (VISION STATEMENT)

One: Let us stand as witnesses to what we proclaim!

All: Loving God, we gather to understand and accept a new and better way of living into our proclamations.

One: By the guidance of the Holy Spirit, new life and understanding are yours if you ask.

All: Lord, with open minds and hearts, help us to speak and hear our Vision Statement in new light and love.

We joyfully celebrate Christ's presence and God's grace in our lives.

We respect one another in love, actively seeking and embracing those who wish to grow with us in faith, hope, and love.

With God's guidance, we minister to the spiritual and physical needs of the community. Through service, we flourish. Amen!

OPENING HYMN

Open My Eyes That I May See, #586

Words/ Music: Clara H. Scott (1895)
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*Open my eyes, that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me;
place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my eyes, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

*Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.
Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.
Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!*

UNISON PRAYER

Heavenly Father, we come to You seeking love and understanding for everything that transpired this month. Lord, in moments of weakness, I forgot to seek Your wisdom and forgiveness for how I felt about the ways that humans treat the world and one another. God, I found myself judging and ridiculing people because of their actions instead of seeking Your peace and love for their lives. Merciful God, I seek your presence in everything I say and do. Please help me to become more Christ-like every day. Amen!

MOMENT OF SILENCE WORDS OF ASSURANCE

Children of God, hear the "Good News" God hears the sorrows that sit on our hearts and know that through Christ, we are forgiven. Praise be to God! Amen.

GLORI PATRI

Glory Be to the Father

WORDS: Lesser Doxology (3rd-4th centuries)

MUSIC: Henry W. Greatorex, 1851

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Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, Amen.

CHILDREN'S MESSAGE Pastor Dave

CHILDREN'S HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

Words & Music: Harry Dixon Loes

Copyright: Public Domain

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*This little light of mine, I'm gonna let it shine. **(X3)**
let it shine, let it shine, oh let it shine.*

SCRIPTURE READING

The Acts of the Apostles: Acts 9:1–20

Gospel Lesson: John 21:1–19

SERMON Can We Do What Jesus Requires?, Pastor Dave

HYMN

One Bread, One Body, #393

Words/ Music: John B. Foley (1978)

Copyright 1978 John B. Foley, S.J., and New Dawn Music

Refrain

*One bread, one body, one Lord of all;
one cup of blessing which we bless,
and we, though many throughout the earth,
we are one body in this one Lord.*

*Gentile or Jew, servant or free,
woman or man, no more. [Refrain]*

*Many the gifts, many the works,
one in the Lord of all. [Refrain]*

*Grain for the fields, scattered and grown,
gathered to one for all. [Refrain]*

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION MEDITATION

LORD'S PRAYER, #307

WORDS: Matthew 6:9-13 (KJV)

MUSIC: Albert Hay Malotte, 1935; arr. Donald P. Hustad, 1984

Music 1935 G. Schirmer, Inc. (Admin. by Music Sales Corporation)

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*Our Father, which 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 debts as we forgive our debtors. And lead
us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil; For thine is the Kingdom,
and the Power, and the Glory, forever, Amen, Amen.*

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONSECRATION

RECEIVING THE BREAD AND THE CUP

(Please use the elements in your Communion Boxes.)

WORDS OF INSTITUTION (Receiving the elements)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING (Unison)

Book of Worship, 1965

From you, Almighty and most merciful God, comes every good and perfect gift. We give you praise and thanks for all Your mercies. Your goodness has created us, and Your bounty has sustained us, Your discipline has chastened us, Your patience has borne with us, and Your love has redeemed us. Give us a heart to love and serve You, and enable us to show our thankfulness for all Your goodness and mercy by giving ourselves up to Your service and cheerfully submitting in all things to Your blessed will; through Jesus Christ our Savior. Amen.

MORNING OFFERING

WE OFFER OURSELVES TO GOD

We joyfully offer ourselves in God's work using our time, talent, and treasure.

SPECIAL MUSIC

Siyahamba (We Are Walking)

Words/ Music: South Africa (20th century)

Copyright 1984 Ultryck

DOXOLOGY

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

WORDS: Thomas Ken, 1674

MUSIC: Louis Bourgeois, 1551

Copyright: Public Domain

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*Praise God, from whom all blessings flow
Praise Him, all creatures here below
Praise Him above, ye heavenly host
Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.*

PRAYER OF DEDICATION (UNISON)

Loving and Merciful God, as we offer our treasure and hearts to you. We pray that they may be used to pass on the promise of hope, peace, life, and community to all in need of Your gifts and presence in their lives. Amen!

WE PAUSE TO REFLECT AND PRAY

Prayers of the People:

We are invited to offer prayers of concerns or joys.

Sharing our joys and concerns

Pastor: God is with you

All: And also, with you

Pastor: Let us pray

Pastoral Prayer

SUNG RESPONSE

Hear Our Prayer, O Lord

WORDS: Psalm 143:1

MUSIC: George Whelpton, 1897

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*Hear our Prayer, O Lord. Hear our prayer O Lord.
Incline thine ear to us, And grant us thy peace. Amen.*

CLOSING HYMN

More Love to Thee, #527

Words: Elizabeth P. Prentiss (1869)

Music: William H. Doane (1870)

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*More love to thee, O Christ,
more love to thee!
Hear thou the prayer I make
on bended knee;
this is my earnest plea,
more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.*

*Once earthly joy I craved,
sought peace and rest;
now thee alone I seek,
give what is best;
this all my pray'r shall be,
more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.*

*Let sorrow do its work,
send grief and pain;
sweet are thy messengers,
sweet their refrain,
when they can sing with me,
more love, O Christ, to thee,
more love to thee, more love to thee.*

*Then shall my latest breath
whisper thy praise;
this be the parting cry
my heart shall raise;
this still its pray'r shall be,
more love, O Christ, to thee;
more love to thee, more love to thee.*

BENEDICTION

BENEDICTION RESPONSE

O Christ, the Way, the Truth, the Life, #432

Words: James L. Merrell (1991)

Music: Alexander R. Reinagle (1836)

Copyright: 1995 Chalice Press (Admin. by Christian Board of Publication)

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*O Christ, the Way, the Truth the Life,
be with us now, we pray;
direct our steps as we go forth
to do your will this day.*

*O faithful Guide, renew our trust
in love that does not fail;
and give us strength to work and pray,
that peace may soon prevail.*

RECESSIONAL POSTLUDE

Acts 9:1-6 (NKJV)

The Damascus Road: Saul Converted

9 Then Saul, still breathing threats and murder against the disciples of the Lord, went to the high priest 2 and asked letters from him to the synagogues of Damascus, so that if he found any who were of the way, whether men or women, he might bring them bound to Jerusalem.

3 As he journeyed, he came near Damascus, and suddenly a light shone around him from Heaven. 4 Then he fell to the ground, and heard a voice saying to him, "Saul, Saul, why are you persecuting Me?"

5 And he said, "Who are You, Lord?"

Then the Lord said, "I am Jesus, whom you are persecuting. [a]It is hard for you to kick against the goads."

6 So he, trembling and astonished, said, "Lord, what do You want me to do?"

Then the Lord said to him, "Arise and go into the city, and you will be told what you must do."

John 21:1-19 (NKJV)

Breakfast by the Sea

21 After these things Jesus showed Himself again to the disciples at the Sea of Tiberias, and in this way He showed Himself: 2 Simon Peter, Thomas called the Twin, Nathanael of Cana in Galilee, the sons of Zebedee, and two others of His disciples were together. 3 Simon Peter said to them, "I am going fishing."

They said to him, "We are going with you also." They went out and [a]immediately got into the boat, and that night they caught nothing. 4 But when the morning had now come, Jesus stood on the shore; yet the disciples did not know that it was Jesus. 5 Then Jesus said to them, "Children, have you any food?"

They answered Him, "No."

6 And He said to them, "Cast the net on the right side of the boat, and you will find some." So they cast, and now they were not able to draw it in because of the multitude of fish.

7 Therefore that disciple whom Jesus loved said to Peter, "It is the Lord!" Now when Simon Peter heard that it was the Lord, he put on his outer garment (for he had removed it), and plunged into the sea. 8 But the other disciples came in the little boat (for they were not far from land, but about two hundred cubits), dragging the net with fish. 9 Then, as soon as they had come to land, they saw a fire of coals there, and fish laid on it, and bread. 10 Jesus said to them, "Bring some of the fish which you have just caught."

11 Simon Peter went up and dragged the net to land, full of large fish, one hundred and fifty-three; and although there were so many, the net was not broken. 12 Jesus said to them, "Come and eat breakfast." Yet none of the disciples dared ask Him, "Who are You?"—knowing that it was the Lord. 13 Jesus then came and took the bread and gave it to them, and likewise the fish.

14 This is now the third time Jesus showed Himself to His disciples after He was raised from the dead.

Jesus Restores Peter

15 So when they had eaten breakfast, Jesus said to Simon Peter, "Simon, son of [b]Jonah, do you love Me more than these?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I [c]love You."

He said to him, "Feed My lambs."

16 He said to him again a second time, "Simon, son of [d]Jonah, do you love Me?"

He said to Him, "Yes, Lord; You know that I [e]love You."

He said to him, "Tend My sheep."

17 He said to him the third time, "Simon, son of [f]Jonah, do you [g]love Me?" Peter was grieved because He said to him the third time, "Do you love Me?"

And he said to Him, "Lord, You know all things; You know that I love You."

Jesus said to him, "Feed My sheep. 18 Most assuredly, I say to you, when you were younger, you girded yourself and walked where you wished; but when you are old, you will stretch out your hands, and another will gird you and carry you where you do not wish." 19 This He spoke, signifying by what death he would glorify God. And when He had spoken this, He said to him, "Follow Me."