

United Church of Christ, Congregational

Sunday, November 22nd, 2020

In-Gathering Sunday!



Welcome to worship this morning and thank you for joining us!

*We believe that God calls us to love unconditionally, following the example of Jesus Christ. Recognizing that all people are equal in the sight of God, **we seek to be an inclusive and respectful community for persons of every color, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability and economic means.** In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person, and declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation. We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love. We welcome individuals and families of every configuration into the full life and ministry of this church. Join us on our faith journey!*

ORDER OF WORSHIP

PRELUDE We Lift Our Hearts

-- music by Ann-Marie Messbauer (2020)
and Lyrics by Percival Chubb (1860-1960)
Debbie Claar, soprano
Ann-Marie Messbauer, guitar & vocals

WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

INTROIT Yo me alegré / My Heart Was Glad
– words: based on Ps. 122:1-2, anonymous,
translated by Greg Scheer; music:
anonymous, arranged by Greg Scheer

STEWARDSHIP TESTIMONALS

OPENING HYMN:

God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

IN-GATHERING PRAYER

God, in this hard year, we're stumbling towards Thanksgiving. There has been lots to trip us up; a pandemic, economic meltdowns, social isolation, and injustice on so many fronts, not to mention hurricanes, forest fires and climate change... and this is not even

including the everyday sorrows that haven't let up for one minute! We wouldn't wish this year on anyone. And so on this In-Gathering Sunday, as we stumble on the words, we remember that we do have things to be thankful for.

Thank you for life, for bringing us here this far. Thank you for those who have sacrificed to help others; health care and essential workers, teachers, and everyone who has toiled overtime to make a difference. Thank you for your provision; the good earth has yielded up its bounty, and there is food in grocery stores, even if we sometimes do have to line up for it. God of hope, we need your help to get through the coming year. Help us find a vaccine: we need it soon, we need it for everyone, and we need it to work. In the meantime, help our communities pull together; forgive us when we are irritated and judgmental of the choices other people are making. Give us all patience as we wash our hands for the millionth time, as we mask up, as we make hard choices not to mingle and socialize in person.

This Thanksgiving week, as we set our eyes on Christmas, the world is waiting desperately for an angelic message of good tidings of great joy for all people. We are waiting for you to be born again, born again in this pandemic year, born again in our hearts, in our world. We know you are coming, and so we pray with thanksgiving in Jesus' name. Amen.

PRAISE RESPONSE

*There is enough!
There is enough!
There is enough,
Oh, enough and some to share!
(Repeat)*

TIME WITH CHILDREN

SOLO The Thanksgiving Turkey
Hope Calandrelli, piano

SCRIPTURE: 1 John 4: 7-11

SERMON

HYMN: God Your Blessings Overflow

MORNING PRAYER

Sharing of Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father 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 sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil for thine is the kingdom, the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

THANKSGIVING ANTHEM

Duet: Thank Him for the Sunshine

-- music by Ann-Marie Messbauer and lyrics by Sala Leland (1907)

Debbie Claar, soprano

Ann-Marie Messbauer, guitar & vocals

CELEBRATING OUR GIFTS & OFFERINGS

The Invitation to the Offering

Thanksgiving Hymn

Come, O Thankful People, Come

Prayer of Dedication

CLOSING HYMN:

Now Thank We All Our God

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Courante – Johann Sebastian Bach

Ann-Marie Messbauer, violin

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Lay Leader: Marcia Rich
Music: Debbie Claar
Anne Marie Messbauer
Hope Calandrelli
Sunday School: Deb Raymond

November 29th – 1st Sunday of Advent

Pastor: Rev. Angela Wells-Bean
Organist: Joe Stoddard, Jr.
Lay Leader: Volunteer Needed
Music: Sarah Clark
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Candle Lighters: Marcia Rich and
John Getsinger

UPCOMING EVENTS

Nov. 23 Interfaith Worship at 7pm*
Nov. 26 Happy Thanksgiving!
Church office closed
Nov. 27 Church office closed
Nov. 29 First Sunday of Advent
Zoom at 10:30am

*Interfaith Thanksgiving Service: Update!

With so much anxiety and division in our nation, the Burlington Interfaith Clergy Group has put together an Interfaith Thanksgiving Service focused on healing and gratitude. All are invited to join us as we hear from different community members about how they've found healing during this pandemic year. Through music, reflections, sacred texts and prayer, we hope this will be a time of healing for all of us. **Join us on Monday night, Nov. 23rd at 7pm on the Spiritually Speaking YouTube page:**

https://www.youtube.com/channel/UCbv7N6fny5oJJHftEa_Sngw/videos

Rev. Angela Wells-Bean, Pastor
Joe Stoddard, Jr.-Director of Music
Deb Raymond-Director of Christian Ed
Bobbie Killilea-Administrative Asst.

PRAYER CONCERNS

Donna Ferro's friend Jamuna Manjunatha
Karen Ciardi's Mom and Dad, Dottie & Bill
Rev. David Smith
Wynelle Scenna
Lynn & Lee Tirrell's brother-in-law Don
Scott Carpenter
The Blaney's daughter-in-law Carey
Pastor Angela's Mom Kim
David Ierardi's parents, son Dano and Alisha
Prayers for Brianna
Kelly Sievert's brother, Geoff
Aimee Tredeau's friend, Mercedes and children
Malki and Zaire
Pastor Bruce recovering from acute leukemia
Mark Flecchia's mother Vivian
Carol and Ron Downing's brother Charlie
and Carol's sister-in-law Joan
Barbara Leonard
Claire Simas and her grandson
Anne Stafford, son Bill and grandson Zach
Joe Stoddard's mom Lillian
Betty & Woody Knowles, Janet Hurley
Roberta Low's friend Doug
Anna Karwan and her family
Joyce Carpenter's Nephew
Bill Beyer's sister Jane Moberg and friend Frank
Kendra Griep's grandfather
Luella Brown
Alan Wright's friend Seth's Dad
Jean Bastos
J. Beyers (Relative of Kate)
Dave Williamson
Rev. Elizabeth King
Jan Blandino
Bobbie Martino
Barbara Garland
Jessy McNeil's brother Mel and sister Grace
Henry Knopp
Dot Drinkwater
Ruth Reddig
Everett Langley's brother George
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom
Jim Mungillo

Our First Responders! Our caregivers!
Urgent Care workers!
Military here and abroad!
BE SAFE!

CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

C4C will be meeting weekly in Sewall Hall on Thursdays starting at 1PM. Currently we are creating hats and scarves for Burlington children aged pre-school through High School. We are also making mittens for preschoolers.

Donating to the Wish Tree for distribution along with the Christmas baskets. If you would like to make hats, mittens or scarves and donate them there is a bin for these items outside the office.

WISH TREE NEEDS

Missions is collecting underwear and pajamas for the Burlington Wish Tree organization. Distributed to Burlington children ages preschool through high school. Informational Cards, with requests and sizes for individual people, are being distributed by Bobbie in the office, or Susan Eby (781-272-3614). There will be a bin outside the office for your purchased items, or you drop them into a bin that will be outside Aline Beck's house, (8 Garrity Road, Burlington).

PLEASE MAKE SURE YOU TAPE OR PIN THE DISTRIBUTION CARD TO THE ITEM. The number of people the pantry is serving has increased during the Pandemic. There is greater need for underwear and pajama donations this year.

Deadline is Dec. 6th.

AMAZON SMILE

Another easy (and no extra cost) way to help the church is to shop at AMAZONSMILE.com.

Choose the church as your non-profit selection and a percentage of what you spend comes back to us!

ANTI-RACISM ACCOUNTABILITY GROUP CONTINUING

The Zoom Anti-Racism Accountability Group is going strong. The upcoming dates are as follows Dec. 2nd and Dec. 16th. At 7pm. Please email Pastor Angela if you'd like to participate and she will send you the Zoom link. We'd love to have you join us.

GIFT CARD PROGRAM

ORDER DEADLINE IS NOVEMBER 29

Gift Cards arrive by DECEMBER 11

Buy your gift cards through "ShopwithScrip" and a percentage will be donated to the church, at no cost to you! If you would like to get a gift card to thank someone, or give as a gift there is a great list online of vendors that participate in this program

You can go online to www.ShopwithScrip.com, create an account with BB483284315L1 as your enrollment code (to link your order to our church account). Place your order online, and send a check to UCC, with "Gift Cards" on the memo line. Or feel free to contact Nancy Todd for help ordering.

COATS FOR KIDS!

City Missions is again collecting NEW coats for all age children, toddler to High School. This included a special need for LARGE ADULT COATS. There is a bin outside Bobbie's office for any NEW winter coats you may wish to donate. Barbara Moran will deliver these to the collection center in Westwood. **DEADLINE is December 11th** OR.....

You may order a coat online and send it directly to the Collection Center at:
First Parish Westwood
ATTN: City Mission
252 Nahatan Street
Westwood, MA 02090



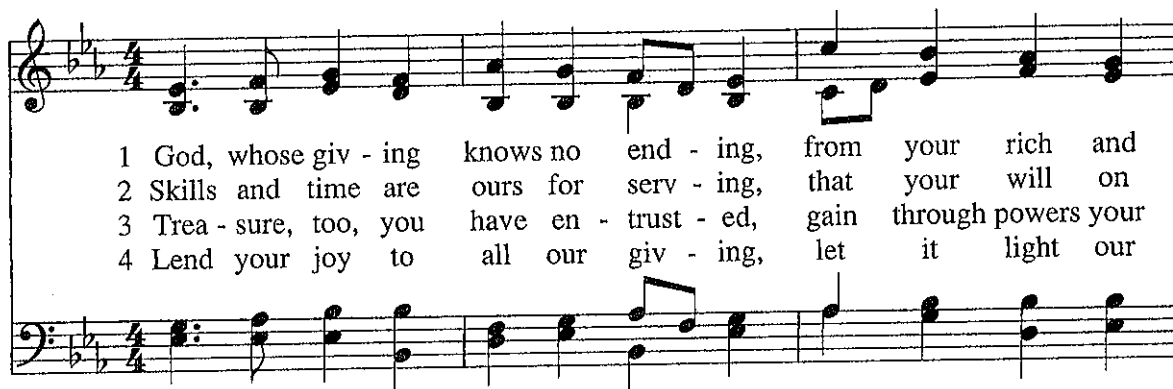
Are you Zoom Meeting Savvy?

UCC Burlington is looking for a few good people to be a backup Zoom host or a rotating Zoom cohost for our weekly Zoom church services. Gratefully, we have been able to rely on Michael Lewis and Sally Willard to manage our weekly Zoom logistics. Even though Michael and Sally are steady contributors, it is important to have back-up support, especially if someone is sick, out-of-town, or simply needs a break.

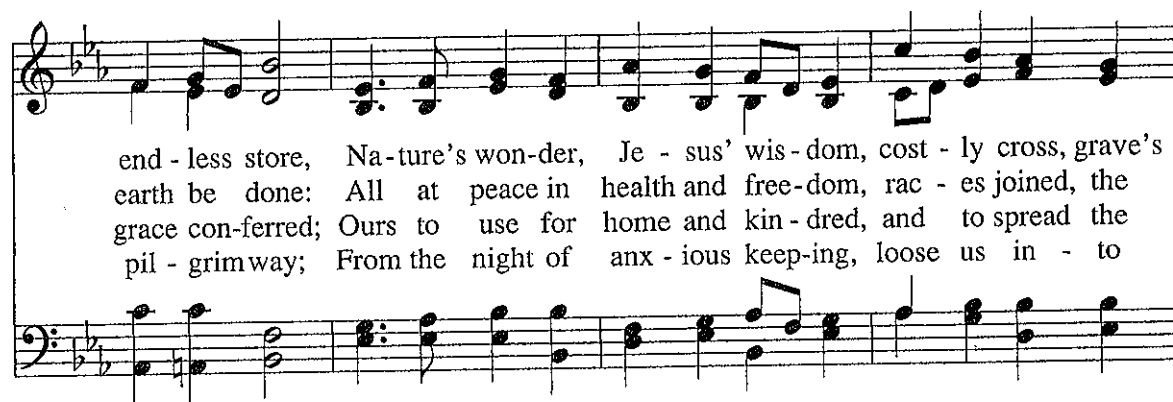
If you are interested in being a Zoom host back-up or a rotating cohost, please let Deb Glancy know (debglancy03@gmail.com). We'll provide instruction, coaching, and lots of support. We are seeking 5-6 people who would be willing to serve this very important role. Please consider how your skills can support this need.

Thank you very much. 😊
Deb Glancy, Deacons Chair

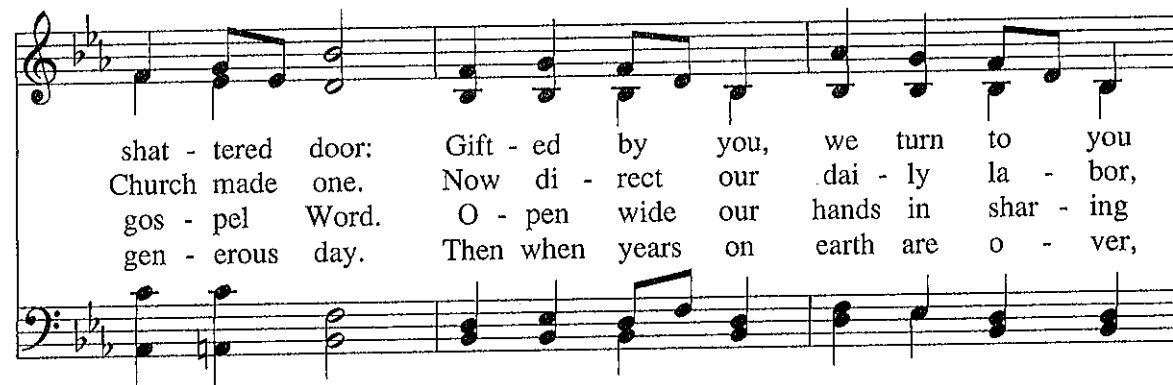
God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending

Robert L. Edwards, 1961; alt.


1 God, whose giv - ing knows no end - ing, from your rich and
 2 Skills and time are ours for serv - ing, that your will on
 3 Trea - sure, too, you have en - trust - ed, gain through powers your
 4 Lend your joy to all our giv - ing, let it light our



end - less store, Na - ture's won - der, Je - sus' wis - dom, cost - ly cross, grave's
 earth be done: All at peace in health and free - dom, rac - es joined, the
 grace con - ferred; Ours to use for home and kin - dred, and to spread the
 pil - grim way; From the night of anx - ious keep - ing, loose us in - to



shat - tered door: Gift - ed by you, we turn to you
 Church made one. Now di - rect our dai - ly la - bor,
 gos - pel Word. O - pen wide our hands in shar - ing
 gen - erous day. Then when years on earth are o - ver,

of - fering up our - selves in praise; Thank - ful song shall
 lest we strive for self a - lone; born with tal - ents,
 as we heed Christ's age - less call, Heal - ing, teach - ing,
 and we've lived our hu - man span, God, ful - fill be -

rise for - ev - er, gra - cious do - nor of our days.
 make us ser - vants fit to an - swer at your throne.
 and re - claim - ing, hon - oring you by lov - ing all.
 yond our dream - ing, all our stew - ard - ship be - gan.

Come, O Thankful People, Come

Exod. 23:16

St. 1, Henry Alford, 1844; alt.

St. 2, Anna Laetitia Aiken Barbauld, 1772; alt.

St. 3, composite of Alford and Barbauld; alt.

Descant

3 These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all bless-ings flow;

1 Come, O thank-ful peo-ple, come, raise the song of har-vest home;
 2 All the bless-ings of the field, all the stores the gar-dens yield,
 3 These to you, our God, we owe, source from whom all bless-ings flow;

and for these our songs we raise, grate-ful vows and sol-enn praise.

all is safe-ly gath-ered in as the win-ter storms be-gin;
 all the fruits in full sup-ply, rip-ened 'neath the sum-mer sky,
 and for these our songs we raise, grate-ful vows and sol-enn praise.

Come, then, thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home;

God our Mak - er does pro - vide for our wants to be sup - plied;
 All that spring with boun - teous hand scat - ters o'er the smil - ing land,
 Come, then, thank - ful peo - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home;

come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.

come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.
 all that lib - eral au - tumn pours from its rich o'er - flow - ing stores,
 come to God's own tem - ple, come, raise the song of har - vest home.

THANKSGIVING

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Nun danket alle Gott
(Now Thank We All Our God)

Sir. 50:20-24; 39:35; Ps. 67

Martin Rinkart, 1647; transl. Catherine Winkworth, 1858; alt.

1 Nun dank - et al - le Gott, mit Herz - en, Mund und Händ - en,
1 Now thank we all our God with heart and hands and voic - es,
2 O may this boun-teous God through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God our Mak - er now be giv - en,

der gro - sse Ding - e tut an uns und al - len End - en;
Who won - drous things has done, in whom this world re - joic - es,
With ev - er joy - ful hearts and bless - ed peace to cheer us,
To Christ, and Spir - it, too, our help in high - est heav - en,

der uns von Mut - ter - leib und Kind - es - bein - en an
Who, from our par - ents' arms, has blessed us on our way
And keep us still in grace, and guide us when per - plexed,
The one e - ter - nal God, whom earth and heaven a - dore,

un - zäh - lig viel zu gut bis hier-her hat ge - tan.
With count-less gifts of love, and still is ours to - day.
And free us from all ills in this world and the next.
For thus it was, is now, and shall be ev - er - more.

For much of his life, German Lutheran pastor and musician Martin Rinkart ministered to the walled city of Eisleben amidst the horrors of the Thirty Years' War. This hymn has become one of the most widely used hymns of the church.

Tune: NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
Johann Crüger, 1647
Harm. Felix Mendelssohn, 1840