



**Trinitarian Congregational Church  
 United Church of Christ  
 Concord, Massachusetts  
 February 25, 2018**

*Celebrating Community*

"There would be no great ones if there were no little ones."  
 -George Herber

**SILENT PRAYER**

In the beginning, God, you made the world; made it and mothered it, shaped it and fathered it, filled it with fertility and variety – all that is green, blue, deep and growing. Be our shepherd during Lent that we may become servants of your love. Amen.

**PRELUDE & LIGHTING OF CANDLES**

*Psalm 27*

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

The Lord is my light and my salvation; whom shall I fear?  
 The Lord is the stronghold of my life; of whom shall I be afraid?

**WORDS OF WELCOME**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

One: All of creation is alive with the greatness of God!  
 Many: **The heavens shine with the glory of the Lord, while babes and children sing God's praises.**

One: When we look at the works of the Creator, we are stunned by their beauty, and humbled by our small place in the universe.  
 Many: **Where do we fit in God's grand hopes and goals?**

One: We have been entrusted with responsibility to care for this earthly home, its people and creatures, and empowered by hope.  
 Many: **Worship connects us to God's love and leadership; praise and prayer will enable us to serve the Almighty's gracious will.**

All: **So let us lift our voices together in grateful song!**  
 (adapted from Psalm 8)

**\*HYMN #276**

Great Is Thy Faithfulness  
*Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

*Faithfulness*

**\*INVOCATION**

**OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY**

**ANTHEM**

*Of Hospitality*

Jane Marshall (b. 1924)

I saw a stranger yestreen. I put food in the eating place, drink in the drinking place, music in the listening place. And in the sacred name of the Triune, he blessed myself, he blessed my house, he blessed my cattle and my dear ones. And the lark said in her song, "Often comes Love in the stranger's guise." --from an old Gaelic rune

**READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES** Mark 9:30-37 (p. 45 in the pew Bible)

**SERMON**

Great to Good

Jean Vandergrift

**\*HYMN #367** (verses 1-3)

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us With Your Love  
*Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

*Chereponi*

**CALL TO CONFESSION**

**Silent Confession**

**Kyrie**

Solo: Kyrie eleison (Lord, have mercy)

All: Kyrie eleison

Solo: Christe eleison (Christ, have mercy)

All: Christe eleison

Solo: Kyrie eleison

All: Kyrie eleison

**Assurance of Forgiveness**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**Solo**

*The Lord's Prayer*  
 Matt DiBattista, tenor

Ned Rorem (b. 1923)

**OFFERING OF GIFTS**

**Call to Stewardship**

**Offertory**

*Psalm 83*

Emma Lou Diemer (b. 1927)

O God, do not keep silence; do not hold thy peace or be still, O God!

**\*Hymn of Praise**

*Old Hundredth*

Praise God from whom all blessings flow;  
Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,  
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

**\*Prayer of Dedication** (unison)

Great God of all, your giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store. We turn to you and offer ourselves to you through these gifts, in thankful praise. Open wide our hands in sharing, today and every day, as we heed Christ's ageless call: healing, teaching, and welcoming, serving you by loving all. By the power of the Holy Spirit, Amen.  
(adapted from Dove hymn # 422)

**\*HYMN** (insert)

Lord, Whose Love Through Humble Service

**BENEDICTION**

One: The cross ...

**Many: We shall take it.**

One: The bread ...

**Many: We shall break it.**

One: The pain ...

**Many: We shall bear it.**

One: The joy ...

**Many: We shall share it.**

One: The gospel ...

**Many: We shall live it.**

One: The love ...

**Many: We shall give it! Amen.**

**POSTLUDE**

*Beech Spring*

19th c. American hymn tune  
arr. Gilbert Martin (b. 1941)

\*The congregation is invited to stand.

**† Go Forth and Serve †**

**Leading Worship:** Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Victoria Wagner, Music Director; Bart Littlefield, Liturgist.