



**Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
May 13, 2018**

The flowers are given by Marcia, Jason, Dalton and Ronan Macres in fond memory of mothers/grandmothers Polly Ann Henderson Ridings and Yia Yia Jennie Georgoulakos Macres.

Celebrating Community

*“Can a mother forget the baby at her breast
and have no compassion on the child she has borne?
Though she may forget, I [God] will not forget you!” (Isa. 49:15)*

SILENT PRAYER

Mothering God, may we come to you in worship as children of your creation, and find anew that we are beloved, beautiful, and brave. Amen.

INTROIT

Rise Up, My Love Healey Willan (1880-1968)
Rise up my love, my fair one, and come away.
For lo, the winter is past, the rain is over and gone.
The flowers appear upon the earth.
The time of the singing of birds is come. (Song of Solomon 2:10-12)

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Come! Let us worship God with thankful hearts!
Many: **For the miracle of creation and the arrival of Spring,**
One: For the miracle of being alive and human,
Many: **Let us give thanks and praise!**
One: For the miracle of our own birth and a mother’s tenderness,
teaching us lessons of Jesus,
Many: **For the miracle of forgiveness and a church that nurtures faith,**
One: For the miracles of loving, serving, learning and growing,
Many: **Let us now gratefully sing!**

***HYMN #555**

Now Thank We All Our God
Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs

Nun danket alle Gott

***INVOCATION**

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

ANTHEM

Down to the River

Appalachian, arr. Robert E. Lee

As I went down to the river to pray, studyin' about that good ol' way,
And who shall wear the starry crown, good Lord, show me the way,
O sisters, fathers, mothers, sinners, let's go down,
Come on down to the river to pray.

THE SACRAMENT OF BAPTISM

George MacMillen Boger

Julia Michelle Whelan

The Litany of Baptism (responsively)

Rev. Vandergrift: We are gathered to present Julia Michelle Whelan & George MacMillen Boger to the church and to dedicate them to God. What can we affirm about them?

People: They are children of God, made in the image of God.

Rev. Brown: As they grow among us, how will they know that they are children of God, made in God’s image?

People: We will give them our love and include them in the life and ministry of this congregation.

Rev. Vandergrift: And what, in turn, will we expect of them?

People: We look forward to sitting with them at the Lord’s Table, sharing the ways of Jesus, learning and growing with them in our faith.

Rev. Brown: Adam & Kimberly Whelan and Andrew & Olivia Boger, as parents, and Godparents, Paul & Stephanie Whelan and Matthew Boger, along with Ginger Pearson; will you as family to one another accept your primary responsibility for growing with Julia and George in the Christian faith, helping them to become faithful members of the church of Jesus Christ, and will you offer them the nurture and support of the Christian church?

Parents and Godparents: We will with the help of God.

Deacon: And do you, Trinitarian Congregational Church, pledge to work toward creating and maintaining a nurturing and challenging Christian environment for these children?

People: We do, for they belong to us as well.

Rev. Vandergrift: Then, may God be with us.

All: **God help us. Amen.**

The Prayer and Rite of Baptism

A Blessing

*HYMN #326 Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart *Morecambe*
🙏 *Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs*

8TH GRADE BIBLE PRESENTATION Carrie O'Brien and Suzanne Giles

Holly Kristina Anderson *Max Charde*
Madelyn Molly Gambino *Noelle Elizabeth Ledoux*
Griffin Kennedy Meyer *Susannah Westphal Snell*
Margaret O. Stewart *Mallory Dillon Thut*
Owen Anderson White

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES John 17:6-19 (p. 111 in the pew Bible)

SERMON *Like a Good Mother* Jean Vandergrift

HYMN (insert) Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Silent Prayer, Pastoral Prayer and The Prayer of Our Savior

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

OFFERING OF GIFTS

Call to Stewardship

Offertory *Von Gott will ich nicht lassen* J.S. Bach
(I Will Not Stray From 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)

Living God, we thank you for speaking to us even when we don't listen and providing for us even when we do not notice. But here and now, having heard and experienced your compassion, we will not turn away. Instead, we offer and give and share your message, through our resources, with great rejoicing! In Christ's name, Amen.

*HYMN (insert, verses 1,2,4) We All Are One in Mission *Aurelia*

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *Wer nur den lieben Gott läßt walten* Bach
(If We Allow Our God to Guide Us)

*The congregation is invited to stand.

† Go Forth and Serve †

Leading Worship: Rev. Robert Brown, Acting Senior Minister; Rev. Dr. Jean Vandergrift, Interim Minister for Spiritual Development and Congregational Life; Victoria Wagner, Music Director; Kathy Flynn, Liturgist.

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