



Trinitarian Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Concord, Massachusetts
November 25, 2018

Nurturing Community

“Thankful praise is the theme of the Christian life,
shining through everything that Christians do and say.
We experience life itself as a gift from God
and the world around us as communion with the Holy One.
Work and play, companionship with family and friends,
even the tragedies of personal life and the terrors of history,
are all tempered and redeemed
by the surprising presence of the eternal Spirit.”

-- Keith Watkins

SILENT PRAYER

In faith let us come before God Almighty and know who we are: People of the New Heaven and the New Earth! Amen.

PRELUDE Music for flute & organ Emily G. Roos, flutist

WORDS OF WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Sometimes worship is a parade, a celebration,
a gathering of people expressing their joy and thanksgiving.
**Many: Sometimes worship is an adventure, a quest,
a gathering of people searching for meaning.**
One: Sometimes worship is a fast, a funeral,
a gathering of people seeking comfort in their grief.
**Many: Among us today are people who have come to march, to search,
to weep, to sing, to pray, and to connect.**
One: May we find that for which we have come and be surprised
by the movement of the Holy in this human community,
Many: As we open our minds, our hearts, and our arms in grateful worship.

***HYMN #551** (verses 1, 2, & 4) Come, Ye Thankful People, Come
 Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs

***INVOCATION**

OUR MISSION AND MINISTRY

***HYMN #559** (verses 1 & 3) We Gather Together
 Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs

READING FROM THE SCRIPTURES Revelation 1:4-8 (p. 245 in the pew Bible)

SERMON *Alpha, Omega, and Now* Jean Vandergrift

***HYMN #488** The God of Abraham Praise
 Hymns, Psalms & Spiritual Songs

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS - A Bidding Prayer of Intercession (p. 4)

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 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 *God of Mercy, Truth, and Beauty* Welsh tune, arr. Powell

God of mercy, truth, and beauty, Lord God of Love! Thou hast made the earth and heavens,
Lord God above. Sun and moon bow down before thee, Angels in the heights adore thee;
God of mercy, truth, and beauty, Lord God of Love!

God, Creator, Source of life, thy love is known; Depths of earth and heights of heaven
all are thine own. Thou hast made the world around us, mercy, beauty, truth surround us;
God, Creator, Source of life, thy love is known.

God, the Father, great Creator, Lord God of might! May thy love defend and help us,
Lord God of light! Guard us waking, guard us sleeping, safe from harm, and in thy keeping,
God, the Father, Great Creator, Lord God of might!

***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)**

Oh Lord, you are the Alpha and the Omega, the source of our lives *and* our eternal home. You have not withheld one good thing from us, and in your generosity, we have more than enough to share. Bless these offerings to underwrite what you are doing in the world right now. In your Spirit, we pray, Amen.

***HYMN** (p.5, verses 1, 2, & 4) Love Divine, All Loves Excelling

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Music for flute & organ

Emily G. Roos, flutist

***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; Emily Roos, Flutist; Ann Noyes, Liturgist.

The flowers are in honor of Grandma Ladybug. You have been and will always be our North Star....the Nash family.

**The Trinitarian Congregational Church
and The Metropolitan Boston Association of
The United Church of Christ
cordially invite you to celebrate
the Installation of**

The Reverend Robert W. Brown

**as Senior Minister
of TriCon Church**

Sunday, December 2, 2018 at 3 o'clock

**There will be a reception in the Parish Hall
immediately following the service.**

SHARING OF JOYS AND CONCERNS - A Bidding Prayer of Intercession

Pastor: In love expressed through word and silence, let us pray to the Lord.

Pastor: For the good earth, which God has given us, and for the wisdom and will to cherish and conserve it, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For the sick and the suffering, in mind, body, or spirit, as well as those who struggle with loss – particularly for ... let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For the poor and the oppressed, for the unemployed and the hungry, for prisoners and captives, and for all who remember and care for them, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For deliverance from all danger, disaster, and violence, and those who respond to their cries for help, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For our President and all elected leaders exercising authority in the land, as well as servants and unsung heroes of the communities of which we are a part, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For the strength and welfare of the Church Universal in all its variety, for those of goodwill in all faiths, and for the unity and peace of the world, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For all who seek God or a deeper knowledge and closer walk with Christ, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will.

Pastor: For our enemies and those we don't understand or for whom we feel resentment, help us along the journey to forgiveness, let us pray to the Lord.

(Silence)

People: Thank you, God! Answer our prayers according to your loving will as exemplified in the prayer of Jesus: *Our Father...*