



*The First Congregational Church
of the United Church of Christ
Stockbridge, Massachusetts*
SECOND SUNDAY IN LENT
February 25, 2024 – 10:00 a.m.

Each week in worship we welcome people to share their prayers. If you would like for a worship leader to read your prayer, fill out a prayer slip. Nursery care is available during the worship service; please ask an usher.

PREPARING FOR WORSHIP

GATHERING MUSIC	<i>Resignation</i> , arr. Callahan <i>Down Ampney</i> , arr. Callahan	Tracy Wilson, <i>organ</i>
PRELUDE	<i>Ah, Dearest Jesus</i> , trad.	Bell Choir
FRAMING WORDS / WELCOME		Pastor Brent Damrow

GATHERING FOR WORSHIP

TOLLING OF THE HOUR / BRINGING OF THE LIGHT

*HYMN *Pass Me Not, O Gentle Savior* See page 5

*CALL TO WORSHIP written by Roddy Hamilton, and posted on the Church of Scotland's *Starters for Sunday* website

One: When the world is no longer a paradise and we feel our smallness

All: we worship.

One: When the memories linger of the past and war shapes us beyond our knowing and conflict becomes a story of life

All: we worship.

One: When the way is more barren than beautiful, when the path is more a climb than a stroll when the desert expands and the horizon stretches

All: we worship.

continued

One: We worship

All: because we can.

One: We worship

All: because we hope.

One: We worship

All: because we know our vulnerability.

One: When things shift and we need to hold on.

All: we worship.

One: We worship

All: To find the strength we need for the journey.

TIME WITH CHILDREN

Based on Mark 10:46-52

The Lord's Prayer

Our God, 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. Lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Children may go to music / story time.

INTROIT

O Sacred Head, Now Wounded, arr. Krug

Bell Choir

CONTEMPORARY READING Sonnet 19, by John Milton

David Anderegg

When I consider how my light is spent,
Ere half my days, in this dark world and wide,
And that one Talent which is death to hide
Lodged with me useless, though my Soul more bent
To serve therewith my Maker, and present
My true account, lest he returning chide;
"Doth God exact day-labour, light denied?"
I fondly ask. But patience, to prevent
That murmur, soon replies, "God doth not need
Either man's work or his own gifts; who best
Bear his mild yoke, they serve him best. His state
Is Kingly. Thousands at his bidding speed
And post o'er Land and Ocean without rest:
They also serve who only stand and wait."

Psalm 34

Response

Unison

Antiphon: Jane Marshall, 1994



O let us ex - alt God's name for - ev - er.

¹¹Come, O children, listen to me;
I will teach you the fear of God.

¹²Which of you desires life, and covets
many days to enjoy good?

¹³Keep your tongue from evil, and
your lips from speaking deceit. *R*

¹⁴Depart from evil, and do good;
seek peace, and pursue it.



(Repeat the Response.)

PRAYER OF CONFESSION by Pamela C. Hawkins

O God, who makes all things new,
new stars, new dust, new life; take my
heart,
every hardened edge and measured
beat,
and create something new in me.
I need your newness, God,

the rough parts of me made smooth;
the stagnant, stirred; the stuck, freed;
the unkind, forgiven.
By the power of your Spirit,
Turn me toward love.
(Time for Silent Confession)

WORDS OF ASSURANCE / PASSING THE PEACE

THE GIFT OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE READING	Mark 10:32-45	
SERMON	<i>What Do You Want?</i>	Pastor Brent
*HYMN	<i>Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love</i>	See page 6

OFFERING OURSELVES AND OUR GIFTS

CALL TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY	<i>It is Well with My Soul</i> , arr. Thompson	Bell Choir
DOXOLOGY	<i>A Lenten Doxology</i> , by G.W. Dub Shepherd	Old 100th
Praise God throughout these forty days.		
Praise Christ, our Lord, who God did raise.		
And praise the spirit who imparts		
God's love in Christ into our hearts. Amen.		

*BLESSING OF THE GIFTS

*HYMN	<i>My Song is Love Unknown</i> , vss. 1-2	See pew hymnal #76
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BRINGING OUR PRAYERS

PRAYER RESPONSE	<i>O Sacred Head, Now Wounded</i> , arr. Krug	
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GOING FORTH INTO THE WORLD

INVITATIONS

*SENDING SONG	<i>O Savior, Let Me Walk with Thee</i> , vs. 2	See page 7
*BENEDICTION		Pastor Brent



POSTLUDE	<i>Ah, Holy Jesus</i> , arr. Osman	Bell Choir
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Luke 18:35-43

Fanny Crosby (1820-1915); alt.

1 Pass me not, O gen - tle Sav - ior, hear my hum - ble cry;
 2 Let me at your throne of mer - cy find a sweet re - lief;
 3 Trust - ing on - ly in your mer - it, would I seek your face;
 4 Be the Spring of all my com - fort, more than life to me;

While on oth - ers you are call - ing, do not pass me by.
 Kneel - ing there in deep con - tri - tion, help my un - be - lief.
 Heal my wound - ed, bro - ken spir - it, save me by your grace.
 Not just here on earth be - side me, but e - ter - nal - ly.

Refrain

Sav - ior, Sav - ior, hear my hum - ble cry;

While on oth - ers you are call - ing, do not pass me by.

Fanny Crosby was already a successful writer when she became associated with gospel hymnists Sankey, Sweney, Root, and others. She directed her talent to gospel songs in her early forties, and collaborated with William Doane on many hymns.

Tune: PASS ME NOT 8.5.8.5. with refrain
 William H. Doane (1832-1915)

The New Century Hymnal (1995)

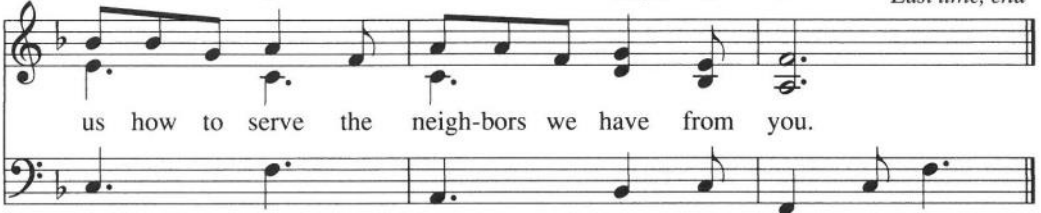
John 13:1-20; Gal. 5:13-14

Tom Colvin, 1969; rev. 1994

Refrain
Unison



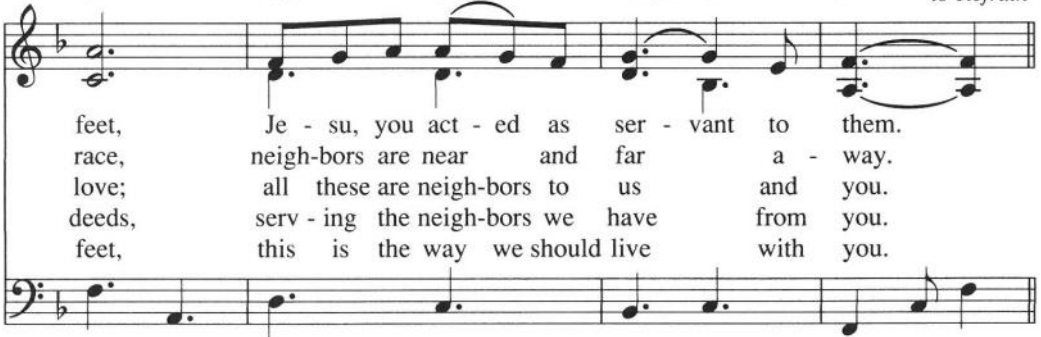
Je - su, Je - su, fill us with your love, show



us how to serve the neigh-bors we have from you.



1 Knelt at the feet of his friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their
 2 Neigh-bors are rich and poor, var - ied in col - or and
 3 These are the ones we should serve, these are the ones we should
 4 Lov - ing puts us on our knees, show - ing our faith by our
 5 Kneel at the feet of our friends, si - lent - ly wash - ing their



feet, Je - su, you act - ed as ser - vant to them.
 race, neigh-bors are near and far a - way.
 love; all these are neigh-bors to us and you.
 deeds, serv - ing the neigh-bors we have from you.
 feet, this is the way we should live with you.

Washington Gladden, 1879; alt.

1 O Sav - ior, let me walk with you in earth - ly
 2 Help me the slow of heart to move by some clear
 3 Teach me your pa - tience; let me be in clos - er,
 4 In hope that sends a shin - ing ray far down the

paths of ser - vice true; Tell me your se - cret,
 win - ning word of love. Teach me the way - ward
 dear - er com - pa - ny, In work that keeps faith
 fu - ture's broad - ening way, In peace that on - ly

help me bear the strain of toil, the fret of care.
 feet to stay, and guide them in the home - ward way.
 sweet and strong, in trust that tri - umphs o - ver wrong.
 you can give, with you, O Sav - ior, let me live.

Welcome! We are an Open and Affirming Church which means that we invite persons of every sexual orientation, gender identification and expression, racial and cultural identity, age, physical ability, economic circumstance, faith background and family structure to share fully in the ministry, leadership and fellowship of this congregation's life in Christ.

(413) 298-3137 | office@stockbridgeucc.org | stockbridgeucc.org

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News and Announcements

Warm Up the Winter: Construct Fundraiser Today

Today the Board of Mission and Action invites the congregation to donate to this fundraiser. There will be a giving table at fellowship hour today, staffed by Tristan Osgood and Cindy Brown. Donations can be made by check (payable to "Construct" with memo line "Warm Up the Winter") or cash, or we can show you how to donate online. We can also show you how to order tickets for the Warm Up the Winter concert on March 7, featuring Wanda Houston. Learn more at constructberkshires.org

Happy Birthday to Us...

Rescheduled!

The All-Church Birthday Potluck Lunch (with cake!) will now be held right after church on **May 5** -

Save the Date!

More details to follow...

Stockbridge Festival Chorus

The Spring Concert will celebrate the life of Alice Parker; the major work will be Parker's *Melodious Accord: A Concert of Praise*.

Rehearsals are every Sunday, from 1:00 to 3:00 pm preparing for the concert on April 27. The chorus is open to any interested singer; February 25 is the last day to join. Singers can miss no more than three rehearsals. Dues are \$40 and music will be distributed at the first rehearsal attended. Scholarships are available. Questions? Contact Tracy Wilson, Festival Chorus Director.

Lent Devotionals

The popular UCC Daily Devotionals are available again this year. They are available either in a digital format or as a printed copy.

Sign up in the JE Room or contact the church office (413-298-3137) and we'll get a devotional to you.

Music Notes ~ Tracy Wilson

The preludes of early American hymn tunes arranged by Charles Callahan are being played in memory of Mr. Callahan, who passed at the early age of 72 this past December 25.