



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ

November 22, 2020

Music streamed in today's service

We Gather Together - arr. John Carter

Be Now My Vision NCH 451

A Hymn of Thanksgiving

Praeludium III - JS Bach

Give Thanks/Now Thank We All Our God - arr. Joel Raney

Today's service will be recorded.

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Prelude We Gather Together arr. John Carter

Welcome and Announcements Sarah Fuller

Call to Worship Ed Bond

Intro: Neighbors and Friends, hear this call to worship:

In this holy time,

We gather to praise God!

Let us give thanks to God, for God is good, all the time!

Let us give thanks to God, for God's steadfast love endures forever.

Opening Prayer

Susan Carabbio

Come, O Creator, O Immensity of Love, O Eternity of mercy. Come, and be with us and beside us and over us. Be as hands upon us, and fashion us for shining. Be as warmth within us and fire us for caring. Be as strength beside us, and shape our lives for healing. Abide in our prayers, the spoken and unspoken, and make your Word come true in our flesh, through Jesus Christ our Redeemer. Amen.

Opening Hymn **Be Now My Vision NCH 451**

1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impart--
You my best thought, by day or by night,
waking or sleeping, your presence my light.

2 Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
now and forever your child I will be.

3 Riches I need not, nor life's empty praise,
you, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
great God, my treasure, may we never part.

4 Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heaven's Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
still be my vision, O Ruler of all.

Unison

The musical score is written for a unison voice and piano. It consists of four systems, each corresponding to a verse of the hymn. Each system has a vocal line on a treble clef staff and a piano accompaniment on a bass clef staff. The key signature has two flats (B-flat and E-flat), and the time signature is 3/4. The lyrics are printed below the vocal line, with some words hyphenated across lines. The piano accompaniment provides harmonic support with chords and moving lines.

1 Be now my vi - sion, O God of my heart;
2 Be now my wis - dom, and be my true word;
3 Rich - es I need not, nor life's emp - ty praise,
4 Sov - ereign of heav - en, my vic - to - ry won,

noth - ing sur - pass - es the love you im - part -
ev - er with - in me, my soul is as - sured;
you, my in - her - i - tance, now and al - ways;
may I reach heaven's joys, O bright heav - en's Sun!

You my best thought, by day or by night,
Moth - er and Fa - ther, you are both to me,
You and you on - ly are first in my heart,
Heart of my own heart, what - ev - er be - fall,

wak - ing or sleep - ing, your pres - ence my light.
now and for - ev - er your child I will be.
great God, my trea - sure, may we nev - er part.
still be my vi - sion, O Rul - er of all.

¹⁵I have heard of your faith in the Lord Jesus and your love toward all the saints, and for this reason ¹⁶I do not cease to give thanks for you as I remember you in my prayers. ¹⁷I pray that the God of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of glory, may give you a spirit of wisdom and revelation as you come to know him, ¹⁸so that, with the eyes of your heart enlightened, you may know what is the hope to which he has called you, what are the riches of his glorious inheritance among the saints, ¹⁹and what is the immeasurable greatness of his power for us who believe, according to the working of his great power. ²⁰God put this power to work in Christ when he raised him from the dead and seated him at his right hand in the heavenly places, ²¹far above all rule and authority and power and dominion, and above every name that is named, not only in this age but also in the age to come. ²²And he has put all things under his feet and has made him the head over all things for the church, ²³which is his body, the fullness of him who fills all in all.

Anthem

A Hymn of Thanksgiving

Max Evrard

Sermon

Rev. Holly MillerShank,
Interim Associate Conference Minister

Passing the Peace

Sarah Fuller

Prayers of the People

Rev. Reebee Girash

Pastoral Prayer

The Lord's Prayer

Our Father (Creator), 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 debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

Invitation to the Offering

Ed Bond

Offertory

Praeludium III

JS Bach

If you would like to support Pilgrim Church, you may mail in a check or arrange electronic giving by contacting Dave McClave. Additionally, we now accept donations using a credit card or PayPal on our website under the tab Learning, Growing and Caring and select Giving. Thank you for your support.

O God, most merciful and gracious, of whose bounty we have all received,
accept this offering of your people.

Remember in your love those who have given it
and those for whom it is given,
and so follow it with your blessing that it may promote peace
and goodwill among all peoples and advance your reign. Amen.

Service of Installation

Greeting

Presentation - Pilgrim Church to the Metropolitan Boston Association

Exhortation

Covenant - Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash, Pilgrim Church, and the Metropolitan Boston Association

Promises by the Congregation:

We receive Reebee as our Pastor. We promise to rejoice and to labor with her in the ministry of the gospel, to support and respect her. We gather with her and with the United Church of Christ as a sign of our mutual ministry in Christ's name.

Promises by members of the Association, representatives of other faith communities, friends and family:

We, your family, friends and colleagues, stand with you, the people, ministers and pastor of Pilgrim Church, as a sign of our covenant and in celebration of our mutual ministry.

Prayer of Installation

Declaration and Acclamation

All: (Please unmute!) **Thanks be to God!**

Special Greetings

Charge: Rev Gregory Morisse

Greeting from the Lexington Interfaith Clergy Association: Rabbi Howard Jaffe

Greeting from a Mission Partner: Rev. June Cooper, City Mission Boston

Closing Hymn Called as Partners in Christ's Service NCH 495

- 1 Called as partners in Christ's service, called to ministries of grace,
We respond with deep commitment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
May we learn the art of sharing, side by side and friend with friend,
Equal partners in our caring to fulfill God's chosen end.
- 2 Christ's example, Christ's inspiring, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
Let us follow, never faltering, reconciling folk on earth.
Men and women, richer, poorer, all God's people, young and old,
Blending human skills together Gracious gifts from God unfold.
- 3 Thus new patterns for Christ's mission in a small or global sense,
Help us bear each other's burdens, breaking down each wall or fence.
Words of comfort, words of vision, words of challenge, said with care,
Bring new power and strength for action, make us colleagues, free and fair.
- 4 So God grant us for tomorrow ways to order human life
That surround each person's sorrow with a calm that conquers strife.
Make us partners in our living, our compassion to increase,
Messengers of faith, thus giving hope and confidence and peace.

Called as Partners in Christ's Service

495

*Jane Parker Huber, 1981**John 15:12-17; Gal. 6:2; Eph. 2:14-22*

1 Called as part-ners in Christ's ser-vice, called to min-is-tries of grace,
2 Christ's ex-am-ple, Christ's in-spir-ing, Christ's clear call to work and worth,
3 Thus new pat-terns for Christ's mis-sion, in a small or glob-al sense,
4 So God grant us for to-mor-row ways to or-der hu-man life



We re-pond with deep com-mit-ment fresh new lines of faith to trace.
Let us fol-low, nev-er fal-tering, rec-on-cil-ing folk on earth.
Help us bear each oth-er's bur-dens, break-ing down each wall or fence.
That sur-round each per-son's sor-row with a calm that con- quers strife.



May we learn the art of shar-ing, side by side and friend with friend,
Men and wom-en, rich-er, poor-er, all God's peo-ple, young and old,
Words of com-fort, words of vi-sion, words of chal-lenge, said with care,
Make us part-ners in our liv-ing, our com-pas-sion to in-crease,



E-equal part-ners in our car-ing to ful-fill God's cho-sen end.
Blend-ing hu-man skills to-geth-er gra-cious gifts from God un-fold.
Bring new power and strength for ac-tion, make us col-leagues, free and fair.
Mes-sen-gers of faith, thus giv-ing hope and con-fi-dence and peace.



Benediction

Rev. Reebee Girash

Postlude

Give Thanks/Now Thank We All Our God

arr. Joel Raney

Source Notes: The Prayer of Invocation is by Arnold Kenseth. The Prayer of Dedication is adapted from the New Century Hymnal.