



Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
March 27, 2022

FOURTH SUNDAY IN LENT

*This Lent, our theme is Creation Care,
Climate Justice, and the Renewal of the Earth.*

In the words of Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light:

As people of faith, we begin with love.
We see the earth not simply as an elegant mechanism,
but as a miracle of creation.
We see people not only as producers, workers, and consumers,
but as unique and precious souls.
We see ecological healing and environmental justice
as our sacred responsibility.
What we hold sacred we will protect.

MUSIC STREAMED IN TODAY'S SERVICE

Erbahm dich mein, O Herre Gott - Johann Gottfried Walther
Infinite Grace - Marty Parks
My Love is My Shepherd - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan
In the Bulb There Is a Flower- NCH 433**
Come, Follow Me - Max Reger

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Today's service will be recorded.

**Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
March 27, 2022
Fourth Sunday in Lent**

PRELUDE Erbarm dich mein, O Herre Gott - Johann Gottfried Walther Dot Bowe

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

*CALL TO WORSHIP Jeff Boehm

One: Neighbors, If you lift your net and it is empty, come here!

All: We'll cast it out again into Christ's abundance.

One: If you open your eyes but do not recognize the Holy One, come here!

All: We'll find our God in all Creation.

One: If your life is filled with mourning, come here!

All: The Spirit is leading a dance of joy.

One: Come here, friends,

All: To give blessing and honor and glory to God!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Jeff Boehm

Holy God, from your word we learn there is enough for all if we would learn to share it. Your earth is a wonder of abundance and fertility. Yet greed, scarcity and desire for power continue to grip your children. Turn us from greed to generosity, from scarcity to sharing, from power over to power with. In humility we confess to harming your creation and your children. God our Maker, so move us by the wonder of creation, that we repent and care more deeply. In your grace, turn us toward love. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Jeff Boehm

One: Peace be with you.

All: And also with you.

One: Let us share the peace of Christ with one another.

And what now, Israel, does God ask of you? Only this: that you stand in awe of God; that you walk in all of God's ways; that you love and serve God with all your heart and soul, ¹³and that you keep the commandments and obey the statutes of God— statutes which, for your good, I lay down today. ¹⁴To God belongs heaven and the highest of heavens, the earth and all that it contains—¹⁵yet the Almighty so loved your ancestors that you, their descendants, were chosen before all other peoples, and so it still is today. ¹⁶Sensitize your hearts, therefore, and bend your will! ¹⁷For our God is the God of gods, the Sovereign of sovereigns, the great God, powerful and awe-inspiring, who has no favorites and cannot be bribed; ¹⁸who brings justice to the orphan and the widowed, and who befriends the foreigner among you with food and clothing. ¹⁹In the same way, you too must befriend the foreigner, for you were once foreigners yourselves in the land of Egypt. ²⁰It is God Most High, whom you must serve with awe; whom

you must cling to and by whom you must swear; ²¹who is your praise; who is your God; who has done great things which your eyes have seen with awe. ²²Your ancestors went down into Egypt seventy strong, and God has made you as numerous as the stars of the heavens.

One: Here end the readings. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: **Thanks be to God.**

ANTHEM

Infinite Grace - Marty Parks

Choir

MOMENT FOR CHILDREN

Sarah Jane Fuller

Children and Youth are invited to attend Sunday School at this time.

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

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.**

MISSION MOMENT Massachusetts Interfaith Power and Light

Matt Saradjian

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

My Love is My Shepherd - Richard Bruxvoort Colligan

*DOXOLOGY - #515 Pilgrim Hymnal (Red)

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

or

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

PRAYER OF DEDICATION

Rev. Reebee Girash

God of life, we worship you by being abundant and fruitful with our lives. We worship you by offering up our gifts as if they were songs of joyful praise. Bless these gifts that they may lead to abundant life for all creation, for our neighbors and strangers alike. Amen.

*HYMN

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

NCH 433

- 1 In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
 in cocoons, a hidden promise: butterflies will soon be free!
 In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
- 2 There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
 there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
 From the past will come the future; what it holds, a mystery,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.
- 3 In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
 in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
 In our death, a resurrection; at the last, a victory,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.

433

In the Bulb There Is a Flower

Natalie Seeth, 1985

Unison

1 In the bulb there is a flow - er; in the seed, an ap - ple tree;
 2 There's a song in ev - ery si - lence, seek - ing word and mel - o - dy;
 3 In our end is our be - gin - ning; in our time, in - fin - i - ty;

in co - coons, a hid - den prom - ise: but - ter - flies will soon be free!
 there's a dawn for ev - ery dark - ness, bring - ing hope to you and me.
 in our doubt there is be - liev - ing; in our life, e - ter - ni - ty.

In the cold and snow of win - ter there's a spring that waits to be,
 From the past will come the fu - ture; what it holds, a mys - ter - y,
 In our death, a res - ur - rec - tion; at the last, a vic - to - ry,

un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.
 un - re - vealed un - til its sea - son, some - thing God a - lone can see.

CLOSING PRAYER

Creator God, this Lent we pray that you would move us to love. Love our neighbors, next door and around the world. Love your creation, from the trees outside our windows, to the ocean thousands of miles away. Love our children, those whose names we know and those who will come seven generations from now. In love, may we protect, restore, and steward this beautiful world. In love, may we serve. Amen.

BENEDICTION

Rev. Reebee Girash

POSTLUDE

Come, Follow Me - Max Reger

Dot Bowe

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*Please be in a posture of praise.

The flowers are given by **Anne Cowan** and the **Sym family** in loving memory of **Jim Cowan** and with heartfelt thanks to all Pilgrims for their love and kindness.

A special thank you to **Jeff Boehm** for being our liturgist today, to **Nick Zorn** for being our Zoom host, and **Duncan Todd** for publishing the bulletin.

SOURCE NOTES: The Call to Worship is adapted from Quentin Chin. Portions of the Prayer of Confession are from the Iona Community.

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SUNDAY WORSHIP 10:30 AM