



Maybe the desire to make something beautiful is the piece of God that is inside each of us. - Mary Oliver

**Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Worship – March 12, 2023
Third Sunday of Lent**

**MUSIC IN TODAY'S SERVICE LICENSED
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- ❖ PRELUDE: What Wondrous Love is This – Arr. John Carter
- ❖ OPENING HYMN: Crashing Waters at Creation*
- ❖ ANTHEM:
- ❖ RESPONSE HYMN: I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say*
- ❖ OFFERTORY: Come to the Water – John Foley
- ❖ CLOSING HYMN: O How I Love Jesus*
- ❖ POSTLUDE: "Machs mich mir Gott" (Come, Follow Me) – Max Reger

**From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.
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Today's service will be recorded.

**Welcome to Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
A Welcoming, Open and Affirming Congregation**

Mission Statement

*A welcoming home to all
spiritual seekers
Making a difference in our world,
By fusing our Christian faith with
everyday life and
Serving God by serving others.*

Statement of Welcome

*We honor the Biblical call to love one another as God
first loved us. We welcome into the full life and
ministry of the church all people of any race,
nationality, religious background, educational
background, ethnicity, age, gender, sexual orientation,
marital status, economic status, and physical, mental,
and emotional abilities.*

Children at Pilgrim

Children are an important part of our worshipping community. We try to make them feel at home! All are welcome. Professional childcare for infants and toddlers is available in Pilgrim Hall from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Visual and Hearing Aids

Hearing devices may be picked up from the table in the narthex.

Large Print bulletins and
Sermons texts are available.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, UCC – March 12, 2023 – Third Sunday of Lent

PRELUDE

What Wondrous Love is This – Arr. John Carter

GREETING AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ONE: May you be at peace in mind, peace in body, and peace with your neighbors, family and friends. May the peace of Christ be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

Chris Reaske

One: Calling all travelers, pilgrims, and wanderers

All: We come to drink from the fountain of blessing.

One: Gather, you siblings of God's family and servants of Christ.

All: We come to rest by the fountain of blessing.

One: Living water is available for all who are thirsty.

All: We come to be restored at the fountain of blessing.

One: Christ is the spring of everlasting life.

All: We come to be healed by the fountain of blessing.

Crashing Waters at Creation

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Sylvia G. Dunstan, 1991

Gen. 1:1–5; Exod. 14:21–22; Mark 1:9–11; John 4:13–14

- 1 Crash-ing wa-ters at cre-a-tion
or-dered by the Spir-it's breath,
First to wit-ness day's be-gin-ning
from the bright-ness of night's death.
- 2 Part-ing wa-ter stood and trem-bled
as the cap-tives passed on through,
Wash-ing off the chains of bond-age—
chan-nel to a life made new.
- 3 Cleans-ing wa-ter once at Jor-dan
closed a-round the One fore-told,
O-pened to re-veal the glo-ry
ev-er new and ev-er old.
- 4 Liv-ing wa-ter, nev-er end-ing,
quench the thirst and flood the soul.
Well-spring, Source of life e-ter-nal,
drench our dry-ness, make us whole.

OPENING PRAYER

Chris Reaske

Living Christ, you are the source of everlasting life.
You promise that when we receive the living water,
we will never be thirsty again.

May we see abundance in our love for one another,
our generosity of spirit, our energy for the work ahead,
and our confidence in your faithfulness.

Full of gratitude, we draw near to the fountain of blessing.
Amen.

Now when Jesus learned that the Pharisees had heard, 'Jesus is making and baptizing more disciples than John' — ²although it was not Jesus himself but his disciples who baptized — ³he left Judea and started back to Galilee. ⁴But he had to go through Samaria. ⁵So he came to a Samaritan city called Sychar, near the plot of ground that Jacob had given to his son Joseph. ⁶Jacob's well was there, and Jesus, tired out by his journey, was sitting by the well. It was about noon.

⁷A Samaritan woman came to draw water, and Jesus said to her, 'Give me a drink'. ⁸(His disciples had gone to the city to buy food.) ⁹The Samaritan woman said to him, 'How is it that you, a Jew, ask a drink of me, a woman of Samaria?' (Jews do not share things in common with Samaritans.) ¹⁰Jesus answered her, 'If you knew the gift of God, and who it is that is saying to you, "Give me a drink", you would have asked him, and he would have given you living water.' ¹¹The woman said to him, 'Sir, you have no bucket, and the well is deep. Where do you get that living water? ¹²Are you greater than our ancestor Jacob, who gave us the well, and with his sons and his flocks drank from it?' ¹³Jesus said to her, 'Everyone who drinks of this water will be thirsty again, ¹⁴but those who drink of the water that I will give them will never be thirsty. The water that I will give will become in them a spring of water gushing up to eternal life.' ¹⁵The woman said to him, 'Sir, give me this water, so that I may never be thirsty or have to keep coming here to draw water.'

¹⁶Jesus said to her, 'Go, call your husband, and come back.' ¹⁷The woman answered him, 'I have no husband.' Jesus said to her, 'You are right in saying, "I have no husband"; ¹⁸for you have had five husbands, and the one you have now is not your husband. What you have said is true!' ¹⁹The woman said to him, 'Sir, I see that you are a prophet. ²⁰Our ancestors worshipped on this mountain, but you say that the place where people must worship is in Jerusalem.' ²¹Jesus said to her, 'Woman, believe me, the hour is coming when you will worship the Father neither on this mountain nor in Jerusalem. ²²You worship what you do not know; we worship what we know, for salvation is from the Jews. ²³But the hour is coming, and is now here, when the true worshippers will worship the Father in spirit and truth, for the Father seeks such as these to worship him. ²⁴God is spirit, and those who worship him must worship in spirit and truth.' ²⁵The woman said to him, 'I know that Messiah is coming' (who is called Christ). 'When he comes, he will proclaim all things to us.' ²⁶Jesus said to her, 'I am he, the one who is speaking to you.' ²⁷Just then his disciples came. They were astonished that he was speaking with a woman, but no one said, 'What do you want?' or, 'Why are you speaking with her?' ²⁸Then the woman left her water-jar and went back to the city. She said to the people, ²⁹'Come and see a man who told me everything I have ever done! He cannot be the Messiah, can he?'

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

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

*Children are invited to Sunday School at this time.
Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller.*

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

You know everything we have done. We thirst for things that will never satisfy us. We commit ourselves to things that will never last. We worship things that will never bring salvation. Still, you offer us the gift of living water. Still, you offer us the gift of eternal life. Forgive us, O Lord, and give us this living water, so that we may never thirst again. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Reebee Girash



RESPONSE HYMN

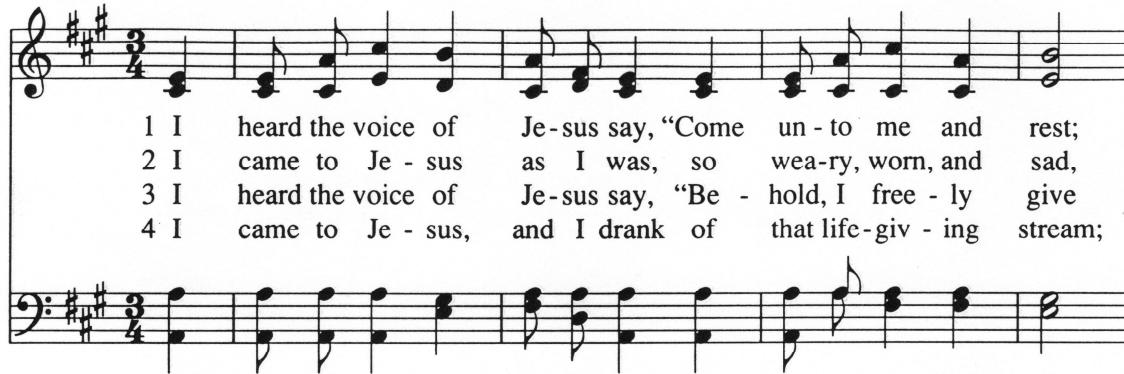
I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say – Black Hymnal 489

I Heard the Voice of Jesus Say

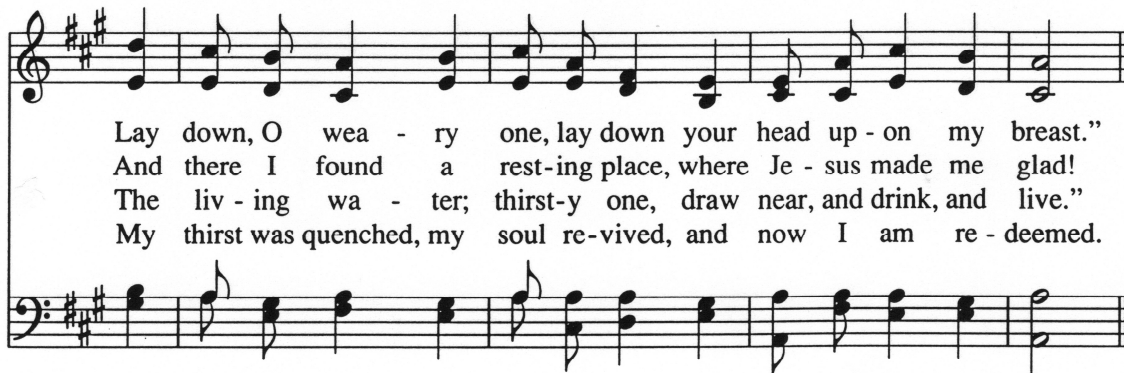
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Horatius Bonar, 1846; alt.

Matt. 11:28–30; John 4:7–15; 8:12



1 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Come un-to me and rest;
 2 I came to Je-sus as I was, so wea-ry, worn, and sad,
 3 I heard the voice of Je-sus say, "Be-hold, I free-ly give
 4 I came to Je-sus, and I drank of that life-giv-ing stream;



Lay down, O wea-ry one, lay down your head up-on my breast."
 And there I found a rest-ing place, where Je-sus made me glad!
 The liv-ing wa-ter; thirst-y one, draw near, and drink, and live."
 My thirst was quenched, my soul re-vived, and now I am re-deemed.

5 I heard the voice of Je-sus say,
 "I am this lost world's Light,
 Look un-to me; your morn shall rise,
 and all your day be bright."

6 I looked to Je-sus, and I found
 my guid-ing Star, my Sun;
 And in that light of life I'll go
 till trav-eling days are done.

Horatius Bonar was one of the founders of the Free Church of Scotland. A man of wide scholarship and great devotion to his ministry, he wrote nearly one book a year, as well as some 600 hymns.

Tune: EVAN C.M.
 William H. Havergal, 1847
 Arr. Lowell Mason, 1850
 Alternate tune: KINGSFOLD
 (Pair stanzas 1–2, 3–4, 5–6)

1 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 "Come unto me and rest;
 Lay down, O weary one,
 lay down your head upon my breast."

2 I came to Jesus as I was,
 so weary, worn, and sad;
 And there I found a resting place,
 where Jesus made me glad!

3 I heard the voice of Jesus say,
 "Behold, I freely give
 The living water; thirsty one;
 draw near and drink and live."

4 I came to Jesus, and I drank
 of that life-giving stream;
 My thirst was quenched, my soul
 revived,
 and now I am redeemed.

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.

INVITATION TO OFFERING

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Come to the Water — John Foley

*DOXOLOGY

Red Hymnal 515

**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**

Gracious God, you are a well that does not run dry.

You never tire of giving good gifts to your children.

And in response, we bring our offerings to be used to support our faith community and to participate in heaven's love and justice work.

Bless and multiply these gifts today, and use them for your glory. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

O How I Love Jesus – Black Hymnal 52
(next page)

***BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE

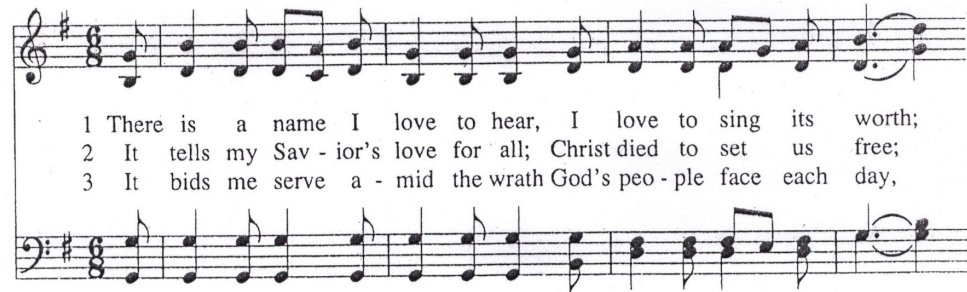
"Machs mich mir Gott" (Come, Follow Me) – Max Reger

A special *Thank You* to our Zoom host, Mike Stevens, our Liturgist, Chris Reaske and to the Snipe Family for after church hospitality.

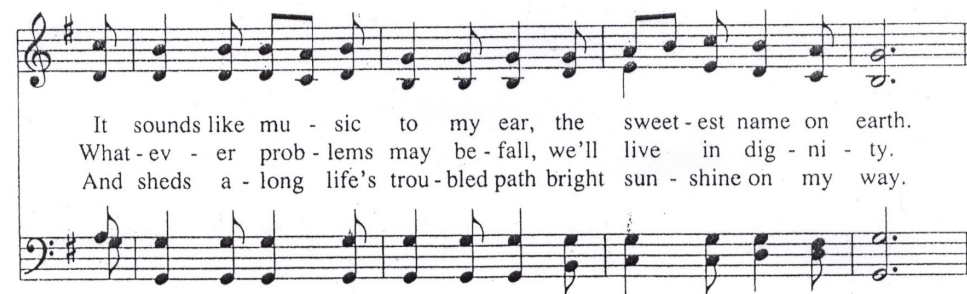
There Is a Name I Love to Hear

(O How I Love Jesus)

Frederick Whitfield, 1855; alt.

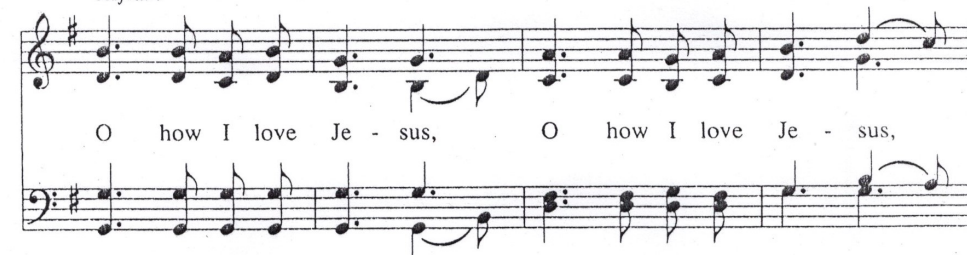


1 There is a name I love to hear, I love to sing its worth;
 2 It tells my Sav - ior's love for all; Christ died to set us free;
 3 It bids me serve a - mid the wrath God's peo - ple face each day,

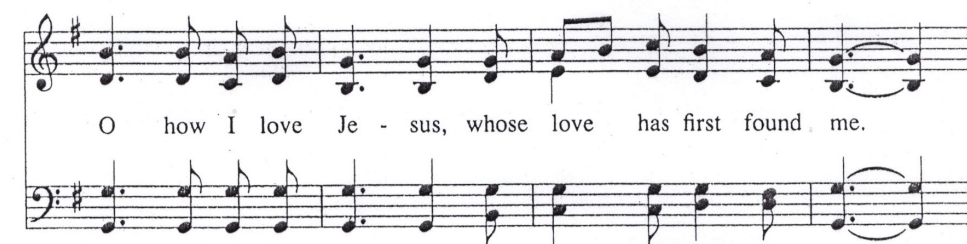


It sounds like mu - sic to my ear, the sweet - est name on earth.
 What - ev - er prob - lems may be - fall, we'll live in dig - ni - ty.
 And sheds a - long life's trou - bled path bright sun - shine on my way.

Refrain



O how I love Je - sus, O how I love Je - sus,



O how I love Je - sus, whose love has first found me.

1 There is a name I love to hear,
 I love to sing its worth;
 it sounds like music to my ear,
 the sweetest name on earth.

Refrain:

O how I love Jesus,
 O how I love Jesus,
 O how I love Jesus,
 whose love has first found me.

2 It tells my Savior's love for all;
 Christ died to set us free;
 Whatever problems may befall,
 we'll live in dignity. [Refrain]

3 It bids me serve amid the wrath
 God's people face each day,
 And sheds along life's troubled path
 bright sunshine on my way. [Refrain]

SOURCE NOTES

Our Theme for Lent 2023 is based on *An Illustrated Lent for Families: This is My Body which explores how Jesus lived in his body on earth and invites us to take care of – and embrace the goodness of – our own bodies.* The liturgy and devotional materials from *Illustrated Ministry* are used with license permission through purchase from *Illustrated Ministry*. Today's prayer of confession is from *Feasting on the Word*.

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Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

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Sunday Worship 10:30 am

