

**Pilgrim Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
October 22, 2023**

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- ❖ PRELUDE: Praise for the Morning—
Lani Smith
- ❖ OPENING HYMN: Spirit of God, Descend
Upon My Heart*
- ❖ ANTHEM: Every Valley arr. Craig Courtney
- ❖ HYMN: Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love *
- ❖ OFFERTORY: God Has Chosen Me—
Bernadette Farrell
- ❖ CLOSING HYMN: God the Spirit, Guide and
Guardian*
- ❖ POSTLUDE: Recessional on 'St Denio' —Dan
R. Edwards

Today's service will be recorded.

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PILGRIM
Congregational Church



UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST



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

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.

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.*

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 the nursery from 10:15 to the end of the service.

Please note: The video of this service is posted online. If you prefer not to be filmed, please sit near the rear of the sanctuary.

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 | Worship Sunday, October 22, 2023

PRELUDE

Praise for the Morning—Lani Smith

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

A WORD FOR CHILDREN & YOUTH

Rev. Reebee Girash

*Children and Youth are invited to a Sunday school hike at this time.
Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller and Izzy Leginsky.*

PASSING THE PEACE

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

*CALL TO WORSHIP

One: I was glad when they said to me, Let us go to the house of the Lord!

All: Our feet are standing within your gates, O Jerusalem.

One: Jerusalem, built as a city that is bound firmly together.

All: Pray for the peace of Jerusalem.

One: For the sake of my relatives and friends, I will say,

All: Peace be within you.

*OPENING HYMN

Spirit of God, Descend Upon My Heart—Black Hymnal 290

HYMNS OF THE SPIRIT

Spirit of God, Descend upon My Heart

290

George Croly, 1854; alt.

Gal. 5:25; Matt. 22:37; John 1:32

1 Spir - it of God, de - scend up - on my heart;
 2 I ask no dream, no proph - et ec - sta - sies,
 3 Have you not bid us love you ev - ery way?
 4 Teach me to feel that you are al - ways nigh;
 5 Teach me to love you as your an - gels love,

wean it from earth, through all its puls - es move;
 no sud - den rend - ing of the veil of clay,
 All, all your own: soul, heart, and strength, and mind;
 teach me the strug - gles of the soul to bear,
 one ho - ly pas - sion fill - ing all my frame;

Stoop to my weak - ness, might - y as you are,
 No an - gel vis - i - tant, no o - pening skies;
 I see your cross—there teach my heart to stay;
 To check the ris - ing doubt, the reb - el sigh;
 The bap - tism of the heaven - de - scend - ed dove,

and make me love you as I ought to love.
 but take the dim - ness of my soul a - way.
 O let me seek you, and O let me find.
 teach me the pa - tience of un - an - swered prayer.
 my heart an al - tar, and your love the flame.

George Croly, ordained in the Church of Ireland, was well known in London literary circles and served a poor parish. This hymn is from a collection he compiled for that congregation. Hellespont was the original name for the tune Morecambe.

Tune: MORECAMBE 10.10.10.10.
 Frederick C. Atkinson, 1870

1 Spirit of God, descend upon my heart;
 wean it from earth, through all its pulses move;
 Stoop to my weakness, mighty as you are,
 and make me love you as I ought to love.

2 I ask no dream, no prophet ecstasies,
 no sudden rending of the veil of clay,
 No angel visitant, no opening skies;
 but take the dimness of my soul away.

3 Have you not bid us love you every way?
 All, all your own: soul, heart and strength, and mind;
 I see your cross there teach my heart to stay:
 O let me seek you, and O let me find.

4 Teach me to feel that you are always nigh;
 teach me the struggles of the soul to bear,
 To check the rising doubt, the rebel sigh;
 teach me the patience of an unanswered prayer.

5 Teach me to love you as your angels love,
 one holy passion filling all my frame;
 The baptism of the heaven-descended dove,
 my heart an altar, and your love the flame.

*PRAYER OF ILLUMINATION

Holy God, as we listen to the story of people of faith in ancient days open our hearts and minds to understand what is contained therein. Once again send your Spirit so that, hearing your words calling out to your beloved, we may be inspired to works of love and justice in your name. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

2 Samuel 5:1-5; 2 Samuel 6: 1-5

Then all the tribes of Israel came to David at Hebron, and said, 'Look, we are your bone and flesh. ²For some time, while Saul was king over us, it was you who led out Israel and brought it in. The LORD said to you: It is you who shall be shepherd of my people Israel, you who shall be ruler over Israel.' ³So all the elders of Israel came to the king at Hebron; and King David made a covenant with them at Hebron before the LORD, and they anointed David king over Israel. ⁴David was thirty years old when he began to reign, and he reigned for forty years. ⁵At Hebron he reigned over Judah for seven years and six months; and at Jerusalem he reigned over all Israel and Judah for thirty-three years.

—

David again gathered all the chosen men of Israel, thirty thousand. ²David and all the people with him set out and went from Baale-judah, to bring up from there the ark of God, which is called by the name of the LORD of hosts who is enthroned on the cherubim. ³They carried the ark of God on a new cart, and brought it out of the house of Abinadab, which was on the hill. Uzzah and Ahio, the sons of Abinadab, were driving the new cart ⁴with the ark of God; and Ahio went in front of the ark. ⁵David and all the house of Israel were dancing before the LORD with all their might, with songs and lyres and harps and tambourines and castanets and cymbals.

One: Here ends the reading. Hear what the Spirit of God is saying to the church.

All: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

Every Valley arr. Craig Courtney

Children and Youth are invited to a Sunday school Hike at this time.

Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller.

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

*HYMN

Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love—Black Hymnal 498

498 Jesu, Jesu, Fill Us with Your Love

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 Kneel 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.

to Refrain

Refrain:

Jesu, Jesu, fill us with your love, show us how to serve the neighbors we have from you.

1 Kneel at the feet of his friends,
silently washes their feet,

Jesu, you acted as servant to them. [Refrain]

2 Neighbors are rich and poor,
varied in color and race,
neighbors are nearby and far away. [Refrain]

3 These are the ones we should serve,
these are the ones we should love;
all these are neighbors to us and you. [Refrain]

4 Loving puts us on our knees,
showing our faith by our deeds,
serving the neighbors we have from you. [Refrain]

5 Kneel at the feet of our friends,
silently washing their feet,
this is the way we should live with you. [Refrain]

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Rev. Reebee Girash

PASTORAL PRAYER

Rev. Reebee Girash

INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

God Has Chosen Me—Bernadette Farrell

*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

O God, most merciful and kind, accept our offerings this day. May they become a blessing to our neighbors and your world. Amen.

*CLOSING HYMN

God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian—Black Hymnal 355

COMMISSIONING, ORDINATION, AND INSTALLATION

COMMISSIONING, ORDINATION, AND INSTALLATION

355

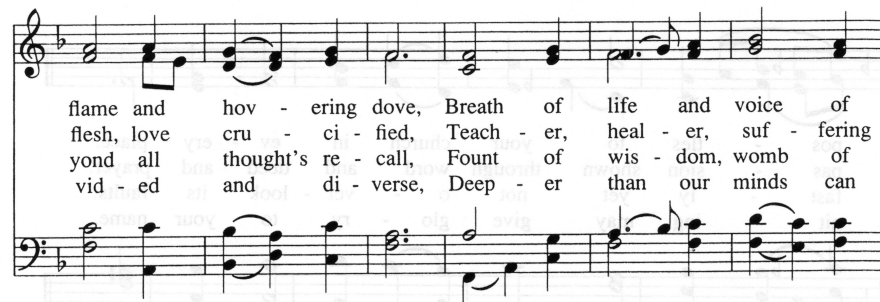
God the Spirit, Guide and Guardian

Gen. 2:7; John 10:11–16

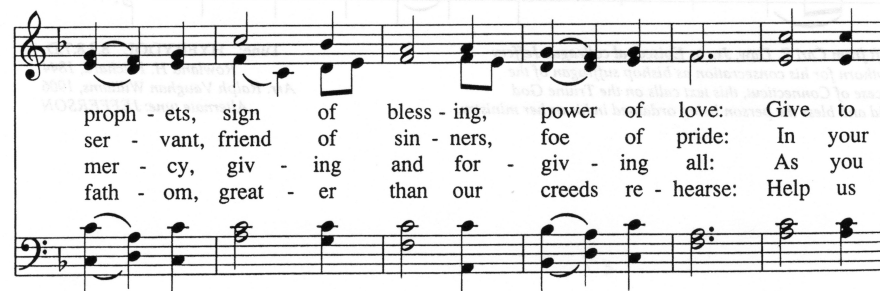
Carl P. Daw, Jr., 1987



1 God the Spir - it, guide and guard - ian, wind - sped
 2 Christ our Sav - ior, sov - ereign, shep - herd, Word made
 3 Great Cre - a - tor, life - be - stow - er, truth be -
 4 Tri - une God, mys - te - rious be - ing, un - di -



flame and hov - ering dove, Breath of life and voice of
 flesh, love cru - ci - fied, Teach - er, heal - er, suf - fering
 yond all thought's re - call, Fount of wis - dom, womb of
 vid - ed and di - verse, Deep - er than our minds can



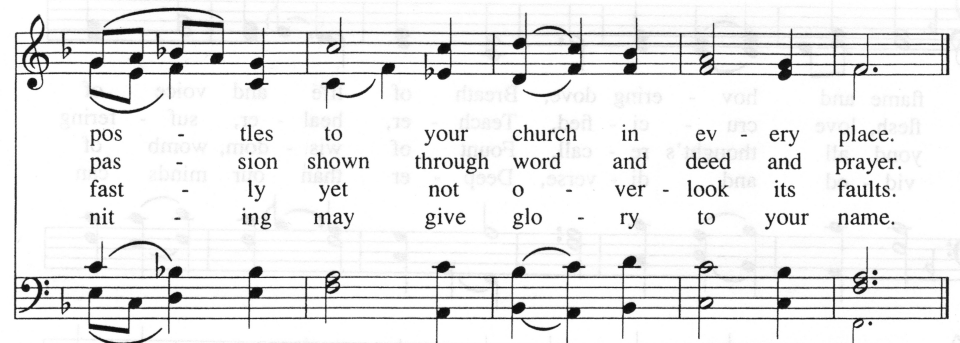
proph - ets, sign of bless - ing, power of love: Give to
 ser - vant, friend of sin - ners, foe of pride: In your
 mer - cy, giv - ing and for - giv - ing all: As you
 fath - om, great - er than our creeds re - hearse: Help us



those who lead your peo - ple fresh a - noint - ing
 tend - ing may all pas - tors* learn and live a
 know our strength and weak - ness, so may those the
 in our var - ied call - ings your full im - age



of your grace; Send them forth as bold a -
 shep - herd's care; Grant them cour - age and com -
 church ex - alts O - ver - see its life stead -
 to pro - claim, That our min - is - tries u -



pos - tles to your church in ev - ery place.
 pas - sion shown through word and deed and prayer.
 fast - ly yet not o - ver - look its faults.
 nit - ing may give glo - ry to your name.

A gift from Carl P. Daw, Jr., to Episcopal colleague Jeffery Rowthorn for his consecration as bishop suffragan of the Diocese of Connecticut, this text calls on the Triune God to aid and bless the person being ordained in his or her ministry.

Tune: HYFRYDOL 8.7.8.7.D.
 Rowland H. Prichard, 1844
 Arr. Ralph Vaughan Williams, 1906
 Alternate tune: JEFFERSON

*Where appropriate, "ministers" may be substituted for "pastors."

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1 God the Spirit, guide and guardian, windsped flame and hovering dove,
Breath of life and voice of prophets, sign of blessing, power of love:
Give to those who lead your people fresh anointing of your grace.
Send them forth as bold apostles to your church in every place.

2 Christ our Savior, sovereign, shepherd, Word made flesh, love crucified,
Teacher, healer, suffering servant, friend of sinners, foe of pride:
In your tending may all pastors* learn and live a shepherd's care;
Grant them courage and compassion shown through word and deed and prayer.

3 Great Creator, life bestower, truth beyond all thought's recall,
Fount of wisdom, womb of mercy, giving and forgiving all:
As you know our strength and weakness, so may those the church exalts
Oversee its life steadfastly, yet not overlook its faults.

4 Triune God, mysterious being, undivided and diverse,
deeper than our minds can fathom, greater than our creeds rehearse:
Help us in our varied callings your full image to proclaim,
That our ministries uniting may give glory to your name.

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Recessional on 'St Denio' — Dan R. Edwards

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

Please join us in Pilgrim Hall for social time after the service.

GIVING

For your convenience, we accept credit card or PayPal donations. Please use the QR code on the right using your mobile device's camera to visit the PayPal website and thank you for your generosity.



A special Thank You to our Zoom Host, Madeleine Clark

Pilgrim Church Staff

Pastor - Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash

Music Director - Dot Bowe

Choir Director - Max Evrard

Educational Ministries Director - Sarah Jane Fuller

Office Administrator - Kim Provo

Nursery Care Provider - April Chung

Sunday School Coordinator - Izzy Leginski

Church Sexton - Romeo Alves