



**Pilgrim Congregational Church,
United Church of Christ
November 19, 2023**

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- PRELUDE: Dix—Neil Harmon
- OPENING HYMN: Now Thank We
- ANTHEM: How Can I Keep from
Singing? arr. Gwyneth Walker
- HYMN: We Praise You*
- OFFERTORY: Taste And See
—James Moore
- CLOSING HYMN: Lord Make Me More
Holy*
- POSTLUDE: Now Thank We All Our
God—John Behnke

Today's service will be recorded.

**From The New Century Hymnal, Copyright 1995.*

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PILGRIM
Congregational Church



**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.

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.

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.*

Visual and Hearing Aids

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

Large Print bulletins and Sermons texts are available.

Worship Sunday, November 19, 2023

PRELUDE

Dix — Neil Harmon

GREETINGS & ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Reebee Girash and Sarah Jane Fuller

PASSING THE PEACE

Stephanie Shore

ONE: Peace be with you.

ALL: And also with you.

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

CALL TO WORSHIP

Deven A.

ONE: People of God, look around. Look around the room, look around the Zoom.

ALL: We are here! We are one community!

ONE: We are together, wherever we are.

ALL: We are God's people!

ONE: Let us worship God, together.

*OPENING HYMN

Now Thank We All Our God — Red Hymnal 29

Now Thank We All Our God

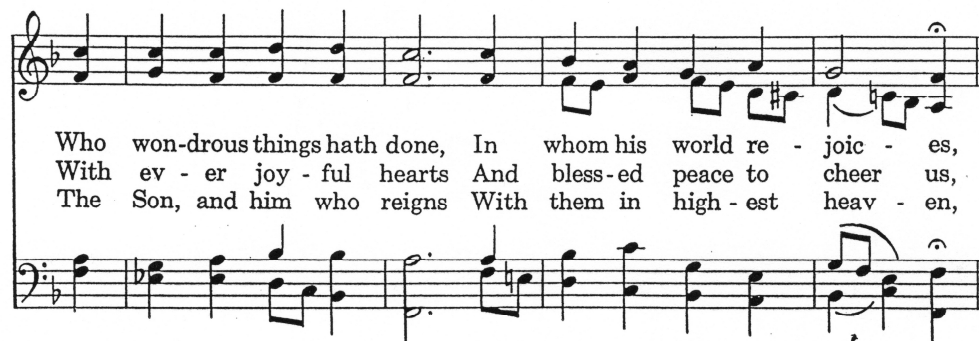
29

Martin Rinckart, 1586-1649
Tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1827-1878

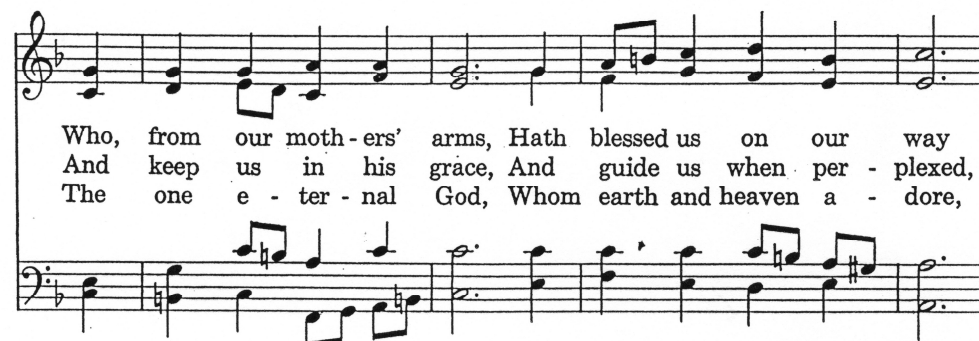
NUN DANKET 6.7.6.7.6.6.6.6.
Melody by Johann Crüger, 1598-1662



1 Now thank we all our God With heart and hands and voices,
2 O may this bounteous God Through all our life be near us,
3 All praise and thanks to God The Father now be given,



Who wondrous things hath done, In whom his world rejoices,
With ever joyful hearts And blessed peace to cheer us,
The Son, and him who reigns With them in highest heaven,



Who, from our mothers' arms, Hath blessed us on our way
And keep us in his grace, And guide us when perplexed,
The one eternal God, Whom earth and heaven adore,



With countless gifts of love, And still is ours to day.
And free us from all ills In this world and the next.
For thus it was, is now, And shall be evermore. Amen.

ADORATION AND PRAISE

1 Now thank we all our God
With heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things hath done,
In whom his world rejoices;
Who, from our mothers' arms
Hath blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
And still is ours today.

2 O may this bounteous God
Through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
And blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us in his grace,
And guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
In this world in the next.

3 All praise and thanks to God
The Father now be given,
The Son, and him
who reigns With them in highest heaven,
The one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
And shall be evermore. Amen

OPENING PRAYER

Stephanie Shore

Holy God, we come before you with awe, for you are great in love and power. Some of us come with reluctance, and some with joy; some with sadness and others full of fear, yet we know you receive us as we are. Mighty God, stay with us always as we worship and as we share the risk and challenge of living our faith. By your powerful Spirit, turn our fear to courage and our confusion to confidence. Touch us, God, with your healing fire. Speak to us through your word. Send us back into the world, renewed and eager to do your will. Amen.

SCRIPTURE READING

Stephanie Shore

Deuteronomy 8:7-16

⁷For the LORD your God is bringing you into a good land, a land with flowing streams, with springs and underground waters welling up in valleys and hills,

⁸a land of wheat and barley, of vines and fig trees and pomegranates, a land of olive trees and honey,

⁹a land where you may eat bread without scarcity, where you will lack nothing, a land whose stones are iron and from whose hills you may mine copper.

¹⁰You shall eat your fill and bless the LORD your God for the good land that he has

given you.

¹¹Take care that you do not forget the LORD your God, by failing to keep his commandments, his ordinances, and his statutes, which I am commanding you today.

¹²When you have eaten your fill and have built fine houses and live in them,

¹³and when your herds and flocks have multiplied, and your silver and gold is multiplied, and all that you have is multiplied,

¹⁴then do not exalt yourself, forgetting the LORD your God, who brought you out of the land of Egypt, out of the house of slavery,

¹⁵who led you through the great and terrible wilderness, an arid wasteland with poisonous snakes and scorpions. He made water flow for you from flint rock,

¹⁶and fed you in the wilderness with manna that your ancestors did not know, to humble you and to test you, and in the end to do you good.

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

ALL: Thanks be to God.

ANTHEM

How Can I Keep from Singing? arr. Gwyneth Walker

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash

*HYMN

We Praise You, O God—Black Hymnal 420

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.

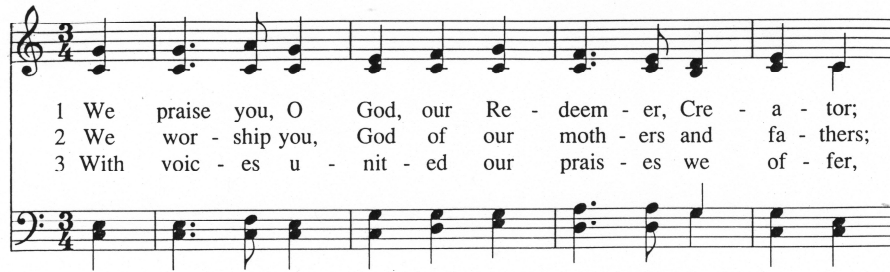
INVITATION TO THE OFFERING

OFFERTORY

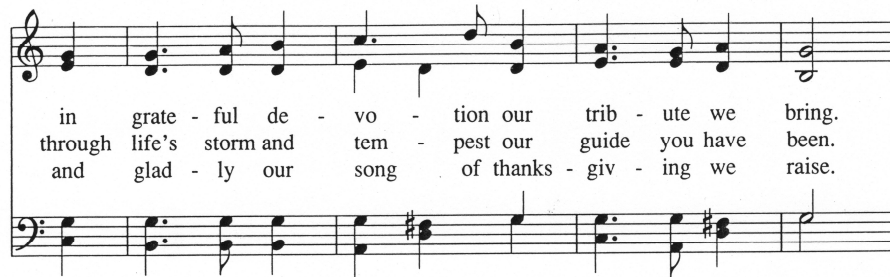
Taste And See—James Moore

We Praise You, O God

420

Julia C. Cory, 1902; alt.


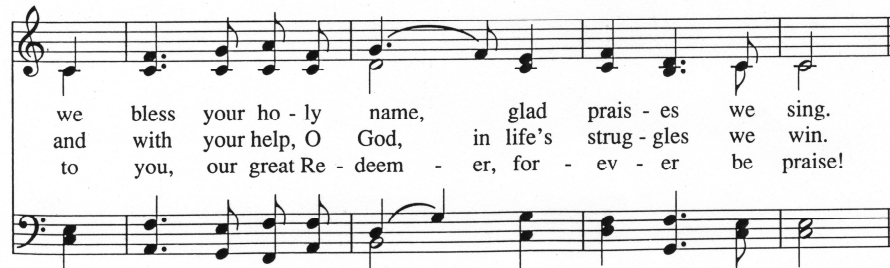
1 We praise you, O God, our Re - deem - er, Cre - a - tor;
 2 We wor - ship you, God of our moth - ers and fa - thers;
 3 With voic - es u - nit - ed our prais - es we of - fer,



in grate - ful de - vo - tion our trib - ute we bring.
 through life's storm and tem - pest our guide you have been.
 and glad - ly our song of thanks - giv - ing we raise.



We lay it be - fore you, we kneel and a - dore you;
 When per - ils o'er - take us, you nev - er will for - sake us,
 Our sins now con - fess - ing, we pray for your bless - ing;



we bless your ho - ly name, glad prais - es we sing.
 and with your help, O God, in life's strug - gles we win.
 to you, our great Re - deem - er, for - ev - er be praise!

Julia Bulkley Cady Cory wrote this hymn for Thanksgiving in 1902 at the invitation of the organist of New York's Brick Presbyterian Church who felt that the familiar words to Kremser contained too much militaristic imagery.

Tune: KREMSEK 12.11.12.11.
 Valerius, Nederlandsch Gedenckclanck, 1626

1 We praise you, O God, our Redeemer, Creator;
 in grateful devotion our tribute we bring.

We lay it before you; we kneel and adore you;
 we bless your holy name: glad praises we sing.

2 We worship you, God of our mothers and
 fathers;

through life's storm and tempest our guide you
 have been.

When perils o'er take us, you never will forsake
 us,

and with your help, O God, in life's struggles we
 win.

3 With voices united our praises we offer,
 and gladly our song of thanksgiving we raise;
 Our sins now confessing, we pray for your
 blessing,

to you, our great Redeemer, forever be praise!

***DOXOLOGY**

Red Hymnal 515

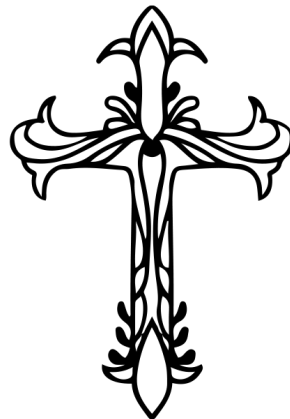
**Praise God from whom all blessings flow. Praise God all creatures here below.
Praise God above, ye heavenly host; Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen**

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 gracious, of whose bounty we have all received,
accept, we pray, this offering of your people. Remember in your love those who
have brought it and those for whom it is given; and so follow it with your
blessing that it may promote peace and goodwill among all people and advance
the realm of our Savior Jesus Christ. Amen.**



*CLOSING HYMN

Lord Make Me More Holy—Black Hymnal 75

CLOSE OF WORSHIP

Lord, Make Me More Holy

75

African-American spiritual

1 Lord, make me more ho - ly. Lord, make me more ho - ly.

Lord, make me more ho - ly, un - til we meet a - gain.

Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly un - til we meet a - gain.

- 2 Lord, make me more faith-ful, . . . Faith-ful, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.
3 Lord, make me more hum-ble, . . . Hum-ble, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.
4 Lord, make me more righ-teous, . . . Righ-teous, . . . un-til we meet a-gain.

Lord, make us more holy;
Lord, make us more holy;
Lord, make us more holy,
until we meet again:
holy, holy, holy,
until we meet again.

2 Lord, make us more faithful;
Lord, make us more faithful;
Lord, make us more faithful,
until we meet again:
faithful, faithful, faithful,
until we meet again.

3 Lord, make us more humble;
Lord, make us more humble;
Lord, make us more humble,
until we meet again:
humble, humble, humble,
until we meet again.

4 Lord, make us more righteous;
Lord, make us more righteous;
Lord, make us more righteous,
until we meet again:

*BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Now Thank We All Our God—John Behnke

**Please be in a posture of praise.*

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

SOURCE NOTES

The Opening Prayer is by Ronald Beebe and is from the New Century Hymnal. The Prayer of Dedication is also from the New Century Hymnal.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

November 26—December 24 Advent Services 10:30am*

November 19—LICA Thanksgiving Service and Reception 3pm

(Follen Church, 755 Massachusetts Ave, Lexington)

December 3—Carols and Cocoa 3:30pm

December 10—Advent Music Sunday 10:30am*

December 17—Pageant Sunday 10:30am*

December 21—Longest Night - Zoom only 6:00pm; in person 7:00pm

December 24—Christmas Eve worship 6:00pm*

December 31—Hymn Sing 10:30am

**hybrid service*

A special Thank You to our Liturgist,
Stephanie Shore, our reader, Deven A.
and our Zoom Host, Nick Zorn.

Pilgrim Church Staff

Rev. Reebee Kavich Girash, Pastor

Dot Bowe, Music Director

Max Evrard, Choir Director

Sarah Jane Fuller, Educational Ministries Director

Izzy Leginski, Sunday School Coordinator

Kim Provo, Office Administrator

April Chung, Nursery Care Provider

Romeo Alves, Church Sexton

