Music licensed for streaming / podcast by OneLicense. ♦ PRELUDE: There is a Green Hill Far Away arr.George C. Stebbins ♦ GATHERING SONG: Spirit of the Living God OPENING HYMN: Morning Has Broken • **ANTHEM:** St. Patrick's Breastplate arr. Charles V. Stanford RESPONSE HYMN: Be Thou My Vision\* OFFERTORY: Change Our Heart — Rory Cooney CLOSING HYMN: The King of Love ♦ POSTLUDE: Prelude and Fugue in D minor

— JS Bach

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Today's service will be recorded.

Pilgrim Congregational Church, United Church of Christ An Open and Affirming Congregation March 17, 2024 — Fifth Sunday of Lent

## WELCOME TO PILGRIM CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

PRELUDE There is a Green Hill Far Away arr.George C. Stebbins

GREETINGS 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.

## \*GATHERING SONG

Spirit of the Living God



Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me; Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me. Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me. Spirit of the living God, fall a-fresh on me. CALL TO WORSHIP(From Psalm 107)ONE: O give thanks to God! For God is good.ALL: God's steadfast love endures forever.ONE: Let the redeemed of God say so -ALL: We whom God has redeemed from trouble.ONE: Let us thank God for God's steadfast love,ALL: For God's wonderful works to human kind.ONE: For God satisfies the thirsty,ALL: The hungry, God fills with good things.ONE: We give thanks to God.ONE: We give thanks to God.

**\*OPENING HYMN** 

Morning Has Broken — Red Hymnal 31

### PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Create in us clean hearts, O God. Hear our honest confessions: we have avoided the truth; we have been unkind; we have lashed out; we have taken advantage of injustice. We lay bare our conscience before you, and pray for your grace. Forgive us and call us back to you, to your will and your ways. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GRACE

Rev. Reebee Girash



1 Morning has broken Like the first morning, Blackbird has spoken Like the first bird. Praise for the singing! Praise for the morning! Praise for them, springing Fresh from the Word! 2 Sweet the rain's new fall Sunlit from heaven, Like the first dewfall On the first grass. Praise for the sweetness Of the wet garden, Sprung in completeness Where his feet pass. 3 Mine is the sunlight! Mine is the morning Born of the one light Eden saw play! Praise with elation, Praise every morning,

God's recreation Of the new day!

ANTHEM

St. Patrick's Breastplate arr. Charles V. Stanford

Children and youth are invited to participate in a service project at this time. Please gather at the rear of the Sanctuary with Sarah Jane Fuller and Izzy Leginsky.

## SCRIPTURE READING

Mark 13: 1-8, 24-37

As he came out of the temple, one of his disciples said to him, 'Look, Teacher, what large stones and what large buildings!'<sup>2</sup>Then Jesus asked him, 'Do you see these great buildings? Not one stone will be left here upon another; all will be thrown down.' <sup>3</sup>When he was sitting on the Mount of Olives opposite the temple, Peter, James, John, and Andrew asked him privately, <sup>4</sup>'Tell us, when will this be, and what will be the sign that all these things are about to be accomplished?' <sup>5</sup>Then Jesus began to say to them, 'Beware that no one leads you astray. <sup>6</sup>Many will come in my name and say, "I am he!" and they will lead many astray. <sup>7</sup>When you hear of wars and rumours of wars, do not be alarmed; this must take place, but the end is still to come. <sup>8</sup>For nation will rise against nation, and kingdom against kingdom; there will be earthquakes in various places; there will be famines. This is but the beginning of the birth pangs. <sup>24</sup>'But in those days, after that suffering, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, <sup>25</sup> and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken.

<sup>26</sup>Then they will see "the Son of Man coming in clouds" with great power and glory. <sup>27</sup>Then he will send out the angels, and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

<sup>28</sup>'From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch

becomes tender and puts forth its leaves, you know that

summer is near. <sup>29</sup>So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. <sup>30</sup>Truly I tell you, this generation will not pass away until all these things have taken place. <sup>31</sup>Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

<sup>32</sup>'But about that day or hour no one knows, neither the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. <sup>33</sup>Beware, keep alert; for you do not know when the time will come. <sup>34</sup>It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his slaves in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to be on the watch. <sup>35</sup>Therefore, keep awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the

evening, or at midnight, or at cockcrow, or at dawn, <sup>36</sup>or else he may find you asleep when he comes suddenly. <sup>37</sup>And what I say to you I say to all: Keep awake.'

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

SERMON

Rev. Reebee Girash



1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
nothing surpasses the love you impartYou 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 heed not, nor life's empty praise;
you, mine inheritance, now and always.
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
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.

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

Rev. Reebee Girash

OFFERTORY

Change Our Hearts — Rory Cooney

#### DOXOLOGY

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

Source of Life, Source of Love, Source of Strength: Bless our gifts of time, talent, and treasure, that by them we might be a part of the building up of your reign in this world. Amen.

\*CLOSING HYMN

The King of Love My Shepherd Is — Red Hymnal 80

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in D minor — JS Bach

Thank you to our Zoom host, Mike Stevens!

COVER ART by Anne Cowan





1 The King of love my shepherd is,Whose goodness faileth never.I nothing lack if I am his, And he is mine forever.

2 Where streams of living water flow,My ransomed soul he leadeth;And where the verdant pastures grow,With food celestial feedeth.

3 Perverse and foolish, oft I strayed, But yet in love he sought me; And on his shoulder gently laid, And home, rejoicing, brought me.

4 In death's dark vale I fear no ill, With thee, dear Lord, beside me; Thy rod and staff my comfort still, Thy

cross before to guide me.

