



The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



June 14, 2020

Second Sunday after Pentecost

Rooted in the past, Reaching into our Future

Celebrating United Parish's 50th Anniversary

Where there is no vision, the people perish. Proverbs 28:17

Write the vision, make it plain on tablets. Habakkuk 2:2

Jesus said to them, "Come and see." John 1:39

The presence of God...gives life to the dead and calls into existence things that do not exist.

Romans 4:17

PRELUDE

*We transition into our sacred time together
as our music invokes the spirit of God.*

Hit Songs of 1970

United Parish Congregation
Slideshow curated by Pat Howkinson,
Mike McConnell and Tyler Smith

You've Got a Friend
by Carole King

Paul Lauro-Priestly and Vena Priestly,
Chancel Choir

Big Yellow Taxi
by Joni Mitchell

David Rockwell and Debra Hall

Fire and Rain
by James Taylor

Amy and Bob Norton

O-o-oh Child
by The Five Steps

Kristen Murdaugh

Have You Ever Seen the Rain
by John Fogerty

Susannah Davis and Family

I'll Be There
by Berry Gordy, Hal Davis
Bob West and Willie Hutch

Barbara Lynch and Julie Anderson

I Want to Take You Higher
by Sly and the Family Stone

Merle, Cy, and Evelyn Perkins
Peter Rempalakis

CHIMING THE TRINITY

We call forth God the Creator, Savior and Holy Spirit in musical tones.

** means we invite you to rise in body and spirit.*

OPENING SONG

*We lift our voices, bodies, minds
and spirits as a community
in a song of praise.*

Shall We Gather At the River
by Robert Lowry

Helen Hassinger
Song Leader
filmed at the Mississippi River banks
in Memphis, Tennessee

*Shall we gather at the river
Where bright angel feet have trod
With its crystal tide forever
Flowing by the throne of God?*

*Soon we'll reach the shining river
Soon our pilgrimage will cease
Soon our happy hearts will quiver
With the melody of peace*

*Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God*

*Yes, we'll gather at the river
The beautiful, the beautiful river
Gather with the saints at the river
That flows by the throne of God*

GREETINGS

We warmly welcome all into our midst.

Kent French and Amy Norton
Senior and Associate Pastors

SONG OF PREPARATION

Close to You

Cindy Lux and Nick Duffin

We prepare for confession with music. by Burt Bacharach and Hal David

*Why do birds suddenly appear
Every time you are near?
Just like me, they long to be
Close to you*

*Why do stars fall down from the sky
Every time you walk by?
Just like me, they long to be
Close to you*

*On the day that you were born
the angels got together
And decided to create a dream come true.
So they sprinkled moon dust in your hair of gold and
starlight in your eyes of blue.*

*That is why all the girls in town
Follow you all around.
Just like me, they long to be
Close to you.*

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

*Together, we confess the ways we have gotten out of step with God
and seek to re-center ourselves in the Love of God.*

Kent French
Senior Pastor

**Loving and most compassionate God,
We confess that we have sinned against you,
opposing your will in our lives.
We have denied your goodness in one another, in ourselves,
and in the world you have created.
We turn away from the harm that enslaves us,
the harm we have done
and the harm done on our behalf.
Forgive us, restore and strengthen us, we pray.
Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of your Holy Spirit,
that we may delight in your will, and walk in your ways,
to the glory of your Name....**

SILENT CONFESSION

We continue praying in silence for up to one minute for our personal confessions and spiritual centering.

One: O God, in your compassion;
All: Hear our prayer.

***ASSURANCE OF PARDON** *We receive the Good News that we are loved, forgiven and renewed in God's presence.*

***THE PEACE** *We share the Good News among ourselves with words of Peace and Love, while we shake hands, hug, fist bump, rub elbows, or bow to one another.*

One: The Peace of Christ and the Love of God be with you always;

All: **And also with you.**

***PEACE RESPONSE**

Raindrops Keep Falling on My Head

David Flanagan, Leann Canty

We re-gather with our voices in song. by Hal David and Burt Bacharach

and Priya Devavaram

Song Leaders

*Raindrops keep falling on my head
And just like the guy whose feet are too big for his bed,
Nothing seems to fit.
Those raindrops are falling on my head,
they keep falling.*

*So I just did me some talking to the sun
And I said I didn't like the way he got things done,
Sleeping on the job.
Those raindrops are falling on my head,
they keep falling.*

*But there's one thing I know,
The blues they send to meet me
Won't defeat me, it won't be long
Till happiness steps up to greet me.*

*Raindrops keep falling on my head
But that doesn't mean my eyes will soon be turning red.
Crying's not for me
'Cause I'm never gonna stop the rain by complaining
Because I'm free,
Nothing's worrying me.*

READINGS FROM SCRIPTURE

Proverbs 27:18, Habakkuk 2:1-3

We reflect together on these words

John 1:35-51 and Romans 4:17

from various voices in our sacred texts.

Sean Cady

Chancel Choir

One: For the Word of God in scripture,
For the Word of God in Spirit,
For the Word of God among us,

All: **Thanks be to God!**

MESSAGE

We reflect together on how the Word of God plays out in our lives.

Vic Scalise, Co-Founding Pastor, 1970-77
Patricia Coughlin, Senior Pastor, 1988-2012
Suzanne Bossert, Associate Pastor 2002-2010
and Kent French, Senior Pastor, 2013-present

SUNG RESPONSE

*We reflect on the message through
poetry and song.*

One Voice
by Ruth Moody

Sally Stoyell,
Meagan McKinstry,
Sue Van Dyke

*This is the sound of one voice
One spirit, one voice
The sound of one who makes a choice
This is the sound of one voice*

*This is the sound of voices three
Singing together in harmony
Surrendering to the mystery
This is the sound of voices three*

*This is the sound of voices two
The sound of me singing with you
Helping each other to make it through
This is the sound of voices two*

*This is the sound of all of us
Singing with love and the will to trust
Leave the rest behind it will turn to dust
This is the sound of all of us*

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

*We pray together for our congregation, our surrounding community,
the nation and the world.*

Amy Norton
Associate Pastor

One: O God, hear our prayer;
All: **And guide us in your love.**

LORD'S PRAYER *We say together the prayer Jesus taught us.*

We invite you to use your chosen words for God: Father, Mother, Abba, Allah or . . .

**Our 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 trespasses,**

**As we forgive those
who trespass against us.
And lead us not into temptation,
But deliver us from evil.
For thine is the kingdom,
and the power and the glory
forever and ever. Amen.**

SUNG RESPONSE

*Our musicians offer
a response to the prayer.*

Bridge Over Troubled Water
by Paul Simon and Art Garfunkel

Josaphat Contreras,
Assistant Music Director
Trey Pratt,
former Assistant Music Director

*When you're weary, feeling small,
When tears are in your eyes,
I will dry them all, all
I'm on your side, oh,
when times get rough
And friends just can't be found
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down
Like a bridge over troubled water
I will lay me down*

*When you're down and out,
When you're on the street,
When evening falls so hard,
I will comfort you.
I'll take your part,
Oh, when darkness comes
And pain is all around.
Like a bridge over troubled water,
I will lay me down.
Like a bridge over troubled water,
I will lay me down.*

*Sail on silver girl,
Sail on by,
Your time has come to shine,
All your dreams are on their way.
See how they shine,
Oh, if you need a friend.
I'm sailing right behind
Like a bridge over troubled water,
I will ease your mind.
Like a bridge over troubled water,
I will ease your mind.*

OFFERING

We offer our gifts for God's service. No gift is too small or too large. All are precious.

Invitation

We hear from community members about why they take part.

Church School Students
and Amy Norton, Associate Pastor

Offertory Anthem

*We offer our gifts as musicians offer
a song of praise and thanksgiving.*

Day by Day
by Stephen Schwartz

Paul and Roberto Lauro-Priestly,
Vena Priestly,
Geo and Armani Osorio,
Anorah and Amyrah Morris

*Day by day,
Day by day,
Oh dear Lord,
Three things I pray:
To see thee more clearly,
Love thee more dearly,
Follow thee more nearly,
Day by day.*

*Doxology

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

We re-join our voices in thanksgiving.

*Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below: Alleluia! Alleluia!
Praise God the source of all our gifts! Praise Jesus Christ, whose power uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit! Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!*

*Prayer of Dedication

We ask God's blessing over the gifts.

***CLOSING SONG**

*Together in song, we set our intention
leaving this sacred space.*

We invite you to sing, speak or silently read the words together.

*One Love
by Bob Marley*

Youth Choir

*One Love! One Heart!
Let's get together and feel all right
Hear the children cryin' (One Love!)
Hear the children cryin' (One Heart!)
Sayin': give thanks and praise to the Lord
and I will feel all right
Sayin': let's get together and feel all right.
Wo wo-wo wo-wo!*

*Let them all pass all their dirty remarks (One Love!)
There is one question I'd really love to ask (One Heart!)
Is there a place for the hopeless sinner
Who has hurt all mankind just to save his own beliefs?*

*One Love! One Heart!
Let's get together and feel all right
As it was in the beginning (One Love!)
So shall it be in the end (One Heart!)
Give thanks and praise to the Lord
and I will feel all right
Let's get together and feel all right
One more thing!*

*Let's get together to fight this Holy Armageddon (One Love!)
So when the Man comes there will be no, no doom (One Heart!)
Have pity on those whose chances grows thinner
There ain't no hiding place from the Parent of Creation*

*Sayin': "One Love," "One Heart!"
Let's get together and feel all right
I'm pleadin' to us all! (One Love!)
Oh, Lord! (One Heart) Wo-ooh!*

*Give thanks and praise to the Lord and I will feel all right
Let's get together and feel all right
Give thanks and praise to the Lord and I will feel all right
Let's get together and feel all right*

HOLY BUSINESS

We share news of God's work in our community's activities.

***BENEDICTION**

We receive a blessing as we prepare to depart this sacred gathering.

***POSTLUDE**

*We transition out of our sacred
time together with music.*

*Joy to the World
by Hoyt Axton
adapted lyrics*

*Kent French
Three Dog Night*

*Jeremiah was a bullfrog,
Was a good friend of mine.
Never understood
a single word he said,
But I helped him drink his wine.
And he always had
some mighty fine wine.*

*If I were the king of the world
Tell you what I'd do:
I'd throw away the cars
and the bars and the war
And preach God's love to you.*

*Refrain
Singin' Joy to the World,
All the boys and girls.
Joy to the fishes in the deep blue sea,
Joy to you and me!*

*You know I love the Gospel,
Love to have my fun,
I'm a high life flyer and a rainbow
rider.
A straight shootin' son-of-a-gun.
I said a straight shootin' son-of-a-gun.*

Many thanks to Jack Lilburn for generously editing today's online worship.
If you'd like to help with filming and editing, please let us know!

Thanks to Kate Hendrix for playing the Tower Bells this week.

Please join us immediately after worship for **Virtual Coffee Hour** on Zoom,
<https://uso2web.zoom.us/j/87250297300?pwd=TzdkaVVSZEErboVzTER3OU9UNTVjdzo9>

Meeting ID: 872 5029 7300

Password: 331041

Or call 646-558-8656

Remember to sign up for **all-parish news**:
contact office@upbrookline.org to join the mailing list.

If you haven't already, please sign up for **Realm**, our **online church directory**.

It's the best way to stay connected with our community.

<https://www.unitedparishbrookline.org/sign-up-for-the-church-online-photo-directory>

WELCOME

We at the United Parish in Brookline believe that all people are made in the image of God and embrace and cherish every person and every kind of family. Jesus Christ welcomed everyone; we seek to follow his example in our own life and worship, by extending God's love and grace abundantly and equally to everyone. We affirm and welcome all people to share in worship, fellowship and leadership with us, to join us in a diversity of race, gender, sexual identity, physical and mental ability, ethnicity and economic means.

We have joined with other Open and Affirming (United Church of Christ) and Welcoming and Affirming (American Baptist Churches USA), as well as with the Reconciling Ministries Network (United Methodist Churches) to declare that we are and will remain open to all people.

We invite you to consider becoming a member of the United Parish family. You may become a member by transferring membership or by a statement of faith. If you desire to retain ties with a former church, we invite you to become an associate or affiliate member for the time you are with us.

*We ask that you silence all electronic devices.
Please see an usher if you would like a hearing assistive device.*

*Because our building is open to the public,
an adult should accompany children if/when they leave the worship service.*

Ministers
Senior Pastor
Associate Pastor
Minister of Music
Assistant Music Director
Parish Administrator
Facilities Manager
Building Usage Coordinator
Accounting Administrator
Multimedia Producer
Nursery Supervisor
Pastor Emerita

The People of the United Parish
Kent French
Amy Norton
Susan DeSelms
Josaphat Contreras
Sarah Fitzpatrick
David Dunphy
Helen Hassinger
Donald Firth
Jack Lilburn
Jenna Bergquist
Patricia Coughlin



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American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist
210 Harvard Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

617-277-6860

office@upbrookline.org

upbrookline.org