



The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist

Rooted in the past, Reaching into our future

Celebrating United Parish's 50th Anniversary



from University of California, Riverside

August 16, 2020

Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

Adventures in Faith:

The Blessings of Incarceration from God's Loving Discipline

Gathering Music

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

Sweet Hour of Prayer
by William Bradbury

Elise Molloy
Tower Bells

Chiming the Trinity

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

Lighting the Christ Candle

We invoke the Spirit of Christ among us.

Jesse Givens

Acolyte

One: May Christ, the light of the world;

All: Enlighten our hearts with love!

Opening Hymn

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

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

Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus

by Helen H. Lemmel

Josaphat Contreras

Assistant Music Director

*Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,
And the thing of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of his glory and praise.*

***Turn your eyes upon Jesus, look full in his wonderful face,
And the thing of earth will grow strangely dim,
In the light of his glory and praise.***

Greetings

We warmly welcome all into our midst.

Amy Norton

Associate Pastor

Anthem

*We prepare for confession
with music and poetry.*

If With All Your Hearts Ye Truly Seek Me

by Felix Mendelssohn

Josaphat Contreras

Assistant Music Director

Prayer of Confession *unison*

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

**Loving and compassionate God,
to you all hearts are open, all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid.**

**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 perfectly love you and worthily magnify your holy 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 Grace

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

The Peace of Christ

We share this 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

We gather with our voices in song.

I Love to Tell the Story
by Kate Hankey

Reverend Amy and Papa Norton
Song Leaders

Refrain:

***I love to tell the story;
'twill be my theme in glory
to tell the old, old story
of Jesus and his love.***

*I love to tell the story
of unseen things above,
of Jesus and his glory,
of Jesus and his love.*

*I love to tell the story
because I know 'tis true;
it satisfies my longings
as nothing else could do. **Refrain***

*I love to tell the story;
'tis pleasant to repeat
what seems, each time I tell it, more
wonderfully sweet.*

*I love to tell the story,
for some have never heard
the message of salvation
from God's own holy Word. **Refrain***

*I love to tell the story,
for those who know it best
seem hungering and thirsting
to hear it like the rest.*

*And when in scenes of glory
I sing the new, new song,
'twill be the old, old story
that I have loved so long. **Refrain***

Reading from the Epistles

Hebrews 12:5-11

Meagan McKinstry

We reflect together on this correspondence of the early Church.

20/30 Vision

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!**

Homily

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

Mark Jones

Adult Deepening Team

Musical Response

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

My Soul's Been Anchored
Spiritual by Moses Hogan

United Parish Chancel Choir, 2019

Prayers of the People

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

Lexi Boudreaux

Member-in-Discernment

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

Lord's Prayer *We say together the prayer Jesus taught his disciples and us.*

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

Our Creator in heaven,
hallowed be your name.
Your kingdom come,
your will be done,
On Earth as in Heaven.
Give us today our daily bread.
Forgive us our sins,

As we forgive those
who sin against us.
Save us from the time of trial
And deliver us from evil.
For the kingdom,
the power and the glory are yours,
now and forever. Amen.

Offering

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

Invitation

We hear from community members about why they take part.

Doug Johnson
Treasurer and
Growing Grandparents Convener

Doxology

*We rejoin our voices
in thanksgiving.*

Oh, We Give Thanks
by Wendy Luella Perkins
adapted words by Kent French

Penelope and Susan DeSelms,
Kevin Shushan
Song Leaders

*We thank you, God,
For this precious day:
The Creator's care,
Christ's love to share,*

*For the Spirit here,
Bringing Kin-dom near.
We thank you, God,
For this precious day.*

Al-le-lu-ia....

*We thank you, God,
For this precious day:
The Creator's care,
Christ's love to share,*

*For the Spirit here,
Bringing Kin-dom near.
We thank you, God
For this precious day.*

Prayer of Dedication

We ask God's blessing over the gifts.

Closing Hymn

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

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

Take My Gifts

The DeSelms Family

#562

TUNE: HOLY MANNA

1. Take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me,
2. Take the fruit that I have gathered from the tree your Spirit sowed,
3. Take what - ev - er I can offer, gifts that I have yet to find,

gave me light and food and shelter, gave me life and set me free.
harvest of your own compassion, juice that makes the wine of God,
skills that I am slow to sharpen, talents of the hand and mind,

Now because your love has touched me, I have love to give away,
spiced with humor, laced with laughter flavor of the Jesus life,
things made beautiful for others in the place where I must be:

now the bread of love is rising, loaves of love to multiply.
taste of risk and new adventure, taste and zest beyond compare.
take my gifts and let me love you, God who first of all loved me.

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.

Foundation

Luke Molloy
Tower Bells

Please join us immediately after worship for Coffee Hour on Zoom.

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87817670514?pwd=aOZTUWI4RlJjSDc4Q2xSSXVhWE1Udz09>

Meeting ID: 878 1767 0514

Password: 723354

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 or mental ability, ethnicity or 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 persons, including gay, lesbian, transgender and bisexual 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.

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



UNITED PARISH IN BROOKLINE

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist

210 Harvard Street, Brookline, Massachusetts 02446

617-277-6860

office@upbrookline.org

upbrookline.org