



The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



common cathedral worship, Boston Common

Today's worship features favorite music from common cathedral.

April 26, 2020

Third Sunday of Easter

PRELUDE

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

***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 HYMN

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You

HYMN TO JOY

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

Recorded 1/19/20

We invite you to sing this song, popular at the Common Cathedral Services.

Mary McConnell, timpani

1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
2 All your works with joy sur-round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
3 You are giv - ing and for-giv - ing, ev - er bless-ing, ev - er blessed,
4 Mor-tals, join the might-y cho - rus which the morn-ing stars be - gan;

Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open-ing to the sun a - bove.
Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
Well-spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
Bound-less love is reign-ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
Field and for - est, vale and moun-tain, flower-y mead-ow, flash-ing sea,
Lov-ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor-tal glad-ness, fill us with the light of day.
Chant-ing bird and flow-ing foun-tain, teach us what our praise should be.
Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri-umph song of life.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Matthew 25:31-40

Anne Auerbach

We set our intention for worship with this call and response.

One: Jesus said: 'When the Son of Humankind comes in his glory,
and all the angels with him,

All: Then he will sit on the throne of glory and say to the righteous:

One: Come, you that are blessed by our Creator, our loving and holy Parent,

All: Inherit the kingdom prepared for you from the foundation of the world.

One: For I was hungry and you gave me food,

All: I was thirsty and you gave me something to drink,

One: I was a stranger and you welcomed me,

All: I was naked and you gave me clothing,

One: I was sick and you took care of me,

All: I was in prison and you visited me.'

One: And we will ask him:

All: Lord, when was it that we saw you hungry and gave you food?

One: Or thirsty and gave you something to drink?

All: And when was it that we saw you a stranger and welcomed you?

One: Or naked and gave you clothing?

All: And when was it that we saw you sick or in prison and visited you?

One: And the king will answer them,

Truly I tell you, just as you did it to one of the least of these
who are members of my family,

All: You did it to me.

One: Here in this place, let us live into this story together.

EASTER ACCLAMATION

We celebrate the arrival of Easter, the Day of Christ's Resurrection.

One: Alleluia! Christ is risen!

All: Christ is risen indeed! Alleluia!

GREETINGS

Kent French and Amy Norton

We warmly welcome all into our midst.

Senior and Associate Pastors

One: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God
and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

All: And also with you.

CENTERING PRAYER in unison

We center ourselves in the awareness of God's presence.

God of Love,
to you all hearts are open,
all desires known,
and from you no secrets are hid:

Cleanse the thoughts of our hearts
by the inspiration of the Holy Spirit,
that we may perfectly love you,
and worthily magnify your holy name;
through Christ our Lord. Amen.

SUNG RESPONSE*We prepare for confession with music.**Holy Ground*

by John Michael Talbot

Recorded by

United Parish Section Leaders



This is ho - ly ground, we're stand-ing on ho - ly ground
 These are ho - ly hands God's giv - en us ho - ly hands



for _____ God is pre sent and where God is is ho - ly____
 God works through these hands and so these hands are ho - ly.____



This is ho - ly ground we're stand-ing on ho - ly ground
 These are ho - ly hands God's giv - en us ho - ly hands



for _____ God is pre-sent and where God is is ho - ly._
 God works through these hands and so these hands are ho - ly. *repeat verse 1*

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 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 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**

Easter People Raise Your Voices

REGENT SQUARE

We re-gather with our voices in song.



1. Eas - ter peo - ple, raise your voic - es, sounds of heav'n in earth should ring.
2. Ev - ery day to us is Eas - ter, with its res - ur - rec - tion song.



Christ has brought us heav - en's choic - es; heav'n - ly mu - sic, — let it ring.
When in trou - ble move the fas - ter to our God who — rights the wrong.



Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! Eas - ter peo - ple, let us sing.
Al - le - lu - ia! Al - le - lu - ia! See the pow'r of heav'n - ly throngs.

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 4:27-35

Susannah Davis

*We reflect together on these words from the ministry of early Church,
the followers of Jesus, the people of The Way.*

One: For the Good News of the Holy Spirit,
All: **Thanks be to God!**

SUNG RESPONSE

We prepare for the message with music.

Seek Ye First the Kin-dom of God

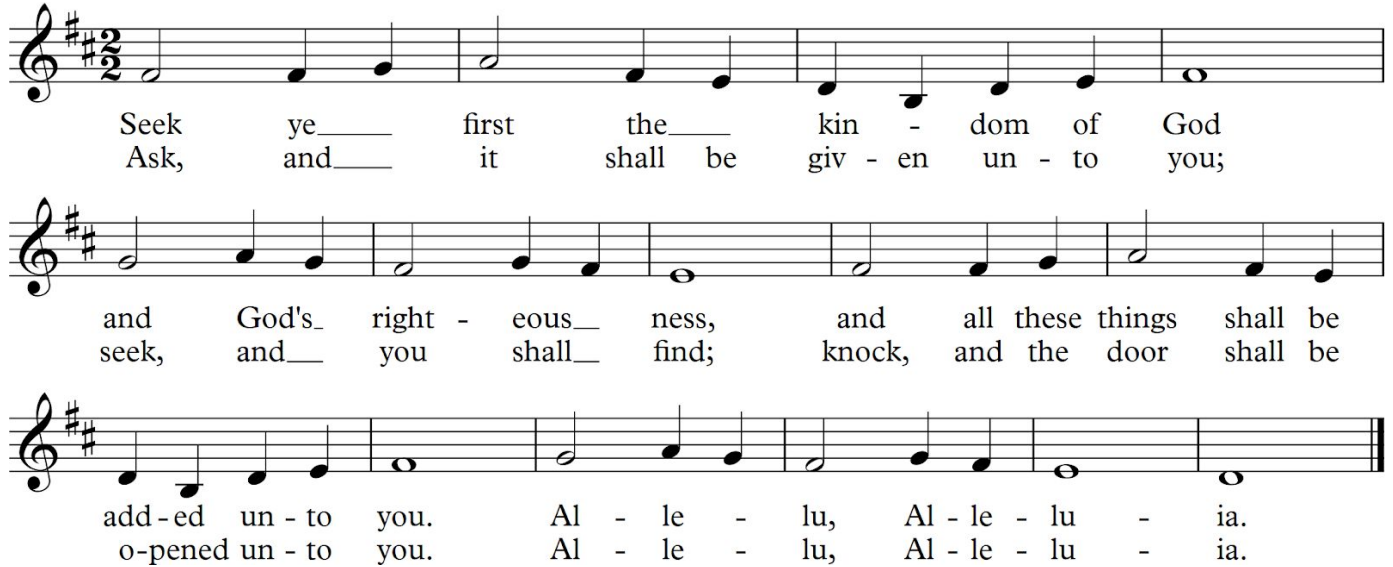
by Karen Lafferty

Nicholas Duffin

Helen Hassinger

Josaphat Contreras

Kristen Murdaugh, *Choral Section Leaders*



Seek ye first the kin - dom of God
Ask, and it shall be giv - en un - to you;
and God's right - eous - ness, and all these things shall be
seek, and you shall find; knock, and the door shall be
add - ed un - to you. Al - le - lu, Al - le - lu - ia.
o - pened un - to you. Al - le - lu, Al - le - lu - ia.

MESSAGE

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

Laura Shatzer, *common cathedral*
and Kent French Senior Pastor

SUNG RESPONSE

We reflect on the message through poetry and song.

Kum ba Yah (Come by Here)

African-American Spiritual

Recorded by

United Parish Section Leaders

*Kum ba yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum-ba-yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
Kum-ba-yah, my Lord, kum ba yah!
O Lord, kum-ba-yah!*

Someone's crying, Lord, kum ba yah!

Some-one's sing-ing, Lord, kum ba yah!

Someone's praying, Lord, kum ba yah!

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

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

Amy Norton and Jaz Buchanan
Associate Pastor and Seminarian

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 Creator, singing instead:
Our Father, Our Mother, Sustainer, Redeemer...*

Taizé Chant
Chancel Choir, 2020
Recorded collaboratively from home



Cre - a - tor in hea - ven, ho - ly be your name. Your king-dom come,
Your will be done, on earth as in heav - en. Give us to-day our dai - ly
bread. For give us our sins as we for-give those who sin a-gainst us.
Keep us from temp - ta - tion, and de - li - ver us from e - vil. For the
King-dom, the pow-er and the glo - ry are yours, now and for - e - ver. A - men.

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.

Beverly Bowman
Walk for Hunger

Offertory Anthem

We offer our gifts as musicians offer songs of praise and thanksgiving.

We Shall Overcome

Recorded by Mahalia Jackson

This anthem of the 1960s civil rights movement was frequently sung at mass meetings and marches. Several sources have been cited as its origins, including the spiritual "No more auction block for me:" based on the tune known as Sicilian Mariners; an old Baptist hymn "I'll Be All Right" and part of the text from C.A. Tindley's gospel hymn "I'll Overcome Someday." (reprinted from the New Century Hymnal)

***Doxology**

We re-join our voices in thanksgiving.

Praise God from Whom All Blessings Flow

LASST UNS ERFREUEN

*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!*

***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.

We Shall Overcome,
verses 1, 2, and 4

#570

WE SHALL OVERCOME

Recorded by United Parish Section Leaders

1 We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver -
2 We'll go hand in hand, we'll go hand in
3 We are not a - fraid, we are not a -
4 God will see us through, God will see us

come, we shall o - ver - come some day;
hand, we'll go hand in hand some day;
fraid, we are not a - fraid to - day;
through, God will see us through some day;

(1-6) Oh, deep in my heart, I do be - lieve,

we shall o - ver - come some day.
we'll go hand in hand some day.
we are not a - fraid to - day.
God will see us through some day.

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.

Many thanks to Jack Lilburn for generously editing today's online worship.

Please join us immediately after worship for **Virtual Coffee Hour** on Zoom,
<https://zoom.us/j/93155398313?pwd=RnZpNkFCZktoQ3NMRjhKSWtMR1NWUT09>

Meeting ID: 931 5539 8313

Password: 278126

Or call 253-215-8782

Faith and Finance Seminar, 1-2:30pm on Zoom.

Join us for our Stewardship and Budget Ministry Team's first-ever seminar to discuss our faith and finances.

How do we think about our expenditures and giving in light of our faith?

Why do we often have shame or guilt or difficulty in talking about money?

How are our finances structured here at United Parish?

We will delve into these questions and more.

Led by our Seminarian Jaz Buchanan and Senior Pastor Kent French.

All are welcome for this Zoom seminar. Details are in your weekly email or contact email kent@upbrookline.org or seminarian@upbrookline.org.

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
Seminarian
Minister of Music
Assistant Music Director
Communications and Office Administrator
Building Usage Coordinator
Accounting Administrator
Nursery Supervisor
Pastor Emerita

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



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