



The United Parish in Brookline

American Baptist • United Church of Christ • United Methodist



May 17, 2020 Sixth Sunday of Easter Consecration Sunday

PRELUDE

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

True Colors
by Billy Steinberg and Tom Kelly

Melanie Chernin & Priya Devavaram
Recording 5/14/2017

Al Shlosa D'varim
by Alan Naplan

Combined Choirs
Recording 9/29/2019

The world is sustained by three things: by truth, by justice, and by peace.

*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**

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

Great God of Every Blessing

lyrics by David Gambrell

AURELIA

Kristen Murdaugh,

Josaphat Contreras, Nick Duffin,

John and Noemi Sugrue, Sally Stoyell,

Sue Van Dyke, Jim DeSelms, David Flanagan, *voice*

Helen Hassinger, *voice and violin*

Great God of ev - ery bless - ing, of faith - ful, lov - ing care,
Your Word is our sal - va - tion, the source of end - less grace,
Your Spir - it is our teach - er, the light that guides our search,

you are the fount of good - ness, the dai - ly bread we share.
in death and life ex - tend - ing your cov - e - nant em - brace.
trans - form - ing bro - ken peo - ple in - to the ho - ly church.

How can we hope to thank you? Our praise is but a start;
In Christ we are one bod - y; each mem - ber has a part;
For feed - ing us with mer - cy, for wis - dom you im - part;

sin - cere - ly and com - plete - ly I of - fer you my heart.

***CALL TO WORSHIP** based on Psalm 23

Cy Perkins

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

One: The Lord is my shepherd;
All: I shall not want.
One: God makes me lie down in green pastures;
All: And leads me beside still waters.
One: God restores my soul;
All: And leads me in paths of righteousness for God's name's sake.
One: Even though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death,
All: I will fear no evil;
One: For You are with me; your rod and your staff,
All: They comfort me.
One: You prepare a table before me in the presence of my enemies;
All: You anoint my head with oil; my cup runs over.
One: Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life,
All: And I will dwell in the house of the Lord forever.

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

We warmly welcome all into our midst.

Kent French and Amy Norton
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.

SONG OF PREPARATION

Savior Like a Shepherd Lead Us

Helen Hassinger, voice and violin

We prepare for confession with music.

Kristen Murdaugh,

Josaphat Contreras, Nick Duffin, voice

BRADBURY

Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us, much we need your ten - der care;

The first system of music is in 4/4 time with a key signature of one sharp (F#). It features a vocal line and a piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Sav - ior like a shep - herd lead us, much we need your ten - der care;"

in your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your folds pre - pare.

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "in your pleas - ant pas - tures feed us, for our use your folds pre - pare."

Blessed Je - sus, bles - sed Je - sus, you have sought us, yours we are;

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics are: "Blessed Je - sus, bles - sed Je - sus, you have sought us, yours we are;"

Blessed Jes - us, bles - sed Je - sus, you have sought us, yours we are.

The fourth system concludes the piece. The lyrics are: "Blessed Jes - us, bles - sed Je - sus, you have sought us, yours we are."

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**

We re-gather with our voices in song.

This Little Light of Mine

Children and Congregation

READING FROM THE NEW TESTAMENT

Acts 2:38-47

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

Kate Baker-Carr

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

MESSAGE

Kent French

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

SUNG RESPONSE

There are Many Ways of Sharing

NETTLETON

We reflect on the message through poetry and song.

words by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette

There are man - y ways of shar - ing, But God's Spi - rit gives each one.
All are blest by gifts you give us; Some are set a - part to lead.

There are dif - ferent ways of car - ing; It's one God whose work is done.
Give us Jes - us' love with - in us As we care for those in need.

God, whose gifts are ov - er - flow - ing, May we_ hear you when you call;
Give us_ faith to make de - ci - sions; Give us_ joy to share your Word.

Keep us ser - ving, keep us grow - ing For the com - mon good of all.
Give us un - i - ty and vi - sion As we serve your church and world.

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 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.**

CONSECRATION OF OUR GIFTS

On this Consecration Sunday, we celebrate our common life and ask God's blessing on our financial and service pledges for the year ahead. No gift is too small or too large. All are precious.

Invitation

We hear from community members about why they take part.

Offertory Anthem

*We offer our gifts
as the choir offers songs of
praise and thanksgiving.*

Total Praise

by Richard Smallwood

arranged by Patrick Barrett and Doreen Rao

Chancel Choir

*Lord, I will lift mine eyes to the hills,
Knowing my help is coming from You.
Your peace, You give me in time of the storm.
You are the source of my strength,
You are the strength of my life,
I lift my hands in total praise to You. Amen.*

*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!*

*Prayer of Consecration

We ask God's blessing over the gifts.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Al Shlosha D'varim

United Parish Combined Choirs

arranged by Alan Naplan

Together in song, we set our intention

leaving this sacred space

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

Al Shlosha, al shlosha d'varim haolam kalam.

Al haemet v'al hadin v'al hashalom

The world is sustained by three things:

by truth, by justice, and by peace.

HOLY BUSINESS

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

***BLESSING** of Jaz Buchanan, Seminarian

We offer a blessing for the departure of our student pastor.

***BENEDICTION RESPONSE**

God is Watching Over You

Congregation

We respond to the blessing we have just received.

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://uso2web.zoom.us/j/86397936273?pwd=MnMrS3lYbkpFcmczbzdoODZXUSgsZz09>

Meeting ID: 863 9793 6273 — Password: 840697

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
Seminarian
Minister of Music
Assistant Music Director
Communications and Office Administrator
Facilities Manager
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
David Dunphy
Helen Hassinger
Donald Firth
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