

HILLS CHURCH



CONGREGATIONAL
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

ORDER OF WORSHIP

Sunday, June 20, 2021

* *Those who are able may rise.*

PRELUDE (*in-person outdoor service*):

Suite for Cornets and Sackbuts
The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble

Tilman Susato

PRELUDE (*pre-recorded online service*):

Psalm XIX
("The Heavens Declare the Glory of God")
The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble
John Finney, organ

Benedetto Marcello

WELCOME

CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Beautiful are the works of God!

All: Beautiful also are all of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the mind of God!

All: Beautiful also are the hopes of God's people!

One: Beautiful is the heart of God!

All: Beautiful also are the souls of God's people!

One: God made the heavens and the earth!

All: To God be the glory for the things God has done!

HYMN: Praise to the Lord, the Almighty *Lobe den Herren*
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #26

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God,

We confess that we have too often been centered
on our own lives, and ignored the lives of our neighbors.

We have too often been happy to point out faults in others,
and overlooked our own mistakes.

We have too often settled for shallow interests
while missing the real gifts of your creation.

Too often, the gifts we could offer
are left undone, unsaid, ungiven.

In your mercy, lead us back to the holy center. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

SUMMARY OF THE LAW

GLORIA

Music by Alice Jordan

Glory to God the Creator,
and to the Christ, and to the Holy Spirit:

As it was in the beginning,
is now, and will be forever. Amen.

PASSING OF THE PEACE

ANTHEM: This Is the Day *Jacobus Gallus*
Chancel Choir and The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble

*This is the day the Lord hath made.
We will all rejoice, be glad in it.
Alleluia!*

SCRIPTURE READING: 2 Thessalonians 3:1-5

SERMON: Everything I've Always Wanted to Tell You

HYMN: When in Our Music God Is Glorified *Engelberg*
Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal), #33

SHARING OF CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

PASTORAL PRAYER

OUR LORD'S PRAYER

**Our Father, 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.**

ANTHEM: Come, Christians, Join to Sing
The Hills Bells Quartet
Susan Holm, conducting

arr. Jason W. Krug

RECOGNITION

The End of an Authorized Ministry

Steve: Our church families are constantly changing.
People come and go.
Babies are born.
Children grow up.
People commit themselves to one another.
Loved ones and friends among us
 come to the end of their lives.
Individuals move into our community and church life.
Others leave us, moving away to new places,
 new experiences, and new opportunities.
It is important and right that we recognize
 these times of passage, of endings and beginnings.
Today we share the time of farewell
 with Rev. Matt Wooster who is leaving.

THANKS & SYMBOLS OF APPRECIATION

Steve: On April 27, 2014, the Hills Church called Matt Wooster to serve as Pastor and Teacher.

Matt: I thank the Hills Church, its members and friends, for the love, kindness, and support shown me these last seven years. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership has been accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

People: We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept that you now leave to minister elsewhere. We express our gratitude for your time among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence on our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Matt: I forgive you and accept your gratitude, trusting that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

VOWS OF RELEASE

Steve: Do you, the members and friends of the Hills Church release the Rev. Matt Wooster from the duties of Pastor and Teacher?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Steve: Do you offer your encouragement for his ministry soon to begin as Pastor and Teacher of Plymouth Church, United Church of Christ?

People: We do, with the help of God.

Steve (to Matt):

Do you, Rev. Matt Wooster, release this local church from turning to you and depending on you?

Matt: I do, with the help of God.

Steve: Do you offer encouragement for the continued called ministry of Judy and Anne Marie, and for another who will come to serve?

Matt: I do, with the help of God.

Steve (to Judy and Anne Marie):

Judy and Anne Marie, thank you for stepping forward to lead in a new way during this time of transition.

Let us pray for their ministry.

Holy God, bless your servants Judy and Anne Marie, to whom the care of your people is now committed.

Pour out your Holy Spirit on them and on the people of the Hills Church; that their mutual ministry may be served with faithfulness, diligence, and courage. Grant us all the spirit of power and of love, through Jesus Christ. Amen.

On behalf of the Metropolitan Boston Association and the United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: words of thankfulness, forgiveness, and release.

The member churches of our association and conference hold each of you in prayer. We pledge our support in the transitions signified in this service.

People: Thanks be to God.

Steve: Let us pray together.

All: God, whose everlasting love
for all is trustworthy,
help each of us
to trust the future
which rests in your care.
The time the Hills Church and Matt served together
in your name saw our
laughter and tears,
our hopes and disappointments.
Guide us as we hold these
cherished memories but
move in new directions,
until that time to come
when we are completely
one with you
and with each other,
in the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.

ANTHEM: The Lord Bless You and Keep You *Peter C. Lutkin*
Chancel Choir

*The Lord bless you and keep you,
The Lord lift His countenance upon you;
and give you peace,
The Lord make his face to shine upon you,
and be gracious unto you.
Amen.*

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE (*in-person outdoor service*):

Canzona

Henry VIII

The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble

POSTLUDE (*pre-recorded online service*):

Canzona Septimi Toni

Giovanni Gabrieli

The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble

John Finney, organ

Preacher

Matt Woooster

Liturgists

Anne Marie Holloway

Judy Swahnberg

Steve Paxhia, Metropolitan Boston Association, UCC

Soloists

Laurie Stewart Otten
Shannon Lebrón
Christian Figueroa
Garrett Murphy

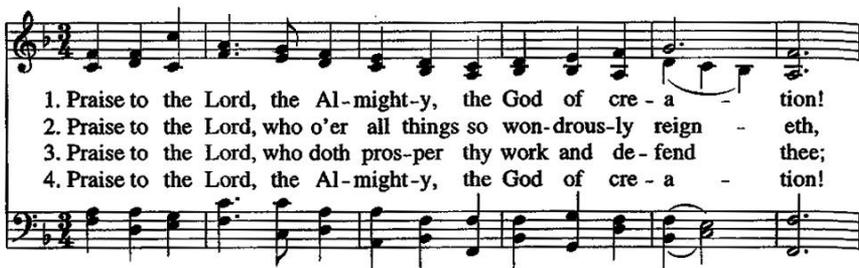
The Hills Bells Quartet

Lucy O'Mara
Chris Stowell
Martha Stowell
Libby Zobel
Susan Holm, conducting

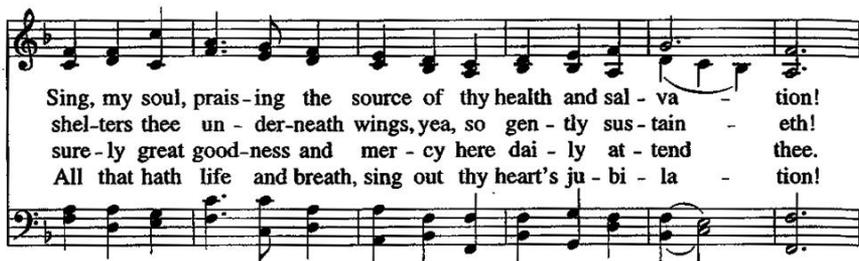
The Gainsborough Brass Ensemble

John Mahoney, trumpet
Greg Whitaker, trumpet
Robert Marlatt, French horn
Dan Fox, trombone
Ken Amis, tuba
Gary DiPerna, timpani

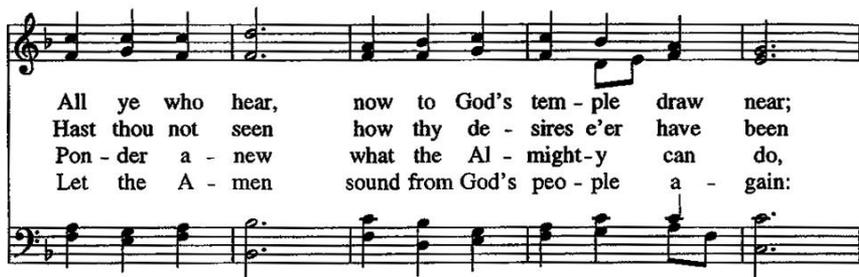
Praise to the Lord, the Almighty



1. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the God of cre - a - tion!
 2. Praise to the Lord, who o'er all things so won-drous-ly reign - eth,
 3. Praise to the Lord, who doth pros-per thy work and de-fend thee;
 4. Praise to the Lord, the Al-might-y, the God of cre - a - tion!



Sing, my soul, prais-ing the source of thy health and sal - va - tion!
 shel-ters thee un - der-neath wings, yea, so gen - tly sus - tain - eth!
 sure - ly great good-ness and mer - cy here dai - ly at - tend thee.
 All that hath life and breath, sing out thy heart's ju - bi - la - tion!



All ye who hear, now to God's tem - ple draw near;
 Hast thou not seen how thy de - sires e'er have been
 Pon - der a - new what the Al - might-y can do,
 Let the A - men sound from God's peo - ple a - gain:



join me in glad ad - o - ra - tion!
 grant - ed in what God or - dain - - - eth?
 who with great love doth be - friend thee.
 join - ing in glad ad - o - ra - - - tion.

WORDS: Joachim Neander, 1680; tr. Catherine Winkworth, 1863, alt.
 MUSIC: *Erneuertem Gesangbuch*, Stralsund, 1665; harm. *The Chorale Book for England*, 1863

LOBE DEN HERREN
 14 14.478

English Anglican Catherine Winkworth penned remarkable translations of a host of German chorales. This text is based on Psalms 103 and 150.

When in Our Music God Is Glorified 33

Unison

1. When in our mu - sic God is glo - ri - fied, and ad - o - ra - tion
 2. How of - ten, mak - ing mu - sic, we have found a new di - men - sion
 3. So has the church, in wor - ship and in song, in faith and love, through
 4. And did not Je - sus sing a psalm that night when ut - most e - vil
 5. Let ev - ery in - stru - ment be tuned for praise! Let all re - joice who

leaves no room for pride, it is as though the whole cre - a - tion cried,
 in the world of sound, as wor - ship moved us to a more pro - found
 cen - tu - ries of wrong, borne wit - ness to the truth in ev - ery tongue:
 strove a - gainst the Light? Then let us sing, for whom he won the fight:
 have a voice to raise! And may God give us faith to sing al - ways:

1-4 "Al - le - lu - ia!" 5 "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 "Al - le - lu - ia!"
 "Al - le - lu - ia!"

WORDS: Fred Pratt Green, 1971, alt.
 MUSIC: Charles V. Stanford, 1904

ENGELBERG
 10 10 10 w. alleluia

Fred Pratt Green was asked to write 'festival' words to this tune. The ending on an upward arc of notes is a fitting 'alleluia' for a song about music in worship.

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Welcome to Worship!

For today's outdoor service, masks are optional and encouraged. We remember that some of our church family are not yet eligible or able to receive vaccinations, including children.

Sundays, June 27 & July 4

These services will take place in the Sanctuary with a limited number of celebrants (only) in order to be live-streamed. These Sundays will help to gain experience with live-stream video from the sanctuary. Please note that when we replaced the HVAC system in the Sanctuary, we added UVC units which kill microorganisms in the air, including viruses.

Sundays, July 11 & 18

These services will also take place in the Sanctuary and will include up to 50 celebrants and congregants (so plan to sign up beforehand). Congregants will be seated one group per pew, and everybody will be masked except for people who are reading or speaking. The congregation will be able to sing the hymns and recite the prayers while wearing masks.

The principal reason for continuing masking and distancing is for the protection of our un-vaccinated members, especially children who have only relatively recently had access to the vaccine, as well as people who are immuno-suppressed. Two features of the service will be different over the summer: the collection plates will be placed near the doors (not passed), and the Passing of the Peace will be done using American Sign Language. There will also be a modified Community Hour (bottled water and juice boxes) after the service on the church lawn.

**GOD
IS STILL
SPEAKING**

WE ARE AN OPEN AND AFFIRMING CONGREGATION.
NO MATTER WHO YOU ARE,
NO MATTER WHERE YOU ARE
ON LIFE'S JOURNEY,
YOU ARE WELCOME HERE.