

# HILLS CHURCH



## CONGREGATIONAL UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

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### ORDER OF WORSHIP

Thirteenth Sunday after Pentecost

August 22, 2021

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*Due to COVID precautions, we are asking everyone in the congregation to remain masked and to refrain from singing.*

PRELUDE: Jerusalem, My Happy Home                      *Anna Laura Page*  
(from *American Folk Hymns for Piano*)  
Jonathan Barnhart, guest pianist

#### WELCOME & OPENING PRAYER

*All who are able, please rise for the Call to Worship.*

#### CALL TO WORSHIP

One: *Life can be scary.* There's so much to think about!

All: **Sometimes our worries can overwhelm us.**

One: Then we remember: there is a safe place, your house!

All: **You always say: Welcome, dinner is almost ready,  
come on in.**

*Please be seated.*

HYMN: How Firm a Foundation

*Foundation*

Hymns of Truth & Light (blue hymnal) #237

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

**Holy One, your world is so beautiful:  
August reminds us of the rhythm of tides,  
the call of the loons,  
the incredible colors of day becoming night.**

**Forgive us for missing so much goodness.  
Wake us up to each moment's possibility.  
Help us to take a breath,  
and discover you in the holiness of time. 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.

*All who are able, please rise for the Passing of the Peace.*

PASSING OF THE PEACE

*Please be seated.*

SCRIPTURE READING: Joshua 24:1-2a, 14-18

HOMILY: "How Do You Decide?"

Judy Swahnberg

SOLO: The Call (from *Five Mystical Songs*) *R. Vaughan Williams*  
Laurie Stewart Otten, soprano

PRAYER CONCERNS & CELEBRATIONS

SILENT PRAYER

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.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

OFFERTORY

HYMN: When Peace, Like a River *Ville du Havre*  
New Century Hymnal (black hymnal), #438

COMMISSION & BENEDICTION

*Please remain seated during the Postlude.*

POSTLUDE: Be Thou My Vision (*Slane*) *Larry Shackley*  
(from *Celtic Hymn Settings for Piano*)



Preacher: Rev. Judy Swahnberg  
Lay Reader: Bob Minetti  
Liturgist: Bob Minetti  
Soloists: Laurie Otten and Garrett Murphy

***Worship note:** We welcome Jonathan Barnhart as our guest pianist today. Jonathan is celebrating his retirement as Music Director of First Parish in Cambridge, concluding a tenure of 35 years. He continues as Music Director of the Dedham Choral Society, as position he has held since 1993.*

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# How Firm a Foundation

237

1. How firm a foun - da - tion, O saints of the Lord,  
 2. "Fear not, I am with you, O be not dis - mayed,  
 3. When through the deep wa - ters I call you to go,  
 4. "When through fier - y tri - als your path - way shall lie,  
 5. "The souls that on Je - sus have leaned for re - pose

is laid for your faith in God's ex - cel - lent word!  
 for I am your God, and will still give you aid;  
 the riv - ers of woe ov - er you shall not flow;  
 my grace, all suf - fi - cient, shall be your sup - ply;  
 I will not, I will not de - sert to their foes;

What more can God say than to you has been said,  
 I'll strength - en you, help you, and cause you to stand,  
 for I will be near you, your trou - bles to bless,  
 the flame shall not hurt you; I on - ly de - sign  
 those souls, though all hell should en - deav - or to shake,

to you who for ref - uge to Je - sus have fled?  
 up - held by my right - eous, om - nip - o - tent hand.  
 and sanc - ti - fy to you your deep - est dis - tress.  
 your dross to con - sume and your gold to re - fine.  
 I'll nev - er, no, nev - er, no, nev - er for - sake!"

WORDS: "K" in Rippon's *Selection of Hymns from the Best Authors*, 1787, alt.  
 MUSIC: Early American melody from Funk's *Genuine Church Music*, 1832

FOUNDATION  
 11 11.11 11

This hymn, of anonymous English authorship, found its greatest success in America where it was sung to the tune FOUNDATION, particularly in southern Methodist and Baptist churches.

# When Peace, Like a River

(It Is Well with My Soul)

Ps. 146; Col. 1:19-23; 2:13-14; 3 John 1:2

Horatio G. Spafford, 1873; alt.

1 When peace, like a riv - er, up - holds me each day, when  
 2 Though e - vil should tempt me, though tri - als should come, let  
 3 My sin— oh, the bliss of this glo - ri - ous thought— my  
 4 O God, speed the day that is filled with your light, when

sor - rows like sea bil - lows roll, What - ev - er my lot, you have  
 this blessed as - sur - ance con - trol, That Christ has re - gard - ed my  
 sin— not in part, but the whole— Is nailed to the cross and I  
 clouds are rolled back as a scroll; The trum - pet shall sound and the

*Refrain*

taught me to say, "It is well, it is well with my soul."  
 help - less es - tate, and has paid life and blood for my soul: It is  
 bear it no more. Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul!  
 Lord shall ap - pear, "e - ven so"— it is well with my soul.

well with my soul, it is well, it is well with my soul.  
 It is well with my soul.

*This hymn was written out of grief over the loss of the author's four daughters in the sinking of the SS Ville du Havre. After leaving his Chicago law practice, Horatio G. Spafford and his wife settled in Jerusalem.*

Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE 11.8.11.9. with refrain  
 Philip P. Bliss, 1876



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Alto Soloist	Shannon Lebrón
Tenor Soloist	Christian Figueroa
Bass Soloist	Garrett Murphy
Sound Technician	Kenny Goshgarian
Sound Technician	Steven Hopkins

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.