

MAPLE STREET CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

February 12, 2023 · Sixth Sunday after Epiphany



*And now these three remain:
Faith, Hope and Love,
But the greatest of these is Love.
I Corinthians 13:13*

90 Maple Street, Danvers, MA 01923

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PRELUDE

The Way of Life
Jon Gaines, pianist

Graham Gaines

WORDS OF WELCOME

Rev. Pamela Cochrane

CALL TO WORSHIP (UNISON) —adapted from Luke 6

Come and learn the ways of life.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Love your enemies and do good to those who hate you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Bless those who curse you, and pray for those who persecute you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Do unto others as you would have them do unto you.

We have come to follow Jesus.

Come and learn the ways of life

***OPENING HYMN**

Jesus Calls Us o'er the Tumult

Black No. 172

***PRAYER OF INVOCATION (UNISON)**

Inexhaustible source of love and life be with us in our time of worship

as we seek the love it takes to walk in the ways of your son.

Help us love our enemies and bless those who wrong us, for we cannot do so alone.

Teach us the joy of treating others with all the same respect and goodness

that we hope to be treated. May every word and deed make known

that we are your beloved children and vessels of your love. Amen.

LORD'S PRAYER (UNISON)

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. 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. Amen.

***RESPONSE**

Tune: Red No. 241

Spirit divine, attend our prayers,

And make this world thy home.

Descend with all thy gracious powers,

O come, great Spirit, come!

**Please stand as you are able*

PRAYER OF TRANSFORMATION & WORDS OF GRACE

All: Teacher of hard truths, it is difficult to let go of our anger and fear toward those who prosper through deceit and unscrupulous ways; it is not easy to make ourselves believe that the meek will inherit the earth, when they are being crushed by unjust systems. We long to see the vindication of the righteous and the safety of those ever-seeking sanctuary. We yearn for the day when all people will treat one another as they wish to be treated. Help us live into that day, Holy One, even when it is difficult, may your love shine like the sun through our lives and ministries. Amen.

One: God's grace is sufficient: When we treat others as we would have them treat us, we live as Jesus' beloved, live in that assurance and spread that peace and safety. Amen.

ANTHEM *Prayer for Peace from Celebrate Life!* music: Buryl Red;
words: St. Francis of Assisi

TIME FOR ALL AGES Rev. Pamela Cochrane

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Douglas Vooyo

OFFERING

*Thank you for all the ways you give to the ministry of Maple Street Church.
Your gifts whether offered weekly, monthly, by pledge or online, make a difference in the life of the church. Collection boxes are located at both sanctuary entrances, on the church office door, and the church mailbox outside the Chapel.*

OFFERTORY *A Loving Heart* Timothy Bushong

***DOXOLOGY** Lyrics: Thomas Ken, Tune: Red No. 64

**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 pow'r uplifts!
Praise the Spirit, Holy Spirit!
Alleluia! Alleluia! Alleluia!**

SCRIPTURE READING: Genesis 45:3-11,15; 38 & Luke 6:27-38
Cindy Bowen
Pew Bible pg. 40;895

MESSAGE Rev. Douglas Vooyo

***CLOSING HYMN** *O for a World* Black No. 575

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE *What a Friend We Have in Jesus* Charles C. Converse
Jon Gaines, pianist



Welcome! If you are here for the first time, please fill out a connection card and place it in the offering boxes.
We share God's love, hope, and healing and serve our neighbors.
No matter who you are or where you are on your faith journey, you are welcome here!

*The altar flowers this Sunday are given in loving memory of
 Dan & Sally O'Connell
 Given by the Crotts Family*

Sunday's Servants:
 Ushers: Alden & Lynne Duffill and Pat Newman
 Scripture Reader: Cindy Bowen

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