

Central Congregational Church
United Church of Christ – Chelmsford MA
An Open and Affirming Congregation

March 7, 2021

Prelude: Tudor Bots: "*Lamb of God*" arr. Hayes

Words of Welcome and Announcements: Pastor Rich Knight

Call to Worship

Opening Hymn: "*O God, Our Help in Ages Past*" – led by Karen Papenfuss

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Our shelter from the stormy blast, and our eternal home.

Before the hills in order stood, or earth received her frame,
From everlasting thou art God, to endless years the same.

Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be thou our guard while troubles last, and our eternal home.

Opening Prayer of Confession

Eternal God, companion of all who seek you, and seeker of all who turn away from you, draw near to us that we may draw near to you. Forgive us for our wanderings and redirect us in your ways, that we may find in your will our true freedom; through Jesus Christ, the way, the truth, and the life. Amen.

Assurance of Pardon

Hymn of Praise: "*Come and Find the Quiet Center*"

Come and find the quiet center in the crowded life we lead,
Find the room for hope to enter, find the frame where we are freed:
Clear the chaos and the clutter, clear our eyes that we can see
All the things that really matter, be at peace and simply be.

Anthem: "*Be Still My Soul*" arr. DeFord, soloist Karen Papenfuss

Holy Scripture: Genesis 9:11, Genesis 12:1-3

The Morning Message: "*God, the Covenant-Maker*"

Communion Hymn: "*O, How He Loves You and Me*"

O, how he loves you and me. O, how he loves you and me;
He gave his life, what more could he give?
O, how he loves you; O, how he loves me; O, how he loves you and me!

Jesus to Calv'ry did go, his love for mankind to show;
What he did there brought hope from despair:

O, how he loves you; O, how he loves me; O, how he loves you and me!

Celebrating Holy Communion

Prayer of Thanksgiving and The Lord's Prayer

Eternal God, you have called your people from east and west and north and south to feast at the table of Jesus Christ. We thank you for Christ's presence and for the spiritual food of Christ's body and blood. By the power of your Holy Spirit, keep us faithful to your will. Go with us to the streets, to our homes, and to our places of labor and leisure that whether we are gathered or scattered, we may be the servant church of the servant Christ, in whose name we rejoice to pray...

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.

Closing Hymn: "Go, My Children, with My Blessing"

Go, my children, with my blessing, never alone;
Waking, sleeping, I am with you, you are my own;
In my love's baptismal river, I have made you mine for ever,
Go my children, with my blessing you are my own.

Go, my children, sins forgiven, at peace and pure,
Here you learned how much I love you, what I can cure;
Here you heard my Son's dear story, here you touched him, saw his glory,
Go, my children, sins forgiven at peace and pure.

Go, my children, fed and nourished, closer to me;
Grow in love and love by serving, joyful and free.
Here my Spirit's power filled you, here his tender comfort stilled you;
Go, my children, fed and nourished, joyful and free.

The Benediction

Postlude: Tudor Bots: "Glorify Thy Name" arr. Hayes

Welcome to our service of worship! Thanks for tuning in!

You may mail your offering to: CCC, PO Box 339, Chelmsford MA 01824

Linn Flint, Office Administrator, 978-256-5931, office.admin@cccchelmsford.org

Web page: www.cccchelmsford.org

Church Office hours are Monday thru Friday 9 am – 1 pm

You may reach Pastor Rich on his cell phone, 978-684-2031,
or via email at pastor-rich@cccchelmsford.org

UPCOMING

Monday Movie Group Discussion on "Spotlight" – March 8 at 7:00 p.m.

"Wrestling with the Bible" – Tuesday, March 9 at 7:00 p.m.