

Our Lord, You Were Sent

Our Lord, you were sent to a place wild and vast
To ponder your mission, to pray and to fast;
Then hungry and weary, you faced night and day
The subtle temptations to turn from God's way.

How could it be wrong to want bread on the shelf?
To seek, in one's serving, to first serve one's self?
But by God's own word you remained ever sure:
It's only in God that our lives are secure.

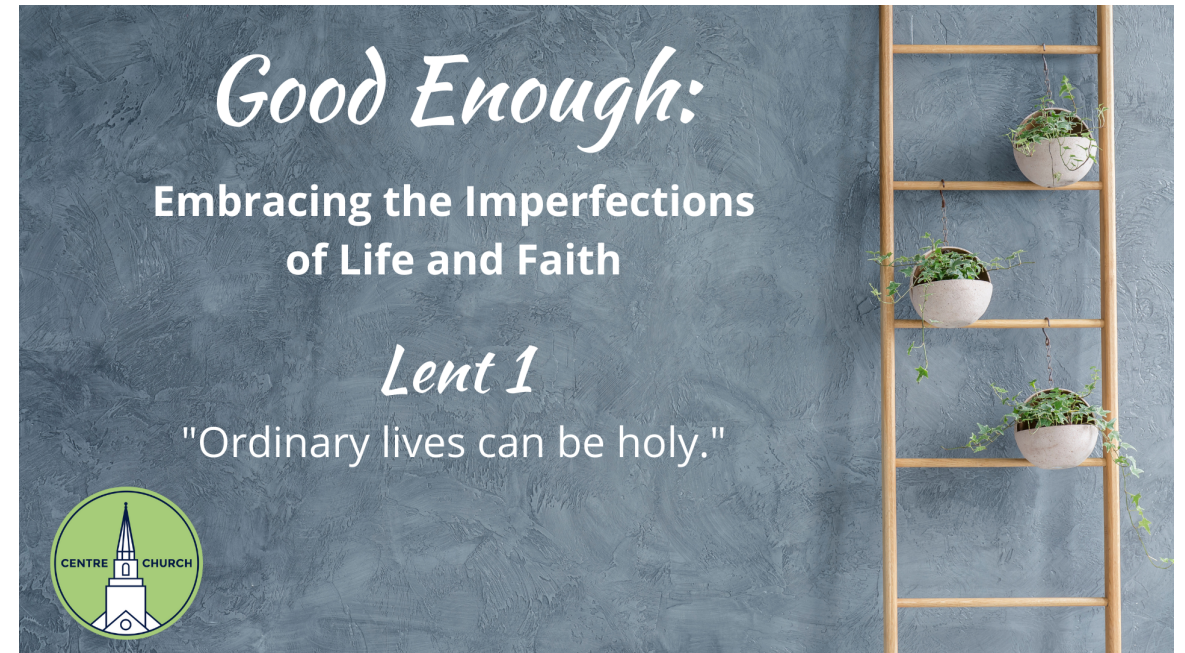
How could it be wrong to step out and to dare,
To prove with great drama the depths of God's care?
But you knew God's word, true since all time began:
It's wrong to expect God to work by our plan.

Our Lord, in your struggle you chose to obey;
God's word filled your heart and you trusted God's way.
Now risen, you save us from sins that destroy;
You give us your Spirit, your peace and your joy.

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940
781-334-3050 [www. Centre-Church.org](http://www.Centre-Church.org)
We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

The Rev. Nancy Rottman, Senior Pastor
Laraine Wilson, Director of Faith Formation
Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School
Alison O'Connor, Church Administrator



LENT 1
"ORDINARY LIVES CAN BE HOLY"
10:00 AM

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts
March 6, 2022

WE GATHER

Prelude

I Know Where I'm Going

Hughes

Welcome and Announcements

We Cross the Threshold

Good Enough

What in our lives do we dream about for tomorrow, void of sorrow?
Time spent regretting decisions of our yesterdays, mistakes we made?
Sometimes we get what we get,
life disappoints us and yet,
God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.

Calling on God

Opening Prayer

Dwight Decker

Let us pray together:

Holy One, Our Refuge and Shelter, we call out to you, sometimes in praise, sometimes in distress, as life goes. Whether we perceive it or not, you are there. Open us this day to your presence in the smile of a friend, in the call of a bird in the simple and good enough that fill our days. Amen.

Mini Message

"Misfits?"

Larainne Wilson and Katie Swayne-Gerrish

*stand as you are able

Worship Notes:

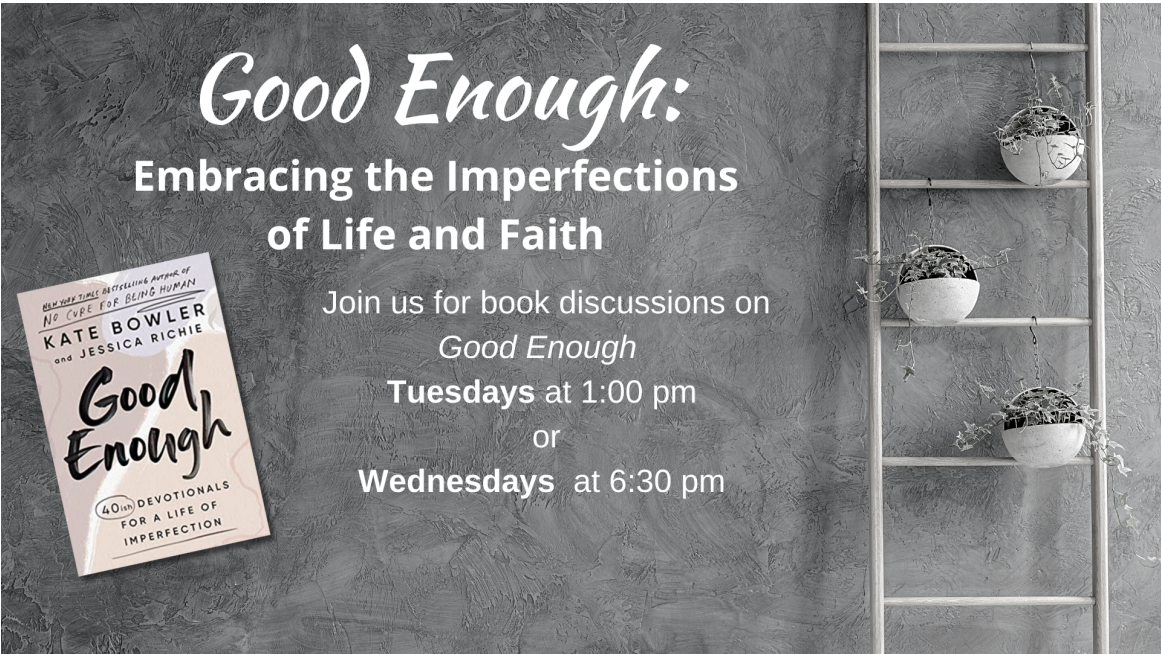
All liturgy and leader parts Marcia McFee © www.worshipdesignstudio.com/goodenough. Used and adapted with permission.

"Good Enough" theme song by Marsha Charles, Marcia McFee, Chuck Bell. Used with permission of Worship Design Studio.

"Our Lord, You Were Sent" Text: Copyright © 2000 by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette. Used with permission.

"A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey" from Good Enough: 40'ish Devotionals for a Life of Imperfection by Kate Bowler and Jessica Richie. Used with permission. Purchase the book at www.katebowler.com/goodenough.

Music licenses: One License with license #A-733437, and CCLI License #A-2267261 and Streaming #CSPL169342, Size A



Blessing of the Elements
Communion Prayer
Sharing the Elements

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Brother Jesus, we thank you for this entirely ordinary and yet somehow extraordinary gift of bread. In the breaking and sharing we have done here today may our ordinary lives be broken open for the sake of love. And always, may we know we are exactly good enough for you. Amen.

Closing Hymn

Open My Eyes, That I May See See Insert
(Livestream worshippers - see below)

A Blessing for a Joyfully Mediocre Journey

Benediction

Choral Reprise

God is still here and somehow, this faith is good enough.

Postlude

The Glory of the Spirit Smith



Our ushers today are Ann Decker and Dwight Decker

The flowers on the chancel this morning are given by Margaret Waugh in loving memory of her parents, Lillian and Robert Cummings

Opening Hymn

**Our Lord, You Were Sent* Text by Carolyn Winfrey Gillette
See back of bulletin

Honest Questions, Compassionate Response

Honest Question Rev. Nancy

Silent Reflection

Compassionate Response Rev. Nancy
Know that already, God is offering us freedom from the temptations of the “not enough-ness” of our time, inviting us to love and revere the seeming ordinariness of the day-to-day so that we might recognize its true beauty. And know, that despite our sometimes faltering steps, in the name of Jesus Christ, you are being forgiven, even now.
All: In the name of Jesus Christ, you are forgiven. Glory to God! Amen.

WE PROCLAIM

The Word in Music

Jesus Walked This Lonesome Valley Kirk

Gospel Reading Luke 4:1-13 Dwight Decker

Response L: A Word of God that is still speaking,
P: Thanks be to God.

Thoughts about an Imperfect Life and Faith

"Ordinary Lives Can Be Holy"

Rev. Nancy Rottman

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE

Though all along our daily pilgrim race
our treasures small and very few may be,
our souls are blest with God's unending grace,
and that is enough, enough for me.

Oh, that's enough for me,
God's truth has set me free;
the love of Christ has sanctified my soul,
and that is enough for me.

About Our Prayer Song

Rev. Nancy

When food and raiment are not ever sure,
and simple fare is hard to get for some,
we work to share our goods with one and all,
and that is enough, enough for me.

Oh, that's enough for me,
God's truth has set me free;
a love like Christ's is meant for ev'ry soul,
and that is enough for me.

Intercessions

The 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.

OFFERING

Offertory

Come All Ye Who Travel Upon the Highway.

Dubois

*Hymn of Praise (unison)

Tune: Old Hundredth

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Living God, whom we adore**

Prayer of Dedication

HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

L: Christ looks upon each one with love and says,

P: you are welcome at my table."

L: Christ looks upon each one with compassion and says,

P: "whatever troubles you, bring it here."

L: Christ looks upon each one with grace and says,

P: "whatever you'd like to leave behind, leave it here."

Open My Eyes, That I May See

Open my eyes that I may see
glimpses of truth thou hast for me.
Place in my hands the wonderful key
that shall unclasp and set me free.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my eyes, illumine me,
Spirit divine!

Open my ears, that I may hear
voices of truth thou sendest clear;
and while the wavenotes fall on my ear,
everything false will disappear.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my ears, illumine me, Spirit divine!

Open my mouth, and let me bear
gladly the warm truth everywhere;
open my heart and let me prepare
love with thy children thus to share.

Silently now I wait for thee,
ready, my God, thy will to see.

Open my heart, illumine me, Spirit divine!