

The Gifts of God Are Free

HYMN TUNE: #312

The gifts of God are free — the water, milk and wine;
The feast of God's community is set — for all to dine.

O God, we tend to see a world of limits here;
We share your gifts reluctantly and hoard them out of fear.

And yet you give your grace like food from heaven above;
Your church becomes a welcome place, a banquet of your love.

There's joy, and joy to spare; there's bread that satisfies;
You call us now to seek and share your love that changes lives.

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 3
"LOTS OF THINGS CAN BE MEDICINE"
10:00 AM

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts
March 20, 2022

WE GATHER

Prelude

Choral Song

Broughton

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

Annmarie Pendola

Let us pray together:

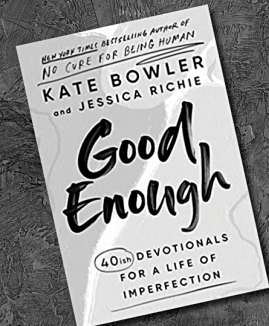
Holy One, Our Balm, Our Feast, we lift our hands and call your name, in need of healing - thirsting and hungry. Your steadfast love is better than life. Open us this day to your nourishment in the songs of the land, in the beauty of the sky, in the simple and good enough moments that fill our days. Amen.

Mini Message

Laraine Wilson and Katie Swayne-Gerrish


"Good Medicine"

*stand as you are able




Good Enough:
Embracing the Imperfections
of Life and Faith

Join us for book discussions on
Good Enough
Tuesdays at 1:00 pm
or
Wednesdays at 6:30 pm



Lenten Evening Prayer

Labyrinth Walks on Wednesdays
March 8, 15, 22, and 29
April 6 and 13
7:30 - 8:30 pm
in the Narthex



ALL ARE WELCOME

Choral Reprise

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

Postlude

Glory To God On High

Blake



Our ushers today are George Hayden and Phil Fisher

The flowers on altar this morning are given in loving memory of Al and Judy Johnson's parents, Gingy and Dotty Johnson, and Chris Harding.

Worship Notes:

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"A Blessing for Slowing Down [excerpt]" 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.

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Opening Hymn

**The Gifts of God Are Free*

(see back page)

Honest Questions, Compassionate Response

Honest Question

Rev. Nancy

Silent Reflection

Compassionate Response

Rev. Nancy

Hear this compassionate word from Isaiah: "Everyone who thirsts, come to the waters; and you that have no money, come, buy and eat! Come, buy wine and milk without money and without price." Know that already, God is offering us love enough no matter how much we attain or achieve. We are invited to release oppressive expectations of ourselves and others so that we might recognize true worth afforded to all.

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

God Of The Spirit, God Of The Whale

Gospel Reading

Luke 13:1-9

Page 950

Schalk

Annmarie Pendola

Response

L: A Word of God that is still speaking,

P: Thanks be to God.

Thoughts about an Imperfect Life and Faith

"Lots of Things Can Be Medicine"

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.

A Word on Worthiness

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

The Blessing

Graham/Downes

Arr. Purifoy

*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

Closing Hymn

**O Love That Will Not Let Me Go*

#485

**A Blessing for Slowing Down
(excerpt)**

Benediction

O Love That Will Not Let Me Go

O Love that will not let me go,
I rest my weary soul in you;
I give you back the life I owe,
that in your ocean depths its flow
may swell with ardor true.

O Light that follows all my way,
to you I yield my flickering flame;
Renew my spirit's feeble ray,
that from your brilliant sunlit day
it may new brightness claim.

O Joy that seekest me through pain,
I you I cannot close my heart;
I trace the rainbow through the rain,
and know the promise is not vain
that you will ne'er depart .

O Cross that raises up my head,
from you I dare not seek to flee;
Life's glories with er and are dead,
but from the ground there blossoms red,
life that shall endless be.



Join Us...

Thursday, March 24 & 31
to help raise money for **Centre
Congregational Church!**



11:30 AM to 9 PM
**Includes food
and beverages**

**20% of tracked dine-in and
carry out sales will be donated.**

***Please tell your server you are dining to
support Centre Congregational Church!***



READING
48 Walkers Brook Dr. I (781) 944-8454

WWW.ACFP.COM