

God's Eye Is on the Sparrow

**1 Why should I feel discouraged,
why should the shadows come,
Why should my heart be lonely
and long for heaven and home,
When God is ever my portion?**

**My constant friend will be:
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me.**

Refrain:

**I sing because I'm happy,
I sing because I'm free,
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me.**



**2 "Let not your heart be troubled,"
Christ's tender word I hear,
And resting on God's goodness,
I lose my doubts and fears;
Though by the path God leads me
but one step I may see:
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me;
God's eye in on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me.**

**3 Whenever I am tempted,
whenever clouds arise,
When song gives place to sighing,
when hope within me dies,
I then draw close to my Savior,
from care I am set free:
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me;
God's eye is on the sparrow,
and I know God watches me.**



Third Sunday After Pentecost

A Service of Blessing and Farewell to Our Pastor

REV. LORI ANNE WYCKOFF

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

June 18, 2023

10:00 am

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940

781-334-3050 www.Centre-Church.org

We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

The Rev. Lori Anne Wyckoff, 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

WE GATHER

Prelude

Largo

Handel

Welcome



*Call to Worship

From Psalm 100

Rev. Lori: Make a joyful noise to God, all the earth.

People: We worship God with gladness; We come into God's presence with singing.

Rev. Lori: Know that the Lord is God. It is God that made us, we are God's people, and the sheep of her pasture.

People: We will enter God's gates with thanksgiving, and God's courts with praise.

All: For God is good; God's steadfast love endures forever, and God's faithfulness to all generations.

Opening Hymn

**God Reigns o'er All the Earth*

#21

Mini Message

"Reprise: The Three Great Prayers!"

Rev. Lori

The Word in Music

The Lord Be With You

Sleeth

*stand as you are able

God Reigns o'er All the Earth

1 God reigns o'er all the earth!

**Green hills and valleys low,
the farms and towns
in golds and browns**

God's grace and beauty show.

God reigns o'er all the earth!

**Stone banks and spreading plains,
in rainbow hues -
reds, yellows, blues -
of streams and country lanes.**

2 God reigns o'er human life!

**Through youth and aging years,
in death, in birth,
in grief, in mirth
in all our hopes and fears.**

God reigns o'er human life!

Our inspiration still.

**Through all our schemes,
in all our dreams,
we see God's reigning will.**

3 God reigns o'er time and space!

**In history's bygone days,
Christ's faithful folk
in reverence spoke**

to bring God earnest praise.

God reigns o'er time and space!

**O'er galaxy and sun,
through timeless years
the cosmos hears
the heavenly music run.**

4 God reigns! Emmanuel!

**God with us every day,
in all our past
and to the last,
our comfort and our stay.**

God reigns! Emmanuel!

Let praise to Christ be sung!

**God's presence here
makes all things dear.
Let joyful bells be rung!**

**WE GO FORTH
Announcements**

Closing Hymn

**Here I Am, Lord*

(see insert)

Blessing and Benediction

Postlude

Sortie

Charpentier

The flowers on the altar this morning honor Rev. Lori Anne Wyckoff on her 5+ years as Pastor at Centre Congregational Church. We celebrate our time together and release her from her covenant with us today.

Our ushers this morning are Jeff Langill and Phil Fisher.

Our coffee fellowship host is Parish Council.

Worship Notes.

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



Scripture Reading

Matthew 9:35 - 10:8

Michael Rottman

Response

Mike: A Word of God that is Still Speaking,
People: Thanks be to God.

Sermon

"But, Why?"

Rev. Lori Anne Wyckoff

Sermon Hymn

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#475

WE RESPOND

Pastoral Prayer

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

Call to the Offering

Offertory

Blessing

Sleeth

*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

LITURGY OF FAREWELL & RELEASE

Association Representative: Brad Harding

Grace to you and peace from God, who is and who was and who is to come, and from Jesus Christ the faithful witness and the sovereign of the rulers on earth.

The Metropolitan Boston Association of the Southern New England Conference of the United Church of Christ greets you in the name of Jesus Christ, the head of the church.

On September 17, 2017, Centre Congregational Church, United Church of Christ called The Reverend Lori Anne Wyckoff to serve as your settled pastor and teacher.

Rev. Lori Anne Wyckoff:

I thank Centre Church, its members and friends, for the love and kindness, and support shown me during our time together. I ask forgiveness for the mistakes I have made. I am grateful for the ways my leadership was accepted. As I leave, I carry with me all that I have learned here.

Congregation in Unison:

We receive your thankfulness, offer forgiveness, and accept your passage. We express our gratitude for your ministry among us. We ask your forgiveness for our mistakes. Your influence upon our faith and faithfulness will not leave us at your departure.

Rev. Lori:

I accept your gratitude, offer forgiveness and trust that our time together and our parting are pleasing to God.

Brad Harding:

Do you release Rev. Lori from her duties as Pastor? Do you offer your encouragement as her journey unfolds in new ways?

Congregation in Unison: We do, with the help of God.

Brad Harding:

Do you, Rev. Lori, release this local congregation from turning to you and depending on you? Do you offer your encouragement for the continued ministry here and for the relationship with another who will come to serve?

Rev. Lori: I do, with the help of God.

Brad Harding:

On behalf of the Southern New England Conference of The United Church of Christ, I witness to the words spoken: thankfulness, generosity, and release. The Members of the Metropolitan Boston Association and the Southern New England Conference hold each of you in our prayers. We pledge our support in the transition signified in this service.

Let us pray: O God, we give thanks for remembered times, when we, together, have shared this life of faith. We thank you for the moments we have shared with Rev. Lori in worship, in prayer, and in presence. We pray that Rev. Lori will always be aware of your Spirit's guidance in their life and ministry. Help each of us to trust the future which rests in your care. Guide us as we hold these cherished memories but move in new directions, until that time to come when we are completely one with you and with each other. In the name of Jesus Christ we pray. Amen.