

FIRST CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

SHREWSBURY, MASSACHUSETTS

Third Sunday after Pentecost | Father's Day

ONLINE WORSHIP

June 21, 2020

**Welcome**

**Prelude** "Chorale on A Mighty Fortress Is Our God" *by J. S. Bach*

**Call to Worship** *from Psalm 23 (CEV)*

Leader: You, Lord, are my shepherd.

**People: I will never be in need.**

Leader: You let me rest in fields of green grass.

**People: You lead me to streams of peaceful water.**

Leader: You refresh my life.

**People: And I will live forever in Your house.**

**Father's Day Prayer**

**Hymn** "When Peace, Like a River" Tune: VILLE DU HAVRE

**1. When peace like a river, uphold me each day,  
when sorrows like sea billows roll,  
whatever my lot, you have taught me to say,  
"It is well, it is well with my soul."**

**Refrain:**

**It is well with my soul;  
it is well, it is well with my soul.**

**2. Though evil should tempt me, though trials should come,  
let this blessed assurance control,  
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate,  
and has paid life and blood for my soul. [Refrain]**

**3. My sin - oh, the bliss of this glorious thought -  
my sin - not in part, but the whole -  
Is nailed to the cross and I bear it no more.  
Praise the Lord! Praise the Lord, O my soul! [Refrain]**

4. O God, speed the day that is filled with your light,  
when clouds are rolled back as a scroll;  
The trumpet shall sound and the Lord shall appear,  
"even so" - it is well with my soul. [Refrain]

**Unison Prayer of Confession** *from the Presbyterian Church (USA)*

**All:** God, forgive us. Our witness is not always visible to the world. Sometimes we allow threats to unity to enter the church, making it hard to see that we are your community. Sometimes we forget that each human being bears your image and is a person of sacred worth. We do not always love one another. We do not know and bear one another's burdens. We often fail to build each other up. We do not always give ourselves willingly and joyfully to one another. Forgive us and strengthen us so that we may live in the unity that you grant us. Amen.

**Assurance of Pardon**

Leader: Friends, believe the good news of the gospel.

People: In Jesus Christ, we are forgiven! Glory be to God.

**Time with Children**

Lesson Matthew 14:22-33

Sermon "Sinking in the Sea of Faith" Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo

**Brief Musical Interlude**

**Pastoral Prayer**

**The Lord's Prayer**

**All:** 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 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.

**Invitation to Offering**

Offertory Music "Simple Gifts" by D. Wagner

Doxology

Praise God from whom all blessings flow  
Praise Christ the Word made flesh born low  
Praise Holy Spirt evermore  
One God, triune, whom we adore. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

Hymn "A Mighty Fortress is Our God" Tune: EIN' FESTE BURG

1. A mighty fortress is our God,  
a bulwark never failing;  
our helper he, amid the flood  
of mortal ills prevailing.  
For still our ancient foe  
does seek to work us woe;  
his craft and power are great,  
and armed with cruel hate,  
on earth is not his equal.
  
2. Did we in our own strength confide,  
our striving would be losing,  
were not the right man on our side,  
the man of God's own choosing.  
Dost ask who that may be?  
Christ Jesus, it is he;  
Lord Sabaoth, his name,  
from age to age the same,  
and he must win the battle.
  
3. And though this world, with devils filled,  
should threaten to undo us,  
we will not fear, for God hath willed  
his truth to triumph through us.  
The Prince of Darkness grim,  
we tremble not for him;  
his rage we can endure,  
for lo, his doom is sure;  
one little word shall fell him.

4. That word above all earthly powers,  
no thanks to them, abideth;  
the Spirit and the gifts are ours,  
through him who with us sideth.  
Let goods and kindred go,  
this mortal life also;  
the body they may kill;  
God's truth abideth still;  
his kingdom is forever!

### **Benediction**

**Postlude** "Rock of Ages" by L. Evans

*The Ministers are the Rev. Lynne Dolan and Rev. Dr. James Matarazzo.  
Our Music Director is Mr. Curtis Smith. Ms. Rachel Smith assisted in the worship service.*

*The flowers on the altar are given in memory of Al and Jean Haynes from their daughters,  
Kathi Buzzell and Carol Correia.*

