

**FEDERATED CHURCH OF HYANNIS
ORDER OF WORSHIP ~ SUNDAY, MARCH 26, 2023**

PRELUDE: *“Turn Your Eyes Upon Jesus”*, Lemmel..... Roy Campbell

CHORAL INTROIT: *“As the Sun Doth Daily Rise”*

WORDS OF WELCOME and ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

CALL TO WORSHIP (all)

Leader: Like our life, Lent is a journey that ends not on Good Friday, but on Easter morning. There we believe the eternal God is our refuge and underneath are the everlasting arms.

All: There we trust, that as our outer nature is wasting away, our inner nature is being renewed.

Leader: There we are confident that nothing shall separate us from the gracious love of God.

***HYMN OF PRAISE # 1** *“Our God, Our Help in Ages Past”*

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

*Under the shadow of Thy throne Thy saints have dwelt secure;
Sufficient is Thine arm alone, and our defense is sure.*

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

*A thousand ages in Thy sight are like an evening gone,
Short as the watch that ends the night before the rising sun.*

*Time, like an ever-rolling stream, bears all its sons away;
They fly forgotten as a dream dies at the op'ning day.*

*Our God, our help in ages past, our hope for years to come,
Be Thou our guard while life shall last and our eternal home. Amen.*

PRAYER OF INVOCATION (all)

Eternal God and loving creator, gladly we come to worship You in this Lenten season. So much in the chaotic pace of change in our world leaves us bewildered and confused. We try to keep our spiritual balance, and yet it is challenging. Open the eyes of our souls to the things that never change, and steady our hearts on the promise of Your holy word, a lamp to our feet and a light for our path. You alone are God of heaven and earth--ever faithful, merciful, full of wisdom and love. Renew us by Your Holy Spirit; prepare our feet for the Holy week that is to come. We seek these blessings in the name of Christ our Lord, to whom with You and the Holy Spirit, be honor and glory, forever and ever. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE

SILENT 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.

***GLORIA PATRI**

Glory be to the Father, and to the Son, and to the Holy Ghost; as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen, amen.

ANTHEM: *“We Have Come This Far by Faith”*, J. Martin..... Choir

THE WORD OF GOD.....Lay Reader Rene King

Old Testament: Ecclesiastes 3: 1-9

New Testament: II Corinthians 4: 5-18

Reader: This is the Word of the Lord.

All: Thanks be to God.

***HYMN OF REFLECTION # 467 “Abide with Me”**

*Abide with me; fast falls the eventide; the darkness deepens; Lord, with me abide.
When other helpers fail and comforts flee, help of the helpless, O abide with me.*

*Swift to its close ebbs out life's little day; Earth's joys grow dim; its glories pass away;
Change and decay in all around I see; O Thou who changest not, abide with me.*

*I need Thy presence ev'ry passing hour; What but Thy grace can foil the tempter's pow'r?
Who, like thyself, my guide and stay can be? Through cloud and sunshine, Lord, abide
with me.*

*I fear no foe, with Thee at hand to bless; Ills have no weight and tears no bitterness.
Where is death's sting? Where, grave, your victory? I triumph still if Thou abide with me.*

*Hold thou Thy cross before my closing eyes; shine through the gloom and point me to the
skies; Heav'n's morning breaks, and earth's vain shadows flee; in life, in death, O Lord,
abide with me. Amen.*

SERMON: “Spiritual Lessons Learned Since March 11, 2020”.....Rev. Dr. Calvin Mutti

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE AND PASTORAL PRAYER

PRESENTATION OF TITHES AND OFFERINGS

Offertory: “Be Still and Know”Roy Campbell

Doxology

Praise God from who all blessings flow. Praise Him all creatures here below.

Praise Him above ye heavenly host. Praise Father, Son, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN # 390 “It is Well with My Soul”**

*When peace, like a river, attendeth my way, when sorrows like sea billows roll;
Whatever my lot, Thou hast taught me to say, it is well, it is well with my soul.
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.*

*Though Satan should buffet, though trials should come, let this blest assurance control,
That Christ has regarded my helpless estate, and hath shed His own blood for my soul.
It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.*

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

*And, Lord, haste the day when the faith shall be sight, the clouds be rolled back as a
scroll; The trump shall resound, and the Lord shall descend, even so, it is well with my
soul. It is well with my soul, It is well, it is well with my soul.*

***BENEDICTION**

CHOIR AMEN

***POSTLUDE:** *“You’ll Never Walk Alone”*, Rogers..... Roy Campbell

Our guest minister today is Rev. Dr. Calvin Mutti, Pastor Emeritus of South Church in Andover, United Church of Christ. An Ohio native, he served 3 congregations in Indiana and Massachusetts during his active career as an ordained minister. He and his wife retired and live in Brewster. He sings with the Chatham Chorale, raises honeybees, grows giant pumpkins, and, as a Master Gardener, teaches in the Children’s’ Garden. Over the 16 years of his retirement, he has been honored to be invited to preach occasionally here at The Federated Church of Hyannis.