



BARRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
March 14, 2021
Fourth Sunday of Lent
Via Zoom and YouTube Service
Pastor Margaret Keyser, preaching

REFLECTION

“Grace and gratitude belong together like heaven and earth.
Grace evokes gratitude like the voice an echo.
Gratitude follows grace like thunder lightning.”
~ Karl Barth

PRELUDE *Voluntary* - L. Boellmann Deborah Page
GREETING & OPENING PRAYER Pastor Margaret Keyser
CALL TO WORSHIP Kevin Fogarty

Leader: We are gathered in the presence of the Almighty, Who shows us mercy and grace from morning to night.

People: We are gathered in the presence of Jesus the Christ, Who was sent into this world, to bring us light, and to drive out the darkness.

Leader: We are gathered in the presence of the Spirit, Who sustains and strengthens us, Who gives us hope and faith.

**People: May we live our lives in the light of the Son who came to bring us salvation.
Let us worship God!**

GATHERING HYMN (brown #66) *To God Be the Glory*

*To God be the glory great things He hath done!
So, loved he the world that He gave us His Son,
Who yielded the life and atonement of sin and opened the Life-gate that all may in.*

Refrain:

*Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord Let the earth hear His voice!
Praise the Lord, Praise the Lord, Let the People rejoice!
O Come to the Father thru Jesus the Son, and give Him the glory, great things He hath done!*

O perfect redemption, the purchase of blood!

To every believer the promise of God:

The vilest offender who truly believes that moment from Jesus a pardon receives.

Refrain:

UNISON PRAYER OF CONFESSION Kevin Fogarty

We confess, gracious God, that we are not worthy of Your love for us.

You speak to us through your word, telling us to love You and our neighbor as we love ourselves. To You we call for mercy, for we have failed You, and hardened our hearts.

Forgive us now and give us renewed hearts and minds, through the grace of Jesus Christ.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON Pastor Margaret Keyser

The Lord our God is merciful and full of compassion.

The Lord sees our hearts and hears our remorse.

I say to you, in the Name of Jesus Christ:

Your sins are forgiven.

Your faith has made you free.

Anyone who is in Christ Jesus is a new creation; the old has passed away.

All: Thanks be to God!

ANTHEM	<i>All We Like Sheep – Don Moen</i>	Barre Congregational Church Virtual Choir
TIME WITH OUR CHILDREN		Pastor Margaret Keyser
SONG WITH OUR CHILDREN	<i>Jesus Loves the Little Children</i>	Brown # 580
	<i>Jesus loves the little children, All the children of the world, Red and yellow, black, and white, they are precious in His sight- Jesus loves the little children of the world.</i>	
SCRIPTURE READING	John 3:14-21	Kevin Fogarty
MUSICAL SELECTION	<i>Forty Day and Forty Nights</i> (verses 1& 2)	Toni Brown
	<i>Forty days and forty nights Thou wast fasting in the wild; Forty days and forty nights tempted, and yet undefiled. Shall not we thy sorrow share, and from earthly joys abstain, Fasting with unceasing prayer, glad with thee to suffer pain?</i>	
SERMON	<i>“Light has Come into This World”</i>	Pastor Margaret Keyser
HYMN (brown) #447		<i>Freely, Freely</i>
	<i>God forgave my sin in Jesus’ name, I’ve been born again in Jesus’ name; And in Jesus’s; name I come to you to share his love as He told me to: Refrain: He said, “Freely, freely you have received-Freely, freely give; Go in My name and, because you believe, others will know that I live.” All pow’r giv’n in Jesus’ name, in earth and heav’n in Jesus’ name; And in Jesus’ Name I come to you to share His pow’r as he told me to; Refrain:</i>	
PRAYER AND LORD’S PRAYER		Pastor Margaret Keyser
MUSICAL SELECTION	<i>Forty Day and Forty Nights</i> (verses 3& 4)	Toni Brown
	<i>And if Satan, vexing sore, flesh or spirit should assail, Thou, h is vanquisher before, grant we may not fain nor fail. Keep, O keep us, Savior dear, ever constant by thy side; That with thee we may appear at the eternal Easter tide. Amen.</i>	
BENEDICTION		Pastor Margaret Keyser
CLOSING HYMN (brown #204)		<i>Rock of Ages</i>
	<i>Rock of Ages, cleft for me, let me hide myself in Thee; Let the water and the blood, from Thy riven side which flowed, Be of sin the double cure, cleanse me from its guilt and pow’r. Nothing in my hand I bring, simply to Thy cross I cling; Naked, come to Thee for dress, helpless, look to Thee for grace; Foul, I to the fountain fly, wash me Savior, or I die!</i>	
POSTLUDE	<i>Postlude – E.L. Ashford</i>	Deborah Page
CELEBRATIONS, CONCERNS & ANNOUNCEMENTS		Kevin Fogarty

OFFERTORY INVITATION

*May we give of ourselves as a symbol of our appreciation
for receiving the mark of God’s love in such
beautiful and meaningful ways.
As you have been given the mark of God’s love,
may you give in return.*

You may donate or pay your pledge by visiting www.barrechurch.com or mail to:
Margaret Marshall, 169 Sunrise Ave, Barre, MA 01005



Please remember in your prayers the following members and friends, Carol Brandl, Marsha Bray, Neil Churchill, Lois Cooley, Bess Difley, Shirley Lewis, Abby Hale, Eunice Morrison, Wilhelmina Piper, Debbie Robichaud, Max Snyder, those affected by Covid 19, and those who work for our community.

Please let us know if you have any prayer concerns or celebrations you would like to share with the congregation. Call the church, 978-355-4041 and leave a message or call Wendy, 978-928-5180.