

Hadwen Park Congregational Church, United Church of Christ

www.hadwenparkchurch.org

November 15, 2020



***God bless America and the entire planet!
Bring healing and hope to all of our human family.***

Please feel free to contact any participants in this service. Their emails are listed for that reason.

PRELUDE

“Fanfare” by Mark Thallander

Mark Thallander, Pastor Judy and Rev. John F. Hanlon went to the same school, Central Bible College. Dad loved “Revivaltime” which was aired live on Sunday nights. Mark was their pianist while at school.

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Pastor Judy Hanlon, gracelift@aol.com

WELCOMING STATEMENT

Khalil Powers

*OPENING HYMN

“What A Friend We Have In Jesus”

Brett Maguire, brettwmaguire@gmail.com

- 1 What a Friend we have in Jesus, All our sins and griefs to bear!
What a privilege to carry, Everything to God in prayer!
O what peace we often forfeit, O what needless pain we bear,
All because we do not carry Everything to God in prayer!
- 2 Have we trials and temptations? Is there trouble anywhere?
We should never be discouraged, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
Can we find a friend so faithful Who will all our sorrows share?
Jesus knows our every weakness, Take it to the Lord in prayer.
- 3 Are we weak and heavy-laden, Cumbered with a load of care?
Precious Savior, still our refuge— Take it to the Lord in prayer;
Do thy friends despise, forsake thee? Take it to the Lord in prayer;
In His arms He'll take and shield thee, Thou wilt find a solace there.

STEWARDSHIP CAMEO

Rev. John F. Hanlon's recipe for stewardship, Pastor Judy

GOSPEL LESSON

Matthew 11: 2-11, Rev. Paul Ricard, revpaulict@gmail.com

When John heard in prison what the Messiah^[a] was doing, he sent word by his disciples and said to him, “Are you the one who is to come, or are we to wait for another?” Jesus answered them, “Go and tell John what you hear and see: the blind receive their sight, the lame walk, the lepers^l are cleansed, the deaf hear,

the dead are raised, and the poor have good news brought to them. And blessed is anyone who takes no offense at me.”

As they went away, Jesus began to speak to the crowds about John the Baptist: “What did you go out into the wilderness to look at? A reed shaken by the wind? What then did you go out to see? Someone dressed in soft robes? Look, those who wear soft robes are in royal palaces. What then did you go out to see? A prophet? Yes, I tell you, and more than a prophet. This is the one about whom it is written, ‘See, I am sending my messenger ahead of you, who will prepare your way before you.’ Truly I tell you, among those born of women no one has arisen greater than John the Baptist; yet the least in the kingdom of heaven is greater than he.
The gospel of Christ for the people of Christ. AMEN

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

“Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me. Cast me not away from thy presence; and take not thy holy spirit from me. Restore unto me the joy of thy salvation; and uphold me with thy free spirit. (Silence)

CHORAL RESPONSE

“Glory, Glory, Hallelujah”

Mark Thallander and Pastor Judy

- 1) **Glory, glory, hallelujah, I have laid my burdens down,
Glory, Glory, hallelujah, I have laid my burdens down**
- 2) **I am shouting**
- 3) **I am dancing**
- 4) **Glory, glory, hallelujah**

HEBREW READING

Psalms 146: 5-10, Deb Kozik, itselementary4@gmail.com

Happy are those whose help is the God of Jacob,
whose hope is in the LORD their God,
who made heaven and earth,
the sea, and all that is in them;
who keeps faith forever;
who executes justice for the oppressed;
who gives food to the hungry.
The LORD sets the prisoners free;
the LORD opens the eyes of the blind.
The LORD lifts up those who are bowed down;
the LORD loves the righteous.
The LORD watches over the strangers;
and upholds the orphan and the widow,
but the way of the wicked God brings to ruin.
The LORD will reign forever,
your God, O Zion, for all generations.
Praise the LORD!

CHORAL RESPONSE

Seek Ye First

Jack Devlin, jackdevlin2424@gmail.com

John F. Hanlon's great grand-son

SERMON

“Meet Me In Ashtabula”

Written in 2001 as a tribute to the love of a father for their child.

This sermon was published with Textweek. This is the preamble printed in their publication.

It was Advent. The text wasn't particularly Christmasy. But, the church smelled like a Christmas tree and the children who lit the advent candle during worship reminded me of Christmases past and my beautiful little girls in their velvet holiday dresses parading to church. Nostalgia and theology converged. Though the text wasn't the manger story or the angels on high, it was a

text of CONNECTION, visceral, touching and healing. It was Christmas in its praxis. God touching the hurting and lame and deaf and poor, through Jesus, the Christ. I remembered. Dad, my preacher father who lived far away. My girls, who no longer giggled in their red flannel on Christmas morning. My singleness, and its commensurate loneliness during the very CONNECTED, romantic cultural holiday of Christmas. I longed for heaven's touch. I identified with the LEAST in the kingdom. Then, I felt the touch of heaven so acutely and profoundly that Christmas smack dab IN the melancholy, when I remembered this story of God's love to me through my dad. How could I tell that story to the wonderful sojourners in my congregation as we "adverted" toward Christmas? This is how.

PASTORAL PRAYER and LORD's PRAYER

Roxy Devlin, amydevlin@charter.net
John F. Hanlon's great granddaughter

OFFERING

Pastor Judy

OFFERTORY

"Great is Thy Faithfulness" Steve Hendrickson, stephen7773@gmail.com

Steve Hendrickson attended Central Bible College as did Pastor Judy, Mark Thallander and John Hanlon

ASCRPTION of PRAISE

**Give Thanks with a grateful Heart, give thanks to the holy One
Give thanks because God's given, Jesus Christ the son
And, now, let the weak say I am strong, Let the poor say I am rich
Because of what the Lord has done for us, Give thanks**

Date	Offering	Weekly Need	Offering vs. Weekly Need	YTD Offering vs. YTD Need
10/11/20	\$4,480	\$3,996	\$484	\$721
10/18/20	\$3,020	\$3,996	(\$976)	(\$255)
10/25/20	\$3,000	\$3,996	(\$996)	(\$1,251)
11/1/20	\$3,560	\$3,996	(\$436)	(\$1,687)
11/8/20	\$2,820	\$3,996	(\$1,176)	(\$2,863)
Where we are vs. our 2020 Full-Year Pledge Commitment --->				(\$2,863)

**Make payable and mail checks to Hadwen Park Church,
6 Clover Street., Worcester, Mass 01603
Or, donate online by PayPal or with credit cards.
Hadwenparkchurch.org .. top right DONATE button.**

CLOSING HYMN

"In My Heart There Rings a Melody" Mark Thallander and Pastor Judy
(please follow the words on the video)

CHORAL BENEDICTION

**One in love, one in friendship true, one in hope,
one in spirit, too, one in faith that God will care for you,
till we meet together again.**

BLESSING

**Now, may the Lord bless you and keep you.
May heaven's face shine upon you and give you peace,
NOW and FOREVERMORE! AMEN**

POSTLUDE

"This Little Light of Mine" HPC church family
If you have some pictures of the Light shining at HPC over the years, please send them to Ed O'Donnell or Cindy Young. Watch each week for images of faithfulness at the corner of Clover and Knox.

Please join in our virtual coffee hour at 11am. We will be able to see each other's beautiful faces! See instructions on original email or contact pastorsarahhpc@gmail.com, or website--hadwenparkchurch.org.

SCHEDULE for the week, "in process" see website, main page on the right

Sunday: 9:30am, Sunday School, K thru 5, sfcrimer@gmail.com

Sunday 10am, Morning Worship, _You Tube, find on website each Saturday

Sunday 10:45, Sunday School, ages 2,3,4, Sfcrimer@gmail.com

Sunday 11am, Virtual Coffee Hour, pastorsarahhpc@gmail.com

Tuesday: 10am, Bible Study Care Group, gracelift@aol.com

Saturday: noon, Devotional on the Psalms, pastorsarahhpc@gmail.com

Email Pastor Sarah for zoom link