Hymn #202

Amazing Grace

*Benediction

Postlude

Loure* sur Wesley —L. Mason/arr. Crane

“Loure is a dance form used by Bach in his Suites, it is in 3 much like the Minuet or the Waltz
WESLEY is the hymn tune written by Mason for a Thomas Hastings text, “Hail To The Brightness of
Zion's Glad Morning”

Following the Benediction Response, feel free to leave immediately or remain in the Sanctuary
to listen to the Postlude.

Pastor Miller is away on vacation and will return to the office on August 7 and worship on
August 12.

Our Preacher Today is The Reverend Kazimierz (Kaz) Bem, Pastor of the First Congregational
Church, UCC, in Marlboro. He is a native of Poland and after working as a lawyer in Amsterdam,
came to the U.S. to study at Yale, where he received his M. Div. He has been serving in Marlboro
since 2011.

Ministry of Fellowship

A special welcome to all who are visiting this morning. We’re glad to have you sharing in our
celebration of worship. Please join us for refreshments on the front lawn after worship (inside if
it’s raining).

Thank you for serving today: Tom Hanson and Holly Haase (Deacons); Janice and Steve Flynn
(Ushers); The Kubick Family/The Prestia Family (Fellowship Hour)

Our Ongoing Prayer List:
The Arini Family Jan Miller Edie Tompkins
Megan Bettison Bill Moeller Karen and Marc Vandenbulcke
Joel Eaton Myrtle Murphy Laurie Wade
Frank Kanour Debbie Sampson Connor Welles
Scott Joyce Sherry Sampas Liz Waggoner
Chris Laursen Rudi Schmid
Joe Marchesani

This list is refreshed twice a year (June 1 and January 1). If you wish to remove or add a
name, please let Gail Miller or Carol Zaiatz (978-448-2091 or unioncc@uccgroton.org) know.

Confidential Prayer Chain

Need prayer and need it now? Simply email prayer@uccgroton.org and your request will go to
the confidential pray-ers; or call Carol or Gail in the Church Office (978-448-2091) and they will
put your prayer request in motion for you. Prayer requests are held in confidence among those
who are praying for you, and you may request that your name be withheld.

Welcome Guests and Newer Folk

Please fill out the beige cards found in the pew racks before you. This is a good way
to let us know a little bit about you, and (if desired) to begin to receive information
from us (weekly email, monthly newsletter). You may place the card in the offering
plate or hand it to an usher or the Pastor, Gail Miller. We are glad you are here!

The Union Congregational Church
United Church of Christ
Groton, Massachusetts
The Reverend Gail L. Miller, Pastor
Bernard Crane, Music Director

August 5, 2018 10:00 a.m.
Eleventh Sunday after Pentecost

The altar flowers are given by Bonnie Martin and Mark Rzeznikiewicz
to the Glory of God and in celebration of their anniversary.
Welcome! We are glad you are worshipping with us today. Large print bulletins are available at the back of the Sanctuary or from an Usher. There is a comfortable rocker by the right-side exit door for those who need a more comfortable seat. If your baby or children become restless during worship, feel free to walk with them in the back of the Sanctuary or use the rocker. If you desire childcare, our nursery for infants and toddlers is in the fellowship hall downstairs. Children (preschool through 3rd grade) are usually released from worship after the Time with the Children for a short activity downstairs in the Fellowship Hall. Feel free to approach an usher or the pastor with any questions.

Holy Communion will be celebrated today. The table is open to all who believe in Jesus Christ as their Lord and Savior, no matter what their church background or denominational affiliation. Children are welcome to partake at the discretion of their parents. We celebrate the Lord’s Supper with grape juice and gluten-free crackers. This morning we will invite you to come forward to receive Communion up front. When you approach the plate and the cup, please partake at that time. We will be receiving communion through intinction; take a piece of cracker, dip it into the cup, and then eat. After those who have come forward have received, we will take the elements to those who need to remain in their seats. Appropriate responses upon receiving the elements in this manner are, “Thanks be to God,” or “Amen.”

*The Passing of the Peace (As a sign of reconciliation with God and each other, you are invited to share the peace.)
  
  Leader: The Peace of Christ be with you.
  
  People: And also with you.

Announcements

Time with the Children (Children are dismissed to the Fellowship Hall for an activity.)

Ministry of the Word

Scripture Lesson

Exodus 16:2-15 (p. 55, pew Bible)

Sermon

Gospel According to John 6:24-35

The Reverend Kazimierz (Kaz) Bem

*The Apostles’ Creed (blue insert)

Ministry of Response

Offering of Gifts and Prayer Requests

Offertory Anthem Psalms, Hymns & Spiritual Songs —M. Hayes

(Holly Haase, soloist)

*The Doxology, #625 (A Christian song of praise from the 16th century.)

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

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

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, giver of life and all good and perfect gifts, accept the gifts we bring to You with grateful hearts. Show us, we pray, new ways to give ourselves to You, and to give of ourselves to others. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Pastoral Prayer, Lifting Names into God’s Light, Silent Prayer

Prelude

As The Deer Runs To The River —R. Rowland Raybold

*Call to Worship

Bob Hargraves

Leader: The grace of our Lord Jesus Christ, the love of God, and the fellowship of the Holy Spirit be with you all.

People: And also with you.

Leader: Let us worship God.

People: “He is our refuge and our fortress, our God, in whom we trust.”

Leader: Let us confess, “Jesus is Lord,” and believe in our hearts that God raised him from the dead.

People: “Everyone who calls on the name of the Lord will be saved.”

Leader: Let us call upon our true God, believing him in our hearts, confessing him with our voices, worshipping him in spirit and in truth.

*Hymn #527

Glory to His Name

*Hymn of Preparation

Freely, Freely

(sing twice)

*Unison Opening Prayer

In you, Almighty Father, and through your Son, Jesus Christ, we find the beginning and end of all things. In him we find hope, forgiveness, and courage for new beginnings. Let then, O God, the fresh winds of your Spirit sweep into our lives this day, so that this act of worship and the week to follow may become a time of renewal and rededication to your service. We pray this as one voice as we pray together the prayer Jesus taught us saying,

*Our 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.

*The Doxology, #625

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise Him, all creatures here below;

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

*Unison Prayer of Dedication

Almighty God, giver of life and all good and perfect gifts, accept the gifts we bring to You with grateful hearts. Show us, we pray, new ways to give ourselves to You, and to give of ourselves to others. We ask this in Jesus’ name. Amen.

Pastor: We shall not offer God…

All: …that which costs us nothing. Amen.

Offering of Prayers

Song of Preparation (inside Hymnal front cover) In The Stillness —E. Tompkins

Like a little child I come to Thee, and pray that in the stillness I may rest in Thee; and know that in the stillness You will speak to me.

Pastoral Prayer, Lifting Names into God’s Light, Silent Prayer

*Hymn of Preparation

Freely, Freely

(sing twice)

Prayer Response

Ministry of Holy Communion

Hymn of Preparation #447 Freely, Freely

Invitation

Words of Institution and Prayer of Consecration

Receiving the Bread and the Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

O Amazing God, you come into our ordinary lives and set a holy table among us, filling our plates with the bread of life and our cup with salvation. Send us out, O God, with tenderheartedness to touch an ordinary everyday world with the promise of your holiness. Amen.

*Please Rise