



The Congregational Church of Needham

An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

January 29, 2017

Congregational Meeting Sunday Fourth Sunday after the Epiphany

*Childcare for infants, toddlers, & preschoolers is available in the preschool room downstairs during the service.
After Children's Time, students are dismissed to their classrooms for Bible Village.*

PRELUDE

Geist der Liebe
Franz Schubert (1797 - 1828)

WELCOME AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

OPENING PRAYER

*OPENING HYMN

Here in This Place

1 Here in this place our new light is stream - ing,
 2 We are the young - our lives are a mys - tery,
 3 Here we will take the wine and the wa - ter,
 4 Not in the dark of build - ings con - fin - ing.

now is the dark - ness van - ished a - way.
 we are the old - who yearn for your face.
 here we will take the bread of new birth.
 not in some heav - en, light - years a - way,

See in this space our fears and our dream - ings,
 We have been sung through - out all of his - tory,
 Here you shall call your sons and your daugh - ters,
 here in this place the new light is shin - ing,

HOPE AND EXPECTATION

brought here to you in the light of this day.
 called to be light to the whole hu - man race.
 call us a - new - to - be salt for the earth.
 now is the king - dom, now is the day.

Gath - er us in - the lost and for - sak - en, gath - er us in - the
 Gath - er us in - the rich and the haugh - ty, gath - er us in - the
 Give us to drink the wine of com - pas - sion, give us to eat the
 Gath - er us in and hold us for - ev - er, gath - er us in and

blind and the lame; call to us now, and we shall a - wak - en,
 proud and the strong; give us a heart so meek and so low - ly,
 bread that is you; nour - ish us well, and teach us to fash - ion
 make us your own; gath - er us in, all peo - ples to - geth - er,

we shall a - rise at the sound of our name.
 give us the cour - age to en - ter the song.
 lives that are ho - ly and hearts that are true.
 fire of love in our flesh and our bone.

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children

CHILDREN'S HYMN #161 (Black, New Century Hymnal)

Amen, Amen
(Selected verses sung by choir)

ANTHEM

Dona Nobis Pacem
 Mary Lynn Lightfoot (b. 1952)
 Flute - Heike Werder

SELECTION OF READINGS

Gospel - Matthew 5:1-12

When Jesus saw the crowds, he went up the mountain; and after he sat down, his disciples came to him. Then Jesus began to speak, and taught them, saying:

‘Blessed are the poor in spirit, for theirs is the realm of heaven.

‘Blessed are those who mourn, for they will be comforted.

‘Blessed are the meek, for they will inherit the earth.

‘Blessed are those who hunger and thirst for righteousness, for they will be filled.

‘Blessed are the merciful, for they will receive mercy.

'Blessed are the pure in heart, for they will see God.

'Blessed are the peacemakers, for they will be called children of God.

'Blessed are those who are persecuted for righteousness' sake, for theirs is the reign of heaven.

'Blessed are you when people revile you and persecute you and utter all kinds of evil against you falsely on my account. Rejoice and be glad, for your reward is great in heaven, for in the same way they persecuted the prophets who were before you.

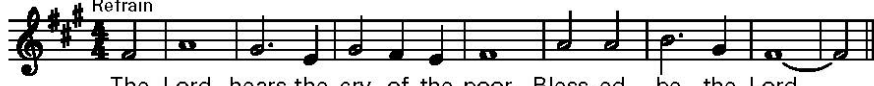
HYMN

The Cry Of The Poor

THE CRY OF THE POOR


John Foley, SJ

Refrain




The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Bless-ed be the Lord.

Verses: Slightly faster




1. I will bless the Lord at all times, with praise
2. Let the low - ly hear and be glad: the Lord
3. Ev - 'ry spir - it crushed, God will save; will be
4. We pro - claim your great - ness, O God, your praise



1. ev - er in my mouth. Let my soul glo - ry in the
2. lis - tens to their pleas; and to hearts bro - ken, God is
3. ran - som for their lives; will be safe shel - ter for their
4. ev - er in our mouth; ev - 'ry face bright - ened in your

to Refrain



1. Lord, who will hear the cry of the poor.
2. near, who will hear the cry of the poor.
3. fears, and will hear the cry of the poor.
4. light, for you hear the cry of the poor.

Text: Based on Psalm 34:1-2, 17-18, 19, 22. Text and music © 1978, 1991, John B. Foley, S.J.
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SERMON

"Jesus' Inaugural Address"
Jim Mitulski

Congregational Response

The Lord hears the cry of the poor. Bless-ed be the Lord.

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers for Our Friends and Families, Our Church, Our Community, and the World.

Lord's Prayer (please pray whatever form is familiar to you; many choose to pray Our Father, Our Mother, Our Father and Mother, Our Creator, or Our Maker, or Father/Mother God...debts/debtors or trespasses/those who trespass...)

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

In each of our pews today is a black friendship book which we encourage you to fill out and pass to the person next to you during the offering. If you have been with us before, just put down your name, but if you are new today, please let us know who you are. Thanks!

Offertory Anthem

The Glorious Music of Life

****Doxology for Epiphany Season***

**As they offered gifts most rare at that manger plain and bare,
So may we with holy joy, pure and free from sin's alloy.
All our costliest treasure's bring, Christ, to you, from whom they spring. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN # 423 (Black, New Century Hymnal)**

Great Is Your Faithfulness

BENEDICTION

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

Please remain in your seats as we transition to the Annual Meeting.

Thank you to Heike Werder for sharing her musical talent with us today.

****You are invited to stand***

Notes on the Liturgy for Epiphany

During January we are using a stanza from William Dix's hymn based on the Epiphany gospel at the presentation of the offering. The entire text may be found at Hymn 159 in the New Century Hymnal.

Worship Assistant: Kathie Carpenter

Deacons: Dibby Moder, Charles Baker

Altar Guild: Denice Koljonen

Ushers: Todd Barth, Dave Johnson, Jan Rubenstein

Flowers: Mary Lou Hughes

Flower Delivery: Caryl Johnson

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory
of Robert R. Andrews III by Jean Andrews and his loving family.*

Covenant

We strive to be a joyful, welcoming Christian Community.

We seek to be faithful in a world torn by suffering, injustice, oppression, and war.

We are inspired by God, Christ's Ministry, and the examples of other faithful people.

We join together in worship and song, fellowship, study, and mission to embrace the risks and challenges of continuing Christ's ministry.

We struggle to live out our faith in the world by furthering justice and peace, witnessing to the truth, and proclaiming God's love and mercy for all people.

ONA Statement

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God.

In affirmation of the inclusive love of Christ Jesus, we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and economic circumstance to full participation in our community life and ministry.

We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.

Blessed Be the Tie That Binds

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John Fawcett, 1782; alt.

Gal. 3:28; 6:2; Col. 3:13-15

1 Blessed be the tie that binds our hearts in Chris - tian love;
2 Be - fore our God we come and pour our ar - dent prayers;
3 We share each oth - er's woes, each oth - er's bur - dens bear,
4 When we are called to part it gives us in - ward pain,

The shar - ing of a com - mon life is like to that a - bove.
Our fears, our hopes, our aims are one, our com - forts and our cares.
And of - ten for each oth - er flows a sym - pa - thiz - ing tear.
But we shall still be joined in heart, and hope to meet a - gain.

An English Baptist minister, John Fawcett published a number of poetic works. His entire ministry was spent at a church near Hebden Bridge, Yorkshire, where he wrote most of his hymns to follow his sermons.

Tune: DENNIS S.M.
Melody by Johann G. Nägeli (c. 1768-1836)
Adapt. Lowell Mason, 1845

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time.
- Please silence your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please Check In on Facebook and let people know you are here.
- You can Tweet or Instagram during the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like or need a hearing device.

Attendance and Offerings

1/22/2017 Worship Attendance= 129 people *1/22/2017 Collection = \$4,088
Please contact the church office 781-444-2510
or office@needhamucc.org to find out how you can give electronically.

* *Collection & Pledge amount does not include additional pledges received electronically.*

Warrant for Annual Meeting Sunday, January 29, 2017

The Annual Meeting of The Congregational Church of Needham will be held in the Sanctuary immediately following the 10am worship service on Sunday, January 29, at 11:30am. Childcare will be provided while the meeting is held.

As is customary in preparation for the Annual Meeting, an informational hearing will be held following the worship service on Sunday, January 22, in Linden Hall. Please attend the hearing to learn more about the Annual Report and to ask questions about articles to be addressed at the Annual Meeting.

Copies of the Annual Report will be available in the Narthex on January 22 at the 10am worship service. Please help yourself to a copy of these documents in preparation for the meeting. The warrant of articles for the meeting is as follows:

Warrant

Article I - To receive and act on reports of the Standing Committees, Special Committees and Officers of the Church.

Article II - To elect Officers and Committees for the Church Year 2017.

Article III - To adopt a budget for Fiscal Year 2017.

The Board is responsible for the overall administrative life of the church including buildings, finances, personnel and the overall health of the church.

Moderator - Jackie Allen

Clerk - Keith McClelland

Term Ends 2017

Christine Weitzel

Ken Allen

Carl Madsen

Michael Normile

Howard Sesso

Term Ends 2018

Blair Wentworth

Sharmon Prialx

Term Ends 2019

Jim Conroy

Diane Rees

Kristin Mollerus

The Deacons are responsible for the spiritual life and well-being of the church.

Chair - Frank Luppino

Vice Chair - Susan Lively

Term Ends 2017

Stephanie Oddleifson

Sunu Yeh

Joanne Seiden

Lee McNally

Sally Fitzgerald

Term Ends 2018

Charlie Baker

Kirby Salerno

Claudia Darmofal

Term Ends 2019

Rick Devereux

Dibby Moder

Scott Stewart

Carol Miller

Jean Veigas

Rev. Jim Mitulski's Office Hours

Please contact the church office to schedule an appointment during his office hours of Tuesday & Wednesday 2-6pm; Thursday 2-5pm

*If these times do not work for you please contact the office for alternate availability.

Staff

Interim Senior Minister
The Rev. Jim Mitulski
RevJim@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 106

Associate Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder
RevHeike@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 105

Director of Children & Youth Ministries
Madelyn Downer
Youth@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 104

Music Director
Valerie Becker
musicdirector@needhamucc.org

Organist/Accompanist
Sangyoung Kim

Church Administrator
Danielle Jurdan
Office@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 101

Office Assistant
Cindy Sullivan
Office2@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 100

Bookkeeper
Suzanne Leslie
Finance@needhamucc.org
781-444-2510, ext. 113

Development Consultant
Irma Bauer-Levesque

Handyman
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper
Sanira Alchaar

The Congregational Church of Needham

1154 & 1180 Great Plain Avenue

Needham, Massachusetts 02492

www.needhamucc.org

Facebook: Congregational Church of Needham UCC

Twitter @needhamucc Instagram: needhamucc

781-444-2510 office@needhamucc.org

The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: Annual Meeting immediately following Worship service in the Sanctuary.

LAST CALL for Partner-Family Letters!

The February delegation to Guatemala leaves in 2 weeks, so please submit your letter ASAP to: davebjohnson77@gmail.com. Thank you.

Worship Design Meeting

Would you like to be part of a design team for lent worship services? **February 2 and 16 come meet with Rev. Jim at 6:30pm** in the Chapel to add input to these upcoming services.

Information Session - Guatemala Partnership Opportunities/Needs, Sunday, Feb. 12, 11:30 am, Linden Hall

Please join us to learn about opportunities for participating in the work of the partnership. Your engagement is needed, in ways large and small, to sustain this long-running outreach effort that has touched the lives of many of us and our children. Whether you'd like to go on a delegation, help with a fundraiser, or simply paste labels on our partner-family envelopes, we can accommodate your interest and your time. So please join us to learn more about the partnership.

On Sunday February 12, at 3 p.m., the powerful 90-minute climate change film, *Time to Choose*, will be shown at **First Parish in Needham, 23 Dedham Ave.** The film will be followed by a discussion of concrete steps to address climate change and a chance to browse informational tables from local groups. This free event is sponsored by First Parish in Needham and Green Needham Collaborative, as well as Metro West environmental groups, houses of worship and local League of Women Voters.

February Diversity Book Group with First Baptist Church and First Unitarian Universalists:

February 28 at First Baptist Church MARCH: Book 1 - a graphic novel by Congressman John Lewis (suggested by John Kirk.) MARCH Book 3 just won the National Book Award https://www.washingtonpost.com/lifestyle/kidspost/graphic-novel-march-book-3-wins-national-book-award/2016/11/17/eeb497aa-ac7b-11e6-8b45-f8e493f06fcd_story.html?utm_term=.cb8289d0f36c. You have plenty of time to read it even if you have never read a graphic novel. Be adventurous! Take a risk!

Deacons' Worship Sub-Committee is developing a 40-day devotional for all of us to use during Lent (March 1 - April 14). We are asking for volunteers to provide a devotional for one day during Lent. This devotional should include the following elements: a reading (scripture or other meaningful passage); a brief reflection on the reading; a brief prayer for the day. There will be a calendar in the Narthex on Sunday for you to sign up for a day in Lent. You could select any random day that is unclaimed, or a day that perhaps is meaningful to you based on a particular experience. Since Lent begins on March 1, we will need all materials no later than February 19. Lee McNally will be consolidating the devotions, so please send your material to her: leemcnally@verizon.net. Please also include the date your devotional is for.

The Community Dinner

The Community Dinner team thanks everyone for their contributions of re-usable containers. They have been much appreciated by our guests. Please continue to bring your surplus containers in- they can be left in a bag labelled "Community Dinner Take-Out" or something like that, and left in the kitchen. Please make sure they are SUPER CLEAN (like run through the dishwasher) and intact. If you have questions about anything to do with the Community Dinners, please don't hesitate to call or email Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) (conroyjd@rcn.com)

Chancel Choir Please come sing with us! Chancel choir rehearsals for the month of January and February will be at 8:30 on Sunday morning in the sanctuary. We would love to have you be part of our choir!

Stay Connected Follow @NeedhamUCC on Instagram for updates on church life, particularly from our family ministries including Christian Education and Youth Ministries!

Junior High Youth Group: Most Sundays from 5:00 - 6:30 PM. We meet for discussion, activities, and group games. Our regular meetings are on hiatus until after the pageant - join us at the all youth events and Christmas pageant!

Christian Education/Sunday School : Volunteer teachers needed. It takes a village! We need teachers for all of our classes! Sign up to teach at: <http://www.tinyurl.com/SignUp2Teach>

CALENDAR January 29—February 19

Sunday, January 29th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Choir Practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting, <i>Sanctuary</i> Annual Meeting Luncheon, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Monday, January 30th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Thursday, February 2nd	12:00 pm 6:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Worship Design Meeting, <i>Chapel</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, February 5th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Parent Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i> Super Bowl Subs Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Monday, February 6th	9:00 am 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Parent Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday, February 7th	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wednesday, February 8th	7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday, February 9th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Saturday, February 11th	8:30 am 9:00 am	Deacon's and Board Retreat, <i>1180 GPA</i> Senior High Snow Day
Sunday, February 12th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 11:45 am	Mentor Confirmation Meeting, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Information Meeting, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Parent Open House Youth Committee Meeting
Monday, February 13th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i>
Tuesday, February 14th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, February 16th	6:00 pm 6:30 pm	Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Worship Design Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>
Sunday, February 19th	8:15 am 8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Education—Selma, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>