



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

January 4, 2015

Theme: Justice



Our 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.

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.



Sunday, January 4, 2015

10:00am

Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians. Childcare is available in the crib/toddler room on the lower level for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers go directly to classes downstairs at 10 am. Grades 6-8 are in Stevenson Hall at 10 am. Grades K-5 will start in the Fellowship Hall at 10 am, then leave for Communion in the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE

In Dulci Jubilo
Dietrich Buxtehude (1637-1707)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: God is present in good times and in bad.

People: in warm days and in cold;

Leader: in laughter and in pain;

People: in work and play;

Leader: in joy and in despair;

People: in moments of pride and also in shame.

Leader: Let us gather to worship the one who knows us well, and loves us so.

***OPENING HYMN #126 (Red. Hymnal) Brightest and Best of the Sons
of the Morning**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**On the cusp of this New Year we bring our hopes
That adventure will find us
That friends will encourage us
That love will hold us
That guilt will be constructive;
That new horizons will chase away fears;
And new occasions will bring out our best
With New Year's resolve, we enter the silence of prayer to
wait for a word from You...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

ANTHEM

Onward, Ye Peoples!

Jean Sibelius (1865-1957)

from Masonic Ritual Music, Op. 113 No. 6 (1922)

*Onward ye peoples, strive for the Light!
The Light that the Lord hath given us for our guide;
Who through murk and darkness of night
Hath led us in safety unto our reward.
See how the fiery pillar is gleaming, lighting our steps when dark
is the way
And the Light of the World,
it cleaves the gloomy blackness of night that else would engulf us.
See the cloudy pillar to shield us safe when the sun would blister
us.*

*Then forward where faith reveals the way,
For God is our guide, and He will never fail.
Fires are gleaming, voices are singing
forth from Mount Neboh's heaven storming heights.
Then forward where faith reveals the way,
For God is our guide, and HE will never fail.
Fires are gleaming, voices are singing
forth from Mount Neboh's heaven storming heights.
Salem! Salem!
Still, they call us upward and on to our Father's home.
Salem! Salem! On the horizon, urging us on to God and our home;
And the heavenly choir doth ring from Mount Neboh,
Piercing the blue like a living light.
Onward, ye peoples.
Onward, Amen!
Onward, ye people. Onward, ye peoples.
Strive for the Light.
Salem!*

SCRIPTURE LESSON

SERMON

“The Many Faces of Hope”
Barbara Livingston

HYMN (seated) #145 (*Red Hymnal*)

O Morning Star

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

Ave Verum Corpus
Edward Elgar (1857-1934)

**Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow,
Praise God, all creatures here below,
Praise God above, ye heavenly host,
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

ORDER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

Invitation to the Table

Communion Prayer

Prayer Response

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart , my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you Lord!**

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Music for the Bread and Cup:

#154 (*Black Hymnal*)

Go Tell it on the Mountain

#143 (*Black Hymnal*)

On Christmas Night

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us
at your table by granting us the presence of Christ.
Strengthen our faith. Increase our love for one another. Send
us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the
power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

***CLOSING HYMN #160 (*Black Hymnal*) Hark! The Herald Angels Sing**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931)

POSTLUDE

In Dulci Jubilo
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**You are invited to stand.*

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time. Please fill out the blue “Welcome” card in the pews to receive weekly emails or newsletters.
- Please turn off your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like a copy of the sermon, or need a hearing device. Copies of the sermons are also available on the sermon link at www.needhamucc.org, our church website.

Deacons: Connie Kaufman, Craig Morrison

Communion Servers: Fred Moder, Tom Mollerus

Ushers: Jim Leighton, Phil Gotwals, Rich Weitzel, Robert Kennedy

Altar Guild: Jean Veigas, Lee McNally

Flowers: Mary Lou Hughes

Flower Delivery: Mary Lou Hughes

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Martin and Gladys Edman on their 85th wedding anniversary by Joseph and Mary Lou Edman Hughes.

Communion

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is served on the first Sunday of every month in our church. Along with Baptism, it is one of two sacraments in the United Church of Christ.

At Holy Communion we remember that Jesus ate with his disciples on the last night before he died. In that upper room he transformed the Passover meal something new. As he broke the bread that night he reminded them that it was a symbol for his own body which was broken for all of us. As he lifted the cup of wine he told them that it was a symbol of the covenant- which had come from Abraham and Moses - between us and God.

So when we eat the bread and dip it into the cup we remember that God loved us so much that God sent Jesus. Through Christ we came to know God even better. At this table, through faith, we believe Christ joins us and comes to be our host.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey you are welcome at this table. We offer children instruction in the sacrament of Holy Communion in the second grade. We leave it to families to decide if their children will take the communion, but everyone is welcome at any age. If your child will not be taking communion but would like a short blessing, please tell one of the ministers.

When you come forward the minister will give you the bread and say – "The Bread of Heaven for you". Many people respond saying, "Amen" or "Thanks be to God". Dip the bread into the cup of grape juice. As you do, the Deacon will say, "The cup of salvation for you." Again you may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." You are encouraged to eat the bread soaked in the juice right away, and then return to your seat down the side aisle.

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The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Jamie Klopotoski, Youth Minister

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

About today's anthem

Onward Ye Peoples! was composed by Finnish composer Jean Sibelius in 1927, as part of the Masonic Lodge's ritual music. With some minor word changes, Onward Ye Peoples! became quite popular as an anthem used in church services. Here in Needham, our own church purchased copies of the piece in the 1930s (which we are using today), and was sung quite often during the years of the Second World War with Mabel Friswell as organist and choir director.

Faith Circle Book Club: The Faith Circle Book Club meets **Thursdays at 10:30 am in the Reception Room.** Contact Christine Weitzel (cweitzel@verizon.net) or Reverend Susan Cartmell (revsusan@needhamucc.org) to join the group or for more information about the group.

Family Promise Metrowest Support Week Dec. 29-Jan.4: No doubt this is a very busy time of year, but the week after Christmas can be a wonderful time to volunteer with family and friends. There are still plenty of time slots and days available. Please contact Susan Kirk susankirk@comcast.net or Heidi Wiesel Heidi.weisel@gmail.com for more information or <http://mihn.pbworks.com/w/page/826398/Items%20Needed> to donate to the Family Promise WISH LIST.

Partner Family Letters Due January 4: As the February 2015 delegation to Guatemala plans for its Feb. 11-22 trip, it is once again time for partner families to write a letter to their family in the village. Please find a little quiet time during the holidays to write your partner-family letter and e-mail it to: DaveBJohnson@verizon.net. Letters are due by Sunday, January 4, to allow translation in time for the delegation's departure. If you want to learn more about becoming a partner family, stop by the Guatemala table during Coffee Hour.

Friendly Society January 8, 1:15p.m.: Join Friendly Society members for a book discussion on January 8th at 1:15p.m.. The book we are reading is The Light Between Oceans: A Novel by M.L. Stedman. The discussion will be led by Gail Browne. Questions can be directed to any of the steering committee members; Doris Cook, Margie Dagenhardt, Joan Dimond, Barbara Lovely, Joanne Seiden or Patty Stewart.

Youth Choir: Do you know a child that likes to sing? We would love to have more students join our youth choirs.

FACT: One of the only activities that activates, stimulates, and uses the entire brain is Music.

FACT: Research shows that music is to the brain as physical exercise is to the human body. Music tones the brain for auditory fitness and allows it to decipher between tone and pitch.

Please consider this opportunity for your children!

Rehearsals are on Sundays throughout the year.

Joyful Noise—9:15-9:45 am

Hallelujah Choir—11:30-12:00 pm

Shepherd's Staff—12:00-1:00pm

Each choir will sing for the congregation 4-5 times throughout the year, culminating with Youth Sunday on June 7.

CHIMING OPPORTUNITY :If you've ever wanted to play a musical instrument in a congenial small group, now is your chance to do so. The Friendly Chimers are looking for a few more women or men who'd like to chime. You need to be able to keep time, have patience and know how to have fun! If you can read music, that's great, but our director Bobby DeRegis and the rest of the chimers will help you learn the two notes you need to know. Our first rehearsal of the new year is on Jan. 11. Rehearsals are usually held after church from 11:30-12:45. For information, contact Joanne Seiden (jseiden@basiclink.com, 781-449-6535) or any other chimer.

Adult Bible Study: Sunday 11:30 Conference Room: Everyone is welcome to join the Bible Study group that meets after church. This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Last year, we read through Luke and Isaiah by discussing just a few chapters a week. Currently we are reading about the early church in the book of Acts. If you have been wondering what Bible Study is like, check us out! For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Superbowl Subs: During the month of January, the Senior High Youth Group will be taking orders for Superbowl Subs & Chili! All proceeds go to the Senior High Youth Group Summer Mission Trip. The youth will make your sub with fresh ingredients on Superbowl Sunday for you to enjoy during the Superbowl Game! Subs are \$8 each, Chili is \$8 for large, \$4 for small. Order ONLINE at: www.needhamucc.org/superbowl Or you can email or drop off your order form by Jan 31st to Rev. Jamie (revjamie@needhamucc.org). Pick up on Sunday, Feb. 1st after worship.

Valentine's Babysitting: NEED A BABYSITTER FOR A VALENTINE'S DATE? YOUTH GROUP FUNDRAISER OFFERS BABYSITTING ON VALENTINE'S DAY, FEBRUARY 14 4pm-10pm. Dinner and Snacks included \$20 for one child, \$10 for additional child The Senior High Youth Group at The Congregational Church of Needham is hosting a Babysitting Night on Saturday, February 14th. Potty-trained children ages 3 and older can be dropped off and picked up any time between 4pm-10pm at the church for just \$20 for the first child and \$10 for additional children. All proceeds will go to the Senior High Summer Mission Trip. Families must pre-register by February 13th. Dinner, snacks, a movie, and several fun activity stations will be offered. For more information or to register, visit www.needhamucc.org/babysitting or contact Rev. Jamie.



Connect

Worship on Wednesday's

at the Congregational Church of Needham

Join us for the opportunity to come together
to Connect mid-week. To Recharge,
Renew and Rediscover.

Every Wednesday from 6pm - 8pm

Who is this for?

You - if you travel, ski or sleep in on the weekend.
You if you like experiential Worship, or you want to
try something new. You if you seek more inspiration,
need some mid-week fun or are looking to recharge.

Visit the website at [http://needhamucc.org/
connect-worship-on-wednesdays/](http://needhamucc.org/connect-worship-on-wednesdays/)

CALENDAR January 4th — January 15th

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|---------------------|---|---|
| Sunday, Jan. 4th | 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 7:00 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i> |
| Monday, Jan. 5th | 9:00 am 7:15 pm | Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> |
| Tuesday, Jan. 6th | 10:00am 6:00 pm | Prayer Shawl Knitters Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> |
| Wed., Jan. 7th | 7:30 pm | Youth Committee Meeting |
| Thursday, Jan. 8th | 10:30am 12:00pm 1:15 pm 7:30 pm | Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Thursday Lunch, <i>Library</i> Friendly Society Meeting, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> |
| Sunday, Jan. 11th | 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm | Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Friendly Chimer Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Junior High Youth Group Silly Olympics Senior High Youth Group |
| Monday, Jan. 12th | 9:00 am 7:30 pm | Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Immigration Justice Task Force, <i>Library</i> |
| Wed., Jan. 14th | 7:00 pm | Board Meeting, <i>Library</i> |
| Thursday, Jan. 15th | 10:30am 7:30 pm | Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> |