



October 6, 2013

Theme: Faith



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, October 6, 2013

10:00am

Childcare is available downstairs in the NEW crib/toddler room for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers, Grades 7-8, and 9-12 go directly downstairs to classes at 10am. Grades K-6 meet in chapel at 10am, then dismissed for communion in sanctuary.

PRELUDE

Let Us Break Bread Together
Charles Callahan (b. 1950)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Martha Lamb

Leader: Come together in a spirit of love and truth

People: May God guide us as we sing and pray.

Leader: May God give us grace to listen with our hearts and minds.

People: Help us to mean the words we say.

Leader: May God hush our anxious souls.

People: Let us release our list of cares.

Leader: In this hour let us feel,

People: Your presence everywhere.

***OPENING HYMN # 277 (New Century)**

Holy, Holy, Holy

OPENING PRAYER

Martha Lamb

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.
People: **We lift them up to the Lord.**
Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Gracious God we enter this sanctuary seeking faith.
Grant us
Your wisdom to inspire us,
Your eyes to watch over us;
Your ears to hear us.
Your word to grant us speech,
Your hand to guard us,
Your path to give us direction,
And Your power to shield and protect us.**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

Hear My Prayer, O God
New Century Hymnal No. 769

ANTHEM

Jesus Christ, the Apple Tree
Elizabeth Poston, arr. Carl Schalk (b.1929)

SCRIPTURE READING

Exodus 4: 1-17

OT p. 50

SERMON

Faith in Yourself

Susan Cartmell

***Statement of Faith**

We believe in you, O God, Eternal Spirit,
God of our Savior Jesus Christ and our God,
and to your deeds we testify:

You call the worlds into being,
create persons in your own image,
and set before each one the ways of life and death.
You seek in holy love to save all people from aimlessness and sin.
You judge people and nations by your righteous will
declared through prophets and apostles.

In Jesus Christ, the man of Nazareth, our crucified and risen
Savior,
you have come to us
and shared our common lot,
conquering sin and death
and reconciling the world to yourself.

You bestow upon us your Holy Spirit,
creating and renewing the church of Jesus Christ,
binding in covenant faithful people of all ages, tongues, and
races.

You call us into your church
to accept the cost and joy of discipleship,
to be your servants in the service of others,
to proclaim the gospel to all the world
and resist the powers of evil,
to share in Christ's baptism and eat at his table,
to join him in his passion and victory.

You promise to all who trust you
forgiveness of sins and fullness of grace,
courage in the struggle for justice and peace,
your presence in trial and rejoicing,
and eternal life in your realm which has no end.

Blessing and honor, glory and power be unto you.

Amen

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

My Faith it is an Oaken Staff
New Century Hymnal No. 418

**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

Hymns for the Bread & Cup:

#497 Guide My Feet

#547 Amazing Grace verses 1-3

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.

***FINAL HYMN** #538 (New Century) “Standing at the Future’s
Threshold”

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Lead Us From Death to Life
New Century Hymnal No. 581 (refrain only)

POSTLUDE

Fugue in D Minor
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.

Worship Leader: Martha Lamb

Deacons: Tom Mollerus, Fred Moder

Communion: Frank Arren, Cici Hunt, Carol Oberle, Diana Conroy,
Tim Barber, Mary Lou Hughes

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

Altar Guild: Denice Koljonen and Lee McNally

Flowers: Fabienne Madsen

Flower Delivery: Joanne Seiden

*The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God and in
loving memory of Barbara Fay and Robin MacMillan by Ken,
Debbie (Fay), Erin, and Tom Bassett.*

*Worship Notes: The Unison Prayer was Adapted from a Celtic
Prayer by Bridgit of Gael 450 A.D.*

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.

The Congregational Church of Needham

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

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Jannatha Coffin-Malia, Dir of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Christianity in the 21st Century: Discerning the Future through the Past

Sunday October 6, 11:30am - Christopher Evans, professor at BU's School of Theology will lead this informative class. By providing a brief look into important themes in American religious history, the class will look at how recent shifts in American religious behavior might impact Christianity's development in the decades ahead. Chris has also just published a new book Histories of American Christianity: An Introduction.

UNDERSTANDING THE DEAD SEA SCROLLS

Join us on **Sunday, October 13th** for a field trip to the Boston Museum of Science to see some of the actual scrolls themselves! Please RSVP to revheike@needhamucc.org.

Bible Study this fall. Sunu Yeh and Christine Weitzel will lead discussions of the book Saving Jesus from the Church. Sunu's group meets on Sundays in the Conference Room today at 11:30 a.m. Christine leads a group on Thursdays. At 10:30 a.m. in the Reception Room. Bring your questions of faith and join us. Newcomers are always welcome.

Honky Tonk Piano Man

All members of the church are cordially invited to Friendly's October meeting on Wednesday, October 16, at 7:30 p.m. when Gary Landgren, "Honky Tonk Piano Man" will entertain us with music, including ragtime, swing, and early jazz. There will also be a sing-along to many memorable songs. So please save October 16 on your calendar and join us for an informal and lively presentation, followed by delicious refreshments.

GET YOUR TICKETS: Complete Works of William Shakespeare (Abridged)! Limited Engagement! Sunday, October 20th and Monday October 21st at 7 pm. See a light-hearted adaptation of all the bard's classics in a two-act tour-de-force (Farce?), starring our own Joshua Scharback. Tickets are available in Coffee Hour today (prices: \$40/person or \$25/student). A Silent Auction will offer Guatemalan handicrafts and donated items, including vacation homes. Sponsored by the Guatemala Partnership Committee.

The Senior High Youth Group Haunted House are in the midst of planning their annual **Haunted House**, which will be open to the public from **5pm-8pm on Saturday, October 26th** for kids of all ages. A game room and bouncy house will be available for fun without the scares. \$5 per person, all proceeds help youth attend the Summer Mission Trip.

We are in need of bags of individually wrapped candy (NO NUTS PLEASE) are needed! Please drop off donations in Rev. Jamie's office by Friday, October 25th.

DONATIONS NEEDED! The Village Fair will again include a silent auction, and your generous donation of crafts, services, gift cards and other items (new or gently used) will be much appreciated. If you are interested in donating, please contact Auction Co-Chairs Jane Brand (ajbrand@comcast.net) or Diana Conroy

(conroyjd@rcn.com). Also, if you are interested in helping out on the day of the auction, please let us know.

Last Call! February 2014 Delegation to Guatemala: Adults and Youth interested in joining the February 12-23, 2014 delegation should confirm immediately with trip leader Brenda Metzler: (781) 449-5696 or bmetzler7@verizon.net.

ALTAR FLOWERS! We have an opportunity to do altar flowers for October 20th. Please contact the office if you are interested in providing this focal point for our worship services at 781-444-2510 or office@needhamucc.org.

CALENDAR for October 6th – October 14th

Sunday October 6th	9am 10am 11:30am 5pm 7pm 7pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal , <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Religion in American, Chris Evans, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study with Sunu Yeh, <i>Conf. Room</i> Junior High Youth <i>Stevenson Hall</i> Groups, Senior High Youth Group, <i>Stevenson Hall</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday October 7th	7:30pm	EMT-Needham Interfaith Environmental Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Wednesday October 9th	7pm	Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday October 10th	10:30am 7:30pm	Bible Study with Christine Weitzel, <i>Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir rehearsal, <i>Choir room</i>
Sunday October 13th	9am 10am 11:30am 5pm 7pm 7pm	Chancel Choir rehearsal , <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Museum of Science Field Trip, <i>Lunch and then caravan to the museum.</i> Junior High Youth <i>Stevenson Hall</i> Groups, Senior High Youth Group, <i>Stevenson Hall</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday October 14th		<i>The Church Office is Closed</i>