



CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
OF NEEDHAM

November 17, 2013

Theme: Forgiveness

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, November 17, 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 starts in the sanctuary and leave after "Time for Children" to the chapel and then go to their workshops. K-1st in Science, 2nd-3rd in Cooking, and 4th-6th in Story. All workshops are downstairs in the main hallway.

PRELUDE

Thanks Be To Thee
G. F. Handel (1685-1759)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Recognition of New Members

CALL TO WORSHIP

Frank Arren

Leader: People of God, enter this hour of worship.

People: **May God be with us, in us, beside us and over us.**

Leader: May God's hand be upon us, to fashion us for shining

People: **May God be like warmth within us, and fire us for caring.**

Leader: May God be like strength beside us to help us live with faith

People: **May God inspire our music as we sing.**

***OPENING HYMN #12** (New Century)

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

OPENING PRAYER

Frank Arren

Call to Prayer

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

Unison Prayer

Almighty God,

Whose breath quickened us,

Whose tongue named us,

Whose language we are:

Grant us grace to be true to ourselves and to You –

Not so self-involved that we miss the needs of others,

Not so self-important that we forget to be humble,

Not so frightened that we miss the gift of freedom,

Not so worried about appearances that we fail to be honest.

Bring us to our senses. Call us home again, as we pray...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

TIME FOR CHILDREN (Children to Bible Village during song.)

CHILDREN'S HYMN (#526)

We Are Marching In
The Light of God

ANTHEM

The King of Love My Shepherd Is
Felix Mendelssohn (1809-1847)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 18: 21-22

NT. p. 19

SERMON

How Do We Forgive?

Susan Cartmell

**HYMN (seated) # 292 (New Century) Breathe on Me Breath
of God**

MORNING PRAYER

Concerns and Celebrations

Call to Prayer

Leader: The Lord be with you.

People: And with your spirit.

Leader: O Lord, show your mercy upon us.

People: And grant us your salvation.

Leader: O God, make clean our hearts within us.

**People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.
us.**

Leader: Let us pray.

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Response

Spirit of the Living God

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

Melt me, mold me, fill me, use me.

Spirit of the Living God, fall afresh on me.

OFFERTORY

Anthem

O For A Closer Walk With God
Charles Villiers Stanford (1852-1924)

**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

***CLOSING HYMN #35 (New Century)**

O Mighty God

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION *Sweet Savior, Bless Us Ere We Go*
Pilgrim Hymnal No. 542

POSTLUDE

Aria
G.F. Handel

**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: Frank Arren

Deacons: Fabienne Madsen, Craig Morrison

Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Stan Normile,
Bob Everts, Jim Conroy

Altar Guild: Carol Miller

Flowers: Janet Rubenstein

Flower Delivery: Chris Arren

The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert Treen by his daughter and son-in-law, Jane and Adam Brand.

**NEEDHAM
INTERFAITH
THANKSGIVING
SERVICE**

*Sunday
November 24
4:00pm*

The Congregational
Church of Needham
1154 Great Plain Ave

The Charitable Offering collected at the
service will benefit the Needham
Community Council
Sponsored by the Needham Clergy Assoc.



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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
Valerie Becker, Dir of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY! November 17- GOD IN AMERICA: "A New Eden" – Episode 3

explores how religion suffused the Civil War. As slavery split the nation in two, Northern abolitionists and Southern slaveholders turned to the Bible to support their cause. In the White House, Abraham Lincoln struggled to make sense of the war's carnage and the death of his young son and embarked on a spiritual journey that transformed his ideas about God and the ultimate meaning of the war.

December 15, 2013 - The Rev. Dr. Brita Gill-Austern presents: Giving the Gifts that Matter: Hope, Faith and Love

Christmas is a time where we turn to gift giving and forget that the most precious gifts we can give another are faith, hope and love. The Bible has long told us of the preciousness of these 3 gifts, come now and learn what scientific, medical and sociological research is now discovering about faith, hope and love and how you might give the most important gifts of all. Join Rev. Brita Gill-Austern as we discuss these gifts and the Christmas Season.

Bible Study - 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 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.

Interfaith Thanksgiving Service Sunday November 24th at the Congregational Church of Needham! All faith communities are invited to a Thanksgiving Service on Sunday, Nov. 24, 2013 at 4 p.m. This Interfaith Service will be held at our church this year with a reception to follow. Baked goods contributions are graciously accepted for the Reception and can be dropped off at the church by 2pm on Sunday the 24th. Various members of the Needham Clergy Association are participating in the service including both of your ministers.

NOMINATIONS -- If you are interested in serving on the church Board or one of its standing committees (Deacons, Outreach, Christian Education and Youth), please let us know! The ad hoc nominations committee is putting together a slate of nominees for January's annual meeting. If you would like to serve please get in touch with either Martha Lamb (Martha_lamb@aol.com) or Jane Brand (ajbrand@comcast.net), and let us know in what capacity you would like to serve!

CALENDAR for November
November 17th – November 26th

Sunday November 17th	9:00am 9:15am 10am 11:30am 12pm 4pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study <i>Reception Room</i> God in America, 3 rd Episode, <i>Library</i> Hallelujah Choir rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Christmas Concert Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Monday November 18th	9 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Tuesday November 19th	7pm	Christian Education Commttee Meeting
Wednesday November 20th	1pm 7pm	Friendly Christmas Stockings, <i>Library</i> Outreach Committee, <i>Library</i>
Thursday November 21st	10:30am 7:30pm	Bible Study, <i>Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Saturday November 23rd	10am 4pm	Baptism Workshop, <i>Chapel, Sanctuary</i> Junior High Lock-In, <i>Whole Church</i>
Sunday November 24th	9:00 am 9:15 am 10am 11:30am 12pm 2pm 4pm 5pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study <i>Reception Room</i> God in America, 4 th Episode, <i>Linden Hall</i> Hallelujah Choir rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Interfaith Choir Rehearsal for Thanksgiving Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Interfaith Thanksgiving Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Interfaith Service Recept, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Monday November 25th	9 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Thursday November 28th		Closed for Thanksgiving Holiday