



November 3, 2013
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.

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 fail to be honest.

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

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

For All the Saints

Pilgrim Hymnal No. 307, vs. 1

ANTHEM

Expectans Expectavi

Charles Wood (1866-1926)

text: This sanctuary of my soul, unwitting I keep white and whole, unlatched and lit, if Thou shouldst care to enter or to tarry there. With parted lips and outstretched hands and listening ears Thy servant stands. Call Thou early, call Thou late, to Thy great service dedicate. My soul, keep white, and whole.

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 15: 11-20

NT p. 74

SERMON

Coming to Your Senses: Forgiving Yourself

Susan Cartmell

HYMN (seated) #366 (New Century)

God of our Life

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

Pie Jesu from Requiem

Maurice Duruflé (1902-1986)

Beth Sterling, soprano; Eric Slosser, cello

tr: Blessed Lord Jesus, grant them eternal rest

**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

All Saints Remembrance

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

Hymn for the Bread & Cup:

#293 Sweet, Sweet Spirit

#319 Sing Them Over Again

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 384 (Black)**

For the Faithful Who Have Answered

BENEDICTION

May the Lord Watch Over You

Ruth Elaine Schram (b. 1956)

Eric Slosser, cello; Dave Darmofal, piano

POSTLUDE

Toccata from Suite Gothique

Léon Boëllmann (1862-1897)

**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: Michael Ellis

Deacons: Carol Oberle, Diana Conroy

Communion: Rich Weitzel, Craig Morrison, Cici Hunt, Lorri Lofvers

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

Altar Guild: Val Kistler, Sherrill Salisbury

Flowers: Janet Rubenstein

Flower Delivery: Amy Kennedy

*The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God and in
for our dear family and friends by the Darmofal family.*

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

1154 Great Plain Avenue
Needham, Massachusetts 02492
Telephone 781-444-2510; Fax 781-444-3580
E-mail: office@needhamucc.org
www.needhamucc.org

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, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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 Reception 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.

STARTING THIS WEEK: GOD IN AMERICA! 11:30am, Linden Hall. Join Rev. Heike on a journey into American Church History. Together we will explore 400 tumultuous years of history from the first European settlements to the 2008 presidential election by watching and discussing the highly acclaimed PBS series "**God in America**". We will start the series on November 3, 2013 with the first episode: "**A New Adam.**"

THE CHURCH FAIR – ATTIC TREASURES is looking for your donations! If you are cleaning out clutter and want to find a good home for your no longer needed items, please call Chris Arren at 781-449-4228. Leave me a message and I will arrange for pickup of your saleable, useful/giftable/collectable items. No clothing please.

USED BOOK SALE- Please donate gently used books, CDs and DVDs to the Village Fair Used Book Sale. Donations can be left in the conference room. Please contact Danielle Jurdan in the office to volunteer or with any questions at office@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510.

LAST CALL!! Any committee, ministry team or individual wishing to donate an item to the Village Fair auction, please get in touch with auction co-chairs Diana Conroy (conroyjd@rcn.com) or Jane Brand (ajbrand@comcast.net) by November 6. All proceeds benefit our church. All donations much appreciated!

TOUCH SOMEONE WITH FLOWERS The Christmas season is just around the corner, and the FLOWER TEAM has already made its plans. Its 12 members, coming in during quiet times, transforms the church inside and out, to delight and inspire adults and children alike as we celebrate this holy season. We are busy before Easter as well.

The **FLOWER TEAM** is also responsible for coordinating donations of altar flower arrangements for every month of the year. This is an especially important responsibility since the arrangements represent special times of remembrance and celebration of our church family. After each service, the arrangement flowers are divided into mini-arrangements for the donor and for delivery to those whose spirit we

want to lift up. If you are interested in providing an altar arrangement, please call the church office at 781-444-2510.

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 3rd- November 11th

Sunday November 3rd	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	9:15 am	Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
	10am	Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30am	God in Part 1, <i>Linden Hall</i>
		Bible Study with Sunu Yeh, <i>Recept. Room</i>
		Hallelujah Choir rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
		Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
	12pm	Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
5pm	Junior Youth Group, <i>Stevenson Hall</i>	
6:30pm	Senior High Youth Group, Laser Tag, <i>West Roxbury</i>	
7pm	Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>	
Monday November 4th	9am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
	11:30am	Friendly Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday November 5th	10am	Prayer Shawl Knitters, <i>Conference Room</i>
	6pm	Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i>
	7 pm	EMT Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>
	7pm	Deacons Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday November 7th	7:30am	The Center-Breakfast Club, <i>Fellowship</i>
	10:30am	Bible Study, <i>Reception Room</i>
	12pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>Library</i>
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Sunday November 10th	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	9:15 am	Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
	10am	Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30am	Bible Study <i>Reception.Room</i>
		God in America, 2 nd Episode, <i>Linden Hall</i>
		Hallelujah Choir rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
		Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
	12pm	Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
4pm	Junior High Youth Group-Bowling	
7pm	Senior High Youth Group, <i>Stevenson Hall</i>	