



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

November 8, 2015

Theme: Gifts of the Community



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 8, 2015

10:00am

Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians. Pre-K childcare begins in the nursery at 10 am. Grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents. Grades K-8 will be dismissed to the chapel and will go to their classrooms from there.

PRELUDE

The Angelus
Gordon Young

ANNOUNCEMENTS

STEWARDSHIP MOMENT

CALL TO WORSHIP

Janet Jankowiak

Leader: In all our weakness and strength,
with our youth-filled spirits and aging bodies,

People: We come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Strong in faith and eager with questions,
singing our praise and whispering our prayers,

People: We come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Filled with saintly determination
yet mindful of our human limitations,

People: We come to be your people, O God.

Leader: Made strong in your endless love for us,
we know ourselves to be yours and yours alone.

People: May we truly become your people today, O God.

***OPENING HYMN # 38** (*Black Hymnal*)

“Lift Up Your Hearts!”

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Holy One, we come from the busy-ness of our daily lives -
from the hubbub of our work and play
from the hue and cry of the world around us,
we come to worship you.**

**In this hour, we long to meet you,
to feel your presence surrounding us,
enveloping us, loving us.**

**We long to settle into silence,
laying aside our worries and our cares,
aware of your presence around us,
before us, behind us, within us.
Come, Lord Jesus, hear our prayers ...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer (debt, debtors)

Prayer Response

Hear our Prayer, O Lord
David H. Williams (b. 1919)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

**CHILDREN'S HYMN #526 (Black Hymnal) We Are Marching In
The Light Of God**

ANTHEM

The Prayer of St Francis
Rene Clausen (b.1953)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Jeremiah 31: 31-34

HS, p. 696

SERMON

“Gift of Covenant”
Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 110 (Black Hymnal) Now Bless the God of Israel

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.

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

I Need Thee Every

Hour

John Ness Beck (1930 - 1987)

**Doxology*

Praise God from whom all blessing flow,

Praise God, all creatures here below,

Praise God above, ye heavenly host,

Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.

Prayer of Dedication

***CLOSING HYMN # 471** (*Black Hymnal*)

What a Covenant

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go in Peace
David H. Williams (b.1919)

POSTLUDE

Festival Voluntary
Flor Peeters

****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: Janet Jankowiak

Deacons: Joanne Seiden, Sally Fitzgerald

Altar Guild: Anne Roman

Ushers: Alex Cullen, Frank Luppino, Nancy Lane, Eric Slosser

Flowers: Janet Rubenstein

Flower Delivery: Jean Veigas

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Richard E. Noble by his wife and children.



*The Congregational Church of Needham
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The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
Madelyn Downer, Director of Children &
Youth Ministries

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Stewardship Update: Thank you to everyone who has sent their pledges in. We currently have 182,281 pledged. Your pledges are the basis of our church budget. If you have not yet sent in your pledge please do so by November 8th either by filling out a form and mailing it, dropping it off in the Narthex, calling the office at 781-444-2510 or email to pledge@needhamucc.org. Thank you.

Reception of New Members: On **November 15, 2015** the membership team is planning to take in new members. A notice has gone out to all those who have indicated that they are ready to join our community. If for any reason you have not been contacted but feel ready, please contact Rev. Heike at revheike@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510 or contact Debbie Brennan at 781-444-1925 to let her know. The membership ceremony takes place before church in the chapel, new members will be introduced during the announcements.

Village Fair Sign-Ups in Coffee Hour Today!: To have a successful and enjoyable church fair next Saturday, November 14th, we still need volunteers in a number of areas. No special skills are required. By contributing a bit of your time and interest to this fun annual event, you'll lift your own spirits, enhance our congregational community, and reach out to the greater Needham community. See Brenda Metzler at the Sign-Up Table at Coffee Hour to pick a time and job that works for you.

Needham Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration: Sunday, November 22nd at 3:00pm, First Parish in Needham (23 Dedham Ave.).

Fair Donations Needed for Attic Treasures and the Elf Shoppe: Attic Treasures and the Elf Shoppe are still seeking donations for the Village Fair. Donations may be dropped off this Sunday (Nov. 8) on the Stage in Fellowship Hall, or during next week at 1180 Great Plain Ave. The Elf Shoppe will be delighted to receive items that children could buy for their family and friends.

Silent Auction: We are accepting donations for the Auction. This can be items of value, donations of services, donations of area restaurant or store Gift Certificates, or a donation of lessons in your area of expertise. (Voice and music lessons, tutoring, and cooked or baked goods on schedule are always popular!) Please contact Diana Conroy (781-449-3350 or conroyjd@rcn.com) to arrange for your donation.

A Winter Mosaic: Hear Ye! Hear Ye! Come join us for "A Winter Mosaic." We hope that you will put December 6th at 4pm down on your calendar. Our Chancel Choir along with The Friendly Ringers will perform selections appropriate to the season. A light reception will follow. Anyone who wishes to make a donation to help with this concert can contact

Danielle in the church office or send the donation to the church with “Winter Concert Donation” in the memo line. We hope to see many of you at our concert! Valerie J. Becker

Ornaments and old Christmas cards wanted for Village Fair! Garden Fence (Fall and Christmas decorations) and the Environmental Ministries Team are interested in receiving your no-longer-needed gently used silk flowers and greens (appropriate for fall & Christmas), holiday picks, and ornaments (especially sets) to repurpose into new holiday creations. We are also collecting old Christmas cards for the Elf Shop, so the kids can make gift tags out of them. Please leave your items during the week in the box in Danielle's office, and on Sundays in the box in the narthex. Questions? EMT@needhamucc.org or speak with a member of one of the groups. Thank you!

Used Book Sale- Please donate gently used books, CDs and DVDs to the Village Fair Used Book Sale. Donations can be left in the 1180 building during the week and in the church library on Sunday.

Advent Lunches Dec. 3, 10 & 17 at 1180 Great Plain Ave.: If you are available for a different kind of lunch break, why not have lunch at the church on the first Thursday of the month and weekly during the season of Advent and Lent? Rev. Heike will be offering a delicious, nutritious soup, good bread, and dessert. The cost for the lunch remain \$ 3.00 per person, and we have purchased take-out containers for take-away. Our first Thursday & Advent luncheons will take place in our new building at 1180 Great Plain Avenue.

Bible Village: The Sunday School program is looking for intergenerational volunteer teachers! Parents, high school and college students, sage church members, curious and fun people who can show our kids how much God loves them by leading a Bible Village workshop—all are invited to teach! We provide all of the materials and the lessons beforehand. Lessons are straightforward and easy to teach—and our kids are so much fun! Sign-up at: www.tinyurl.com/ChildrenYouthSignUp

Noah's Ark Preschool: Noah's Ark Preschool is in the process of enrolling children for the 2016-2017 school year! We offer priority enrollment to members of the Congregational Church of Needham, as availability exists, now through November 20th. We invite you to call us to receive information about our program and to schedule a time to come in for a tour!

Request for Altar Guild Volunteers: The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at millerc291@verizon.net for more information.

Friendly Chimers: WE NEED YOU! If you can read music, have time to spare after church some Sundays (11:40-12:30) but not on a regular basis, want to try

out a new instrument w/out any "strings" attached, the Friendly Chimers could use your help. We often have regular members who are away, so there are holes in our music making. Come join us whoever you're free. It can be a spontaneous and a fun-filled opportunity and a BIG HELP. This past Sunday Alan Clayton-Matthews filled in and had a great time. Just come to the sanctuary after church or contact Joanne Seiden for more information (781-449-6535, jseiden@basiclink.com).

Adult Bible Study, Sunday's @ 11:30 Conference Room: Small group discussion based on reading a few chapters of the Bible at a time. We meet immediately after church, from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. This fall we will continue our study of the minor prophets. Take a look at how God is still speaking to us, even in stories from thousands of years ago! This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Everyone is welcome to drop in and join us. For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

The Faith Circles Book Group! will meet Thursday mornings from October 1st from 10:30-12:00 until November 19th. We will be reading **Mere Christianity** by C.S. Lewis . Please contact Christine Weitzel for more information at cweitzel@verizon.net .

Thermostat Notice: We are currently testing the new heating system. Please do not touch any of the thermostats in the building especially in the Sanctuary.

Family Promise Metrowest: From Judy Mongiardo, Network Coordinator- Thank you, Needham Congregational Church! This summer you opened your hearts to the guests of Family Promise Metrowest while they were housed at Fisk United Methodist and First Congregational Churches in Natick., For all who prepared a meal, hosted a dinner, stayed overnight, read to a child, set up rooms, did laundry and more we are ever grateful. Our next support week is **Nov. 22-28 with First Congregational Church Natick.** Contact Heidi Wiesel heidi.wiesel@gmail.com or Susan Kirk susanckirk@comcast.net

The Furniture Team needs your help: The church has lots of wonderful new space to furnish and put to work for church programs. Monetary and in-kind donations are welcome: **MOST WANTED FURNITURE LIST:** Two large conference tables and chairs, Nichols & Stone college arm chairs, Pair of modern upholstered chairs, Pair of traditional upholstered chairs, Loveseat, FIVE 60" round folding tables. Items must be in condition. Upholstered pieces can be in need of slipcovers. Please contact Judi Stewart at jmgstewart@verizon.net with photos and dimensions or call 781-449-3999. The furniture team would like to look at all furniture prior to donation.

CALENDAR November 8th—November 22nd

Sunday, Nov. 8th	10:00 am 11:30 am 11:40 am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Pageant Meeting, <i>Library</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> JH Youth Group SH Youth Group
Monday, Nov. 9th	8:30 am 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Finance Team Meeting
Tuesday, Nov. 10th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wed., Nov. 11th Veteran's Day		Office Closed
Thurs., Nov. 12th	10:30 am 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Club, <i>1154 Reception</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, Nov. 14th	9:30 am	Village Fair
Sunday, Nov. 15th New Member Sunday	8:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 11:40 am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service—Guest Speaker, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Village Fair Church Tables & Cafe Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, Nov. 16th	8:30 am 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Outreach Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wed., Nov. 18th	7:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thurs., Nov. 19th	10:30 am 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, Nov. 21st	4:00 pm	Thanks4Giving Party, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Sunday, Nov. 22nd	10:00 am 11:30 am 11:40 am 3:00 pm 5:30 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Needham Interfaith Thanksgiving Celebration <i>First Parish in Needham</i> Junior & Senior Youth Group Thanksgiving Potluck Dinner