

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.



PALM SUNDAY

Sunday, March 20, 2016

10:00am

*Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians.
Pre-K children are invited to the nursery throughout the service.
Students in grades K-8 will be dismissed to their classrooms. Students in grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

PRELUDE
nia

"Galiardo" from *Parthenia*
by William Byrd (1543-1623)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Jane Clayton-Matthews

Leader: Let us worship God, who has done great things.

People: We rejoice in our God, who made a way through the desert of this world.

Leader: Let us worship God, who has caused streams of mercy to flow in the wasteland.

People: We are the people God has formed through Christ; we worship him, and we rejoice!

Leader: Let us worship God in spirit and in truth.

People: We praise God for the grace that has saved us.

All: Alleluia! Thanks be to God!

***OPENING HYMN #216 (NCH)**

All Glory, Laud and Honor

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 God, Creator of Life,

you call us out of our dark places,

offering us the grace of new life.

When we see nothing but hopelessness,

you surprise us with the breath of your spirit.

You call us out of our complacency and routines,

and set us free from our self-imposed bonds.

You fill us with your spirit of life, compassion, and peace.

Guide us through this season of Lent into your light.

Hear us as we pray...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

7 Fold Amen

Michael Norto

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

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

ANTHEM

Ride On! Ride On In Majesty!

T Frederick H Candlyn(1982 - 1964)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 19: 28-40

NT, p.79

SERMON

“Giving Up Being Popular”
Rev. Heike Werder

HYMN # 219 (NCH)

Journey to Gethsemane

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 with in us.

People: And take not your Holy Spirit from us.

Leader: Let us pray.

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Response **God**

Spirit of the Living

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

The Palms
J Faure(1839 - 1914)

**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 # 215 (NCH)**

Ride On! Ride On in Majesty

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

God Will Take Care of You
Kenneth Dake(b. 1961)

POSTLUDE

Cornet Solo by Anonymous
from a collection compiled by E. Kendall

****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.

NCH stands for New Century Hymnal (Black Hymnal) and PH stands for Pilgrim Hymnal (Red Hymnal)

Worship Assistant: Jane Clayton-Matthews

Deacons: Jean Veigas, Kirby Salerno

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

Altar Guild: Mary Barber

Flowers: Nancy Fischer

Flower Delivery: Amy Kennedy

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www.needhamucc.org*

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

Valerie Becker, Music Director
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus
Sangyoung Kim, Organist/ Accompanist

ANNOUNCEMENTS

"GARDEN OF NEEDHAM" BAKE SALE today after church!

The 2016 Confirmation Class is holding a Bake Sale after worship on March 20th to support their Confirmation Project: A vegetable garden at the Church. Fresh produce grown in the garden will be donated to the Needham Food Pantry this Summer. Look for a mouth-watering and healthy selection of home baked breads, muffins, scones, cupcakes, quiches and cookies and other gardening themed sweets. Bake sale proceeds will purchase seeds, seedlings and raised bed gardening supplies. Any surplus monies will be donated.

Today ONA Adult Education

Hadwen Park LGBT Asylum Support Task Force

The ONA Ministry Team invites you to meet Sean and other political asylum seekers who left their home countries to escape threats and physical violence. Because of discriminatory policies against lesbian, gay, bisexual and transgender people in such places as Uganda, Libya, Kenya, Jamaica, and Syria, they sought asylum in the US through Hadwen Park Congregational Church. Sean is one of the founders of the Task Force, which has helped more than 100 individuals. Hear the gift of their stories at 11:30 in Linden Hall and find out what we can do to support the program. Lunch provided.

Adult Bible Study, Sunday's @ 11:30 Conference Room

Are you interested in deepening your understanding of the Bible? Everyone is welcome to try out Adult Bible Study. We meet on Sundays immediately after church from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. This winter, we will be studying Paul's epistle to the Romans, for what should be a wonderful discussion about faith. Contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com for more information. Please drop by and try us out!

Faith Circle Book Club

The Faith Circle Book group will meet on Thursdays, for a total of 8 sessions from 10:30-12:00. We will meet on March 24th. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net

Calling all Soup Makers for Maundy Thursday Dinner, March 24, 2016!

We will be gathering for a simple soup dinner on the evening of Maundy Thursday, March 24th at 6 pm in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to contribute a home-made soup for our supper together, please e-mail Rev. Heike at revheike@needhamucc.org or call 781-444-2510.

The Second Annual Talent Concert supporting the Guatemala Partnership will be held Saturday, April 2, from 4 to 6 pm in the Sanctuary of the church, followed by a reception in Fellowship Hall

Last year we had a marvelous turnout of talent and audience. And this year is

developing into what will certainly be a fine display of wonderful music making and fellowship. There will also be a silent auction featuring Guatemalan and other crafts and items. Just a few of the folks participating this year include: Carolyn MacGregor, Jenny and Jake George, Heather and Kirby Salerno, and Lucie, Liam and Miles, Stephanie Oddleifson, Betty Blume, Soomi Lee Lowry and myself. More are signing up and their names will be included in the coming weeks. If you have an interest in performing (OR displaying your art work) please contact me at cicihunt@gmail.com, or call, 781-540-9113. I am happy to accompany you, and help you find the best key for your success. Looking forward to some wonderful music making. Blessings and thanks, Cici Hunt

Guatemala 'Servathon' Coming Up -- Sponsors/Workers Needed

The Guatemala Partnership is seeking sponsors and volunteer workers for our day of community-service work at the church and at the Needham Community Farm (April 9th). Please consider sponsoring a volunteer who may ask for your pledge. And if you can work at this fundraiser, please contact Nancy Lane at: nrlane6@hotmail.com.

Guatemala Yard Sale Save the Date and Donations

If your thoughts are turning to spring cleaning, please save your household 'treasures' for the Guatemala Yard Sale (Sat. May 14, 9am - 2 pm, at Caryl and Dave Johnson's). More details in the April FOCUS. For questions, contact Brenda Metzler: bmetzler7@verizon.net.

Interested In A Bike Ride This Summer?

Anyone interested in biking the Erie Canal bike path, from Buffalo to Albany around the end of June, beginning July? This 400 mile ride is an adventure for all levels of bikers. Talk to Rev. Heike if you are interested.

Friendly Chimers

If you've ever wanted to make music but have no real music-making experience, consider joining FRIENDLY CHIMERS! Prerequisites include being able to 1) keep time 2) learn two notes (one for each hand) 3) regularly attend rehearsals (11:40-12:30 after church every Sunday) 4) enjoy playing with others 5) be patient with yourself and fellow Chimers. If you're interested, contact Joanne Seiden (781-449-6635, jseiden@basiclink.com). WE NEED YOU!

Request for Altar Guild Volunteers The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at milerc291@verizon.net for more information.

Family Promise Metrowest 7th Annual Walkathon on April 9, 2016

Beginning at 7:45-10:30am on Natick Common. Be part of this exciting day as volunteers and supporters gather to raise funds and awareness for Family Promise Metrowest, a comprehensive program making a difference in the lives of

families who are homeless. Walk with our church team on the 5K route from the Natick Common to Natick High School and back or sponsor one of our church team walkers. Please go to www.familypromisemetrowest.org/ or stop by our coffee hour table to learn more. Thank you, Susan Kirk

Circle of Hope's Renewal 2016, co-presented by Dedham Savings and Needham Bank, will take place April 9 and 10 at the Needham Sheraton. All proceeds benefit Circle of Hope and its mission to provide homeless children, women and men in and around Boston with clothing and necessities to preserve and enhance overall health and personal dignity.

Saturday, April 9, 2016 Renewal Preview Cocktail Party and Exclusive Sale of Vignette Items 6:30 pm-10:00 pm, \$75 per person. Visit circleofhopeonline.org to reserve your spot!

Sunday, April 10, 2016 Sale of vignette items continues Noon to 3:00 p.m. No admission fee.

The Deacons would like to invite all members of the congregation to "An Evening of Fellowship and Feedback" on Wed. March 30th in Fellowship Hall from 6:30 to 8 pm. We particularly urge all leaders - committee chairs and their committee members to attend.

The goal of the evening is to begin a process to share and collect ideas for the future direction of our Church. We would like your feed back on the following three questions:

What practices should we continue and expand upon?

What practices should we start doing that would make our church even more vibrant?

What practices should we stop to ensure that we don't repeat the mistakes of the past?

The ideas collected will help provide direction and a strong foundation that we can use together, and with our interim minister, to start shaping and building the future of our congregation. A light dinner will be served and childcare can be arranged upon request!

Please join us in this next exciting step in our journey together!

Blessings!

The Board of Deacons

CALENDAR March 20th– April 3rd

Sunday, March 20th Palm Sunday	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 11:40am 12:00pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Ed– LGBT Asylum, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Easter Egg Hunt Prep
Monday, March 21st	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, March 22nd	7:00 pm	Outreach Meeting
Thursday, March 24th Maundy Thursday	10:30am 6:00 pm 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Maundy Thursday Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, March 27th Easter Sunday	9:00 am 10:00am 11:15am	Easter Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Easter Egg Hunt Easter Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, March 28th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, March 29th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting
Wed., March 30th	6:30 pm	Evening Fellowship and Feedback, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Thursday, March 31st	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, April 2nd	4:00 pm	Guatemala Talent Concert, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Sunday, April 3rd	10:00am 11:30am 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Church Meeting RE: Village Fair, <i>Library</i> Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i>



Holy Week

**MAUNDY THURSDAY
MARCH 24 AT 6:00PM**

**EASTER SUNDAY
MARCH 27
9:00AM
11:15AM**

**EASTER EGG HUNT
MARCH 27
AT 10:00AM**

Easter Flower Dona- tions



Offering envelopes are available in the pews and in the main office for a donation this Easter season to the Flower Fund in honor of loved ones. We are grateful for the flowers/plants that decorate our church and will acknowledge your generous offering in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Flowers/plants that are used will be

offered to our chancel choir to take home after service as a symbol of appreciation for their gift of music.

Please return the Flower Offering envelope from the pews or the office to the office or contact us at