



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

March 22, 2015

Theme: Prayer



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, March 22, 2015

10:00am

Children are always welcome in Worship with their parents/guardians. Childcare is available in the crib/toddler room on the lower level for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers go directly to classes downstairs at 10 am. Grades 6-8 are in Stevenson Hall at 10 am. Grades K-5 will start in the Sanctuary at 10 am, then leave for Bible Village.

PRELUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus
arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)
based on hymn 190, New Century Hymnal

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Frank Arren

L: Let us come into God's house

P: **Let us listen for God's voice.**

L: Like the Hebrews, let us listen in the wilderness.

P: **Like the disciples let us listen by the sea.**

L: Like Mary, let us listen at the manger and the cross.

P: **Like Jesus let us listen to the voice of Abba, our Father in Heaven.**

***OPENING HYMN #199** (*Red Hymnal*)

**Crown Him With
Many Crowns**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

Loving God, you come to us and urge us to lay our burdens down.

Let us kneel before you now, knowing you can hear what is real for each of us.

No wish too small,

No concern too insignificant,

No sadness too profound,

No fear too deep for you to hear.

Amidst a cosmos beyond our imagining, remind us that all that is, has been and will be

You hold in your loving arms.

You are our God. We are your people.

In the silence teach us to pray.

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

Choral Response

With Prayer and Supplication

Amy Beach (1867-1944)

Philippians 4:6

TIME FOR CHILDREN

(Children dismissed to Bible Village during hymn)

CHILDREN'S HYMN #526 *(Black Hymnal)*

**We Are Marching in
the Light of God**

ANTHEM

Devotion

John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

based on hymns 454 and 455, New Century Hymnal

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Acts 10

NT.p.122

SERMON

“The Mechanics of Prayer”

Susan Cartmell

HYMN #521 (*Black Hymnal*)

In Solitude

MORNING PRAYER

Heike Werder

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

Agnus Dei from Service in A

Amy Beach

Beth Sterling, soprano

Maggie Furtak, alto

***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 #43** (*Black Hymnal*)

**Love Divine, All Loves
Excelling**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Peace I Leave With You
Amy Beach
John 14:27

POSTLUDE

Herzlich tut mich verlangen
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
based on hymn 226, New Century Hymnal

**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: Claudia Darmofal

Altar Guild: Val Kistler

Ushers: Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison, Chris Nyland, Kevin Ward

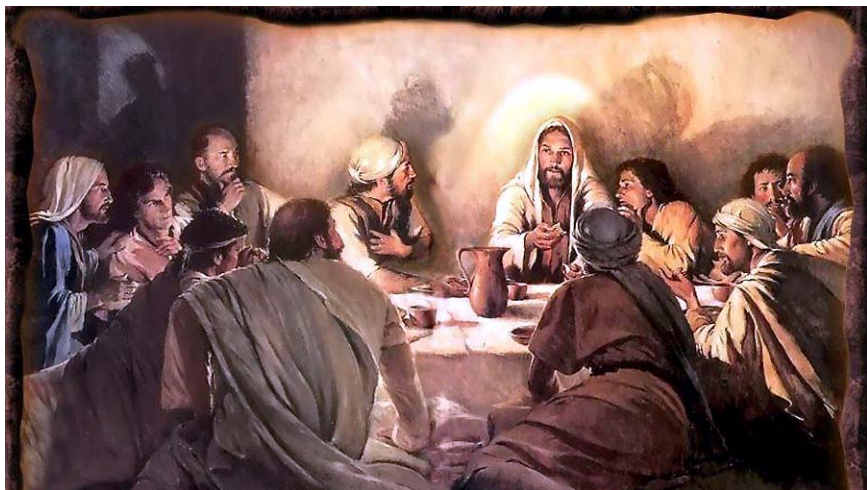
Flowers: Stacy Caswell

Flower Delivery: Mary Lou Hughes

The flowers on the altar are given today to the glory of God and in loving memory of Ester Ohrn by her daughter, Sandra O. Moose.

MAUNDY THURSDAY

Thursday, April 2 at 6 p.m.



Join us as we gather to remember the Last Supper of Jesus with his disciples. We begin the evening at 6pm with a simple soup supper followed by a 7pm candlelight communion service featuring a dramatic reading of the story of Holy Week.

*People who have come to this service once never miss it again.
It is one of the most meaningful services all year.*

A simple soup dinner will be served in Linden Hall at 6 p.m. All are welcome. You can reserve for dinner by calling 781-444-2510.

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www.needhamucc.org*

The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

TODAY: FED UP movie and discussion, March 22 and 29, 2015: “FED UP”

is the film the food industry doesn't want you to see and it will change the way you eat forever. The film focuses on the real causes of obesity in the US, presenting evidence showing that large quantities of sugar in processed foods are an overlooked root cause of the problem. **On March 22nd at 11:30am** we will watch the movie “**FED UP**” part one. **On March 29th at 11:30am** we will watch part two of the movie “**FED UP**” with discussion to follow. We have invited members of the Needham Community Farm and the Farmer's Market to join us in our discussion. All are welcome!

Wednesday Connect Announcement: We will have a labyrinth in Fellowship Hall for the week Monday March 23-Thursday March 26. On Sunday March 22 in Coffee Hour we will have a table to explain the labyrinth and introduce you to walking meditation. We have a project started to make a labyrinth and we hope you will stop at the table to learn more about it and how you can be involved. For more information talk to Carol Miller and Barbara Livingston.

30 Day Prayer Challenge: Starting in March I invite you to take the 30 Day Prayer Challenge. You are invited to pray for one thing every day for the whole month.

What should I pray for?

- ◆ Think of someone who needs a prayer.
- ◆ Think of a situation that might be troubling you or someone you love.
- ◆ Think of an issue or cause you believe could benefit from prayer.

I think you will be surprised!

Spiritual Practices on Wednesdays

March 25 Table Spirituality –Enjoy a wholesome meal together and talk food and faith

Religious Experience Surveys March 22 and March 29 at 8:30am: Exploring MyReligion.org is run by a group of professors, graduate students and researchers at Boston University. Their goal is to understand how our spiritual minds work. Our members will have an opportunity to take the survey and then participate in a follow up discussion. On March 22 at 8:30am, join members for breakfast and bring your computer or tablet to take the survey with other members. Then on March 29 at 8:30am, come for breakfast and participate in a discussion. By taking the survey you will receive enlightening feedback and graphs and be able to compare your experience with others from Needham UCC. In return for participating in the survey the organization will make a \$20 donation on your behalf. This is brought to you by Dr. Wesley Wildman and Boston University.

Friendly Society April 9th at 1:15pm, 1180 Great Plain Ave.: The Friendly Society invites you to join in an informal presentation (rescheduled) "Touring at the MFA" on **Thursday, April 9**. Our guide Joanne Seiden will talk about her preparation for a tour of accessibility groups, and we'll imagine being on a tour as well. **Meet at 1180 Great Plain, dining room, at 1:15.** Questions can be directed to Joanne (Jseiden@basiclink; 781-449-6535).

The Family Promise will host their 6th Annual Walkathon Saturday April 11th: Please join us by registering to walk with our Team or sponsoring one of our walkers. Visit the Family Promise website www.familypromisemetrowest.org for more information or stop by our coffee hour table to learn how you can support Family Promise Metrowest's largest fundraiser of the year. Susan Kirk susanckirk@comcast.net.

Faith Circle Book Club: The Faith Circle Book group meets Thursdays. The group will run from 10:30-12:00 for 9 weeks. We will be reading, The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World by Reverend Desmond Tutu. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net

Friendly Chimers: Friendly Chimers invites anyone interested in a fun, hands-on musical experience to join them in their rehearsals, in the sanctuary. Prerequisites: be able to keep time, enjoy being in a group. For information, contact Joanne Seiden 781-449-6535; jseiden@basiclink.com.

Youth Choir: Do you know a child that likes to sing? We would love to have more students join our youth choirs.

FACT: One of the only activities that activates, stimulates, and uses the entire brain is Music.

FACT: Research shows that music is to the brain as physical exercise is to the human body. Music tones the brain for auditory fitness and allows to decipher between tone and pitch.

Please consider this opportunity for your children!

Rehearsals are on Sundays throughout the year.

Joyful Noise—9:15-9:45 am

Hallelujah Choir—11:30-12:00 pm

Shepherd's Staff—12:00-1:00pm

Each choir will sing for the congregation 4-5 times throughout the year, culminating with Youth Sunday on June 7.

Adult Bible Study: Sunday 11:30 Conference Room: Everyone is welcome to join the Bible Study group that meets after church. This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Last year, we read through Luke and Isaiah by discussing just a few chapters a week. Currently we are reading about the early church in the book of Acts. If you have been

wondering what Bible Study is like, check us out! For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Sunday School Volunteers Needed! Be an assistant teacher or lead a workshop (like science, art, theater, games). Please visit our online sign up sheet (just go to www.needhamucc.org/sundayschool and click on Volunteer Sign Up under Important Links) or contact the office for more information. Just a friendly reminder that all Sunday School families are encouraged to sign up for ANY 7 spots for the whole year. If you don't have kids in the program, we would still LOVE your help!

Lenten Challenge for Kids: During Lent, kids of all ages are encouraged to memorize Psalm 23. This Sunday, kids can visit Rev. Heike to recite a verse and receive a colorful, inspirational rubber bracelet. Kids will receive handouts in Sunday School today with more information or you can visit www.needhamucc.org/lent

Calling all Soup Makers for Maundy Thursday Dinner, April 2, 2015! We will be gathering for a simple soup dinner on the evening of Maundy Thursday, April 2nd, 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.

Easter Egg Candy Needed: The Youth Groups are in the midst of planning their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 5th at 10am. We are in need of bags of individually wrapped candy with NO NUTS (No: Reese's, Butterfinger, Payday, Almond Joy, Snickers, etc.) Please drop off candy in the box outside the Narthex by March 29, 2015. Thank you!

Guatemala 'Servathon' Coming Up April 11 -- Sponsors/Workers Needed!
The Guatemala Partnership is seeking sponsors and volunteer workers for our day of community-service work at the church and around Needham.

Please consider supporting a volunteer who may ask for your pledge. For questions or to work, please contact Nancy Lane at: nrlane6@hotmail.com .

CALENDAR March 22nd—April 2nd

<p>Sunday, March 22nd</p>	<p>8:30 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:30 pm</p>	<p>Religious Survey Breakfast & Survey, <i>Conference & Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Ed: FED UP, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Halleluiah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Shepherd Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Trivia Night Senior High Youth Group Trampoline Park</p>
<p>Monday, March 23rd</p>	<p>9:00 am 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i></p>
<p>Tuesday, March 24th</p>	<p>7:00 pm</p>	<p>Christian Education Committee</p>
<p>Wed., March 25th</p>	<p>6:00 pm</p>	<p>Wednesday Connect, <i>Linden Hall</i></p>
<p>Thurs., March 26th</p>	<p>10:30 am 12:00 pm 7:30 pm</p>	<p>Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Lenten Lunch, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i></p>
<p>Sunday, March 29th</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Palm Sunday</p>	<p>8:30 am 9:00 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm</p>	<p>Religious Survey Breakfast & Discussion, <i>Conference & Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Adult Ed: FED UP, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Shepherd Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Easter Egg Prep Senior High Youth Group Easter Egg Prep Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i></p>
<p>Monday, March 30th</p>	<p>9:00 am 6:00 pm</p>	<p>Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i></p>
<p>Thursday, April 2nd</p> <p style="text-align: center;">Maundy Thursday</p>	<p>10:30 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm 8:30 pm</p>	<p>Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Maundy Thursday Supper, <i>Linden Hall</i> Maundy Thursday Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i></p>