



CONGREGATIONAL
CHURCH
OF NEEDHAM

March 23, 2014

Theme: Healing



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 23, 2014

10:00am

Childcare is available downstairs in the crib/toddler room for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers, Grades 7-8, and 9-12 go directly downstairs to classes at 10am. Grades K-6 will start in the sanctuary, leave for the chapel after "Time for Children" and then proceed to their workshops downstairs in the main hallway. K-1st in Story, 2nd-3rd in Science, and 4th-6th in Cooking.

PRELUDE

Organ Prelude

Sweet Hour of Prayer
arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

Chime Prelude

Sweet Hour of Prayer
arr. Sandra Eithun (b. 1963)
The Friendly Ringers

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Frank Arren

Leader: God comes into a world filled with uncertainties and darkness.

People: God seeks out the voids of belief and conviction.

Leader: God embraces the wounded and broken.

People: God knocks down the walls of division and strife.

Leader: God is the candle shining in the darkness of our days.

People: God is the light of our lives.

Leader: God is the one who makes all things new.

People: Praise be to you, o God, now and forevermore!

***OPENING HYMN # 28 (NCH) For the Beauty of the Earth**

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

God of healing, we come with thanksgiving in our hearts for all the goodness and mercy you offer to us in our lives today.

When our lives are bruised with tragedy you touch us with your Holy Spirit.

When our lives are scarred with suffering you encourage us through the power of the living Christ.

When we feel isolated in our recovery you provide us with loving hands and caring presence.

We rejoice and give thanks to you for all the possibilities of health and wholeness you provide for us. Embrace us as we pray...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

Out of the Depths, O God, We Call
Hymn 554, NCH (first verse)

ANTHEM

Blessed Assurance
arr. Joel Raney (b. 1956)

Joyful Noise, Hallelujah, Shepherd's Staff Choirs
Dave Darmofal, piano

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Jamie Green

CHILDREN'S HYMN (#526)

We Are Marching In
The Light Of God

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 1: 29-34

SERMON

“No One Left Behind” Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 179 (NCH)

**We Yearn, O Christ,
For Wholeness**

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

Drop, Drop Slow Tears
Orlando Gibbons (1583-1625)

**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 # 20 (NCH) God of Abraham and Sarah**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Irish Blessing
Philip Stopford (b. 1977)
Dave Darmofal, piano

POSTLUDE

Out of the Depths
Suzanne von Soldt MS (c. 1599)

****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: Tom Mollerus, Sunu Yeh

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

Altar Guild: Mary Barber

Flowers: Stacy Caswell

Flower delivery: Chris Arren

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.

The Congregational Church of Needham

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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

Bible Study

Sunday Group- Join us in the Reception Room at 11:30am. Newcomers are welcome! Contact Sunu Yeh for more information- dormouse99@gmail.com.

Thursday 10:30am Group is reading a new book on the 23rd Psalm- The Lord is My Shepherd by Rabbi Harold Kushner. Contact Christine Weitzel for information cweitzel@verizon.net

Climate Change Café – Sunday, March 30 11:30-1:00pm

Native Trees and Shrubs – Spring gardens are on our minds! So, to get us to prepare and plant our gardens, the Climate Change Café will feature Betsy Sanders of the Massachusetts Master Gardeners Speakers Bureau. She will speak on the importance of planting native shrubs and trees. Learn about summer flowering trees and shrubs, fall color beyond maples, plants so exotic you'll never believe they grow right here. Why is this topic important? Choosing native plants allows developed landscapes to coexist with nature, rather than compete with it. Learn why native plants reduce maintenance, need less water, and need no pesticides or fertilizers. Native plants provide food and shelter for native insects, birds, amphibians, and mammals.

Adult Ed – Translating the Bible Sunday March 23, 11:30am

Professor Greg Mobley from Andover Newton will offer a lecture on "How to Translate the Bible". It promises to be an interesting session. One small mistake or way of thinking can change our understanding of the text. For example: Was Jesus a carpenter or stone mason? The King James version translates Jesus' profession to be a carpenter, but there was no wood available in the region. So, what is true? Please join us in Linden Hall. Lunch will be available.

Youth Music Reception- Aren't our youth choirs sounding FANTASTIC?

We hope you enjoy their performance today as much as they have enjoyed preparing it for you. On **April 6th**, following the First Communion Service, we invite you all to a short **Youth Music Reception during coffee hour**. We will have information available about our Youth Music Program and how your child can participate (JOIN ANY TIME!) We will also be celebrating our new Youth Music Choir Director, Valerie Becker, for the outstanding job she is doing, as well as congratulating our wonderful young singers for their beautiful music. We welcome all to join us!

Easter Egg Candy Needed- The Youth Groups are in the midst of planning their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 20th 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 of Rev. Jaime's office by April 13th. Thanks!

EASTER PLANT DONATIONS – Please consider making 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. Unless you indicate otherwise, the flowers/plants that are used will be offered to our chancel choir to take home after the service as a symbol of appreciation for their gift of music. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact the church office at office@needhamucc.org to make a donation today!

LIBRARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP: The Library Committee has added new books to the collection over the past several years and identified older books for possible discard. We don't want to discard books which may have special importance to the congregation. So, stop by the book cart at coffee hour and let us know if we are planning to discard an item that would be missed. Maybe the author has a relationship to the church – a former minister perhaps? Maybe there are references to Needham. Give us the benefit of our organizational memory before we move these books to the upcoming yard sale. For a catalog of our books, see www.librarything.com, search for NCCUCC in the search box and click on members.

CALENDAR for March 23rd– April 3rd

Sunday March 23rd	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> Joyful Noise, Hallelujah, Shepherd's Staff Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
	10:00am	Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30am	Greg Mobley (Adult Education), <i>Linden HL</i> Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
		Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
	6:00 pm	JH/SH Dogeball Tournament, <i>Trampoline Park</i>
Monday March 24th	9:00am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Rm</i>
	6:00pm	Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday March 25th	7:00pm	Christian Education Committee
Thursday March 27th	10:30am	Bible Study, <i>Reception Room</i>
	12 noon	Lenten Lunch with Rev. Heike, <i>Library</i>
	7:30pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Rm</i>
Sunday March 30th	9:00 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
	10:00am	Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i>
	11:30pm	Climate Change Cafe, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers Rehearsal, <i>Sanct.</i>
	5:00 pm	JH Youth Group
	7:00 pm	SH Youth Group
Monday March 31st	9:00am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
	6:00pm	Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday April 1st	10:00am	Prayer Shawl Knitters, <i>Conference Room</i>
	6:00 pm	Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i>
	7:00 pm	Deacons Meeting, <i>Library</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Chapel</i>
Wednesday April 2nd	5:00 pm	Immigration Task Force Potluck, <i>Linden</i>
	7:00 pm	Youth Committee Meeting
Thursday April 3rd	10:30 am	Bible Study, <i>Reception Room</i>
	12:00 pm	Lenten Lunch with Rev. Heike, <i>Library</i>
	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>



April Vacation Bible School ***April 22-25***

Kids ages 3 to 10 are invited to a week of active, adventurous fun at The Congregational Church of Needham's VBS program.

THEME: "Weird Animals"

Fee: \$25 per day for morning activities (8:30-12)

Lunch Bunch offered from 12-1pm for \$5 per day

Additional children in each family will receive 50% discount
AND save \$20 if you register by April 1st!

Download a registration form at

www.needhamucc.org/learn/vbs