



CONGREGATIONAL  
**CHURCH**  
OF NEEDHAM

March 30, 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 30, 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-1<sup>st</sup> in Science, 2<sup>nd</sup>-3<sup>rd</sup> in Cooking, and 4<sup>th</sup>-6<sup>th</sup> in Story.*

**PRELUDE**

Herzlich, tut mich Verlangen  
*Op. 122, Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Mike Ellis

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 # 434 (NCH)**

**All Beautiful the  
March of Days**

**OPENING PRAYER**

*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*

**TIME FOR CHILDREN**

Jamie Green

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

We Are Marching In  
The Light Of God

**ANTHEM**

Lord, Sanctify Me Wholly  
*Jean Pasquet (1896-1977)*

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

Mark 10: 46-52

**SERMON**

“What a Silly Question!”

Heike Werder

**HYMN (seated) #555 (NCH)**

**Here, Savior, in this  
Quiet Place**

**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*

Lord, Make Us Worthy  
*Natalie Sleeth (1930-1992)*

*\*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 # 576 (NCH) For the Healing of the Nations**

## BENEDICTION

### CHORAL BENEDICTION

May the Lord Watch Over You  
*Ruth Elaine Schram (b. 1956)*  
Dave Darmofal, piano  
Eric Slosser, cello

### POSTLUDE

O Welt, ich muß dich lassen  
*Op. 122, Johannes Brahms*

*\*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](http://www.needhamucc.org), our church website.

*Worship Leader:* Mike Ellis

*Deacons:* Tom Mollerus, Craig Morrison

*Ushers:* Frank Arren, Todd Barth, Dave Johnson, Jan Rubenstein

*Altar Guild:* Lee McNally

*Flowers:* Stacey Caswell

*Flower delivery:* Amy Kennedy

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and with thanks to our new found friends, Sunu Yeh and Yuzo Dort by Betty and Charlie Baker.*

***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**

### **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.

**Youth Music Reception-** If you heard our Youth Choirs last week, you know that they sound FANTASTIC, and they have a great time making music together in rehearsals. To share in the joy and to find out more about the growing Youth Music Program, please join us for a short **Youth Music Reception during coffee hour next week, April 6<sup>th</sup>**, following the First Communion Service. We will have information about 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, and congratulating our wonderful young singers for their beautiful music so far this year. We welcome all of you to join us!

**Guatemala 'Servathon' Seeks Sponsors/Workers-** The Guatemala Partnership hopes to be able to count on your support as Sponsors and/or Workers for our day of community-service work projects at the church and in the wider community (April 12th). Please contact Nancy Lane at: [nrlane6@hotmail.com](mailto:nrlane6@hotmail.com), if you are able to work on this fundraiser, and/or please support the volunteer workers who may ask for your pledge. Proceeds support education and community development in our sister village of Santa María Tzejá. Thank you.

### **Outreach: Church-wide Hunger Relief Events**

Did you know that 1 in 6 families face food insecurities in the U.S.? The Outreach Committee has recently been focusing more of its funding efforts on hunger relief organizations in Needham, Metrowest and Boston. Now it's time for the congregation to get involved! A series of opportunities in April & May have been coordinated for you to learn about the issue of hunger and to actively make a difference. We'll launch the series with an experiential lunch-and-learning event after service on **Sunday, April 13**, that will enlighten your thinking about hunger and

present some important voices in our area's fight against food insecurity. Stay tuned for more details!

**Calling all Soup Makers** – Calling all soup makers for Maundy Thursday Dinner! We will be gathering for a simple soup dinner on the evening of **Maundy Thursday, April 17 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](mailto:revheike@needhamucc.org) or call 781-444-2510.

**Men's Breakfast, Sunday April 27 [Note change of date due to Easter]**. The Men's Breakfast brings men of all ages and persuasions together once a month before worship in honest and lively discussion touching our faith and our lives in today's complex world. We get together in the Library on the third Sunday of the month and enjoy breakfast fare provided by volunteers. We have always welcomed men of all ages and can always accommodate those with scheduling challenges. Arrive at 8:15 AM for fellowship and breakfast or by 9:00 AM for the discussion. On April 27, we will address the April worship theme of "Transformation" by discussing how we use our Christian faith in the 21<sup>st</sup> century to address changes in our lives and those of others. Contact Keith McClelland ([kmmlkm@rcn.com](mailto:kmmlkm@rcn.com)) for more information.

**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](mailto:office@needhamucc.org) to make a donation today!

**Easter Egg Candy Needed-** The Youth Groups are in the midst of planning their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 20<sup>th</sup> 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 13<sup>th</sup>. Thanks!

**Evaluations-** The Board and Deacons are conducting a Church and Minister Evaluation in order to help us evaluate the effectiveness of the church and its ministers and hear about areas where we and they can grow. You are invited to fill out a survey in paper or electronic format. A link to the electronic version will come to you via e-mail. The e-mail may



come to a household, but we invite all adult household members to respond individually.

The URL is <http://bit.ly/nucc2014survey>. The paper version will be available in church from March 30 through April 13. We ask that you respond by April 15. For paper responses, there will be a box in the Kimball Room (off the Narthex) on Sundays and in the church office during the week for your responses. Thank you for your thoughtful participation. If you have any questions, feel free to speak to Frank Lupino, Fabienne Madsen, Carol Oberle, Mike Yeh or Jackie Allen.

**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](http://www.librarything.com), search for NCCUCC in the search box and click on members.

**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](mailto:dormouse99@gmail.com).

**Thursday 10:30am Group-** Contact Christine Weitzel for information [cweitzel@verizon.net](mailto:cweitzel@verizon.net)

## *CALENDAR for March 24th– April 12<sup>th</sup>*

<b>Sunday March 30<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 9:15 am Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 10:00 am Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> 11:30 am Climate Change Cafe, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 12:00 pm Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 5:00 pm JH Youth Group 7:00 pm SH Youth Group
<b>Monday March 31<sup>st</sup></b>	9:00 am Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> 6:00 pm Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
<b>Tuesday April 1<sup>st</sup></b>	10:00 am 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>
<b>Wednesday April 2<sup>nd</sup></b>	5:00 pm Immigration Task Force Potluck, <i>Linden HI</i> 7:00 pm Youth Committee Meeting
<b>Thursday April 3<sup>rd</sup></b>	12:00 pm Lenten Lunch with Rev. Heike, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
<b>Sunday April 6<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> 9:15 am Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 10:00 am Worship & 1 <sup>st</sup> Formal Communion, <i>Sanct.</i> 11:00 am 1 <sup>st</sup> Communion Celebration, <i>Fellowship HL</i> 11:30 am Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 11:45 am Friendly Chime Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> 12:00 pm Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 5:00 pm JH Youth Group 7:00 pm SH Youth Group Guatemala Partnership Mtg, <i>Library</i>
<b>Monday April 7<sup>th</sup></b>	9:00 am Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> 6:00 pm Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
<b>Wednesday April 9<sup>th</sup></b>	7:00 pm Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
<b>Thursday April 10<sup>th</sup></b>	12:00 pm Lenten Lunch with Rev. Heike, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>