

Communion Prayer based on a passage in Augustine's Confessions

One: Let us pray that we may grow in union with the One who fulfills our heart's desire

All: Almighty God, you have made us for yourself, and our hearts are restless till they find their rest in you; so lead us by your Spirit that in this life we may live to your glory and in the life to come enjoy you for ever; through Jesus Christ our Lord who is alive with you and the Holy Spirit, one God now and for ever. Amen.

CLOSING HYMN #197 (Black, New Century)

Jesus, Keep Me near the Cross

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE Praise God

J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

You are welcome to join us in the Chapel at 11:30 for a Let's Talk, Let's Listen time of conversation about past or current events in the life of the church. Come share how you are feeling in a thoughtful, candid, prayerful environment.

Worship Assistant: Rich Weitzel

Deacons: Susan Lively, Dibby Moder

Communion Servers: Jean Veigas, Carol Miller

Prayer Leaders: Dibby Moder, Sue Cotton

Altar Guild: Laura Cullen, Jean Veigas

Ushers: Jim Leighton, Phil Gotwals, Rich Weitzel, Robert Kennedy

Flowers: Nancy Fischer

Flower Delivery: Caryl Johnson

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Susan and Porter McKeever by Karen and Fred Eichenlaub and their family.

Board Members
Moderator - Jackie Allen, Clerk - Keith McClelland
Term Ends 2018 Michael Normile, Blair Wentworth, Sharmon Priaulx
Term Ends 2019 Jim Conroy, Diane Rees, Kristin Mollerus
Term Ends 2020 Howard Sesso, Kenneth Allen, Barbra Morton, Amanda Angel

Deacons
Term Ends 2018 Lee McNally, Charlie Baker, Claudia Darmofal, Susan Lively, Kirby Salerno
Term Ends 2019 Rick Devereux, Dibby Moder, Scott Stewart, Carol Miller, Jean Veigas
Term Ends 2020 Kevin Blume, Paul Brown, Jane Clayton- Matthews, Sue Cotton, Lucy Slosser

Rev. Jim Mitulski's Office Hours

Please contact the church office to schedule an appointment during his office hours of Tuesday & Wednesday 2-6pm; Thursday 2-5pm

\*If these times do not work for you please contact the office for alternate availability.

Staff

Interim Senior Minister The Rev. Jim Mitulski RevJim@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 106	Church Administrator Danielle Jurdan Office@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 101
Associate Minister The Rev. Heike Werder RevHeike@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 105	Office Assistant Cindy Sullivan Office2@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 100
Director of Children & Youth Ministries Madelyn Downer Youth@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 104	Bookkeeper Suzanne Leslie Finance@needhamucc.org 781-444-2510, ext. 113
Music Director Valerie Becker musicdirector@needhamucc.org	Development Consultant Irma Bauer-Levesque
Organist/Accompanist Sangyoung Kim	Handyman Bill Donovan
	Housekeeper Sanira Alchaar

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781-444-2510 office@needhamucc.org  
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus



An open and affirming congregation of the United Church of Christ

March 5, 2017 10:00 a.m.

The First Sunday in Lent  
Letting Go and Letting Love  
Service of Holy Communion

PRELUDE Prelude in G Minor J.S. Bach (1684-1750)

ANNOUNCEMENTS Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

OPENING HYMN #209 (Black, New Century)  
O Love, How Vast, How Flowing Free

PRAYER by Susan Lively

Prayer of Encouragement

Time for Silent Meditation

Assurance of God's Love

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

SELECTION OF READINGS Gospel Matthew 4:1-11

Then Jesus was led up by the Spirit into the wilderness to be tempted by the devil. Jesus fasted for forty days and forty nights, and afterwards he was famished. The tempter came and said to Jesus, 'If you are the Child of God, command these stones to become loaves of bread.' But Jesus answered, 'It is written, "One does not live by bread alone, but by every word that comes from the mouth of God."'

Then the devil took Jesus to the holy city and placed Jesus on the pinnacle of the temple, saying, 'If you are the Child of God, throw yourself down for it is written, 'God will command his angels concerning you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.'"

Jesus said to the devil, 'Again it is written, "Do not put God to the test."'

Jesus all the kingdoms of the world and their splendour; and then said to Jesus, 'All these I will give you, if you will fall down and worship me.'

Jesus said to him, 'Away with you, Satan! for it is written, "Worship only God, and serve God alone."'

Then the devil left Jesus, and suddenly angels came and waited on him.

**HYMN #187 (Black, New Century) Again We Keep This Solemn Fast**

**SERMON** "Let Go and Let God" Jim Mitulski

**OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS**

*In each of our pews today is a black friendship book which we encourage you to fill out and pass to the person next to you during the offering. If you have been with us before, just put down your name, but if you are new today, please let us know who you are. Thanks!*

Offertory Anthem Remember Me R. Kevin Boesiger

\*Doxology text by Isaac Watts (1710)  
tune: Hamburg by Lowell Mason (1825)

**Were the whole realm of nature mine,  
That were an offering far too small;  
Love so amazing, so divine,  
Demands my soul, my life, my all. Amen.**

Prayer of Dedication

**CELEBRATION OF COMMUNION** Rev. Jim, Rev. Heike, Madelyn Downer

Invitation

Communion Prayer and Lord's Prayer  
(please use whatever version is familiar to you)

Words of Institution

Prayer of Consecration

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

*EVERYONE is welcome to receive the Bread and Cup. You don't need to be a member of this church or any church. Come forward at the direction of the usher. Pick up a piece of bread, gluten or non-gluten, and dip it in the cup. If you are not sure what to do, ask, and we are glad to explain. The cup contains grape juice.*

*Children of any age may receive if their parents are comfortable, or you may bring them forward and we will give them a simple blessing. Everyone is welcome, without exception. If you would like communion brought to you, let the usher know and we are happy to bring it to you in your seat.*

*If you would like someone to pray with you about something, privately, confidentially, a deacon is available at either end near the corners. Just go up one at a time after communion, or wait in line, and tell them what you want them to pray with you about.*

Communion Music  
(You are welcome to sing these hymns during communion)

**Come to the Table of Grace**

1 Come to the ta-ble of grace\_\_\_\_\_  
Come to the ta-ble of grace\_\_\_\_\_  
This is Christ's ta-ble; it's not yours or mine.  
Come to the ta-ble of grace\_\_\_\_\_  
2 Come to the ta-ble of peace\_\_\_\_\_  
Come to the ta-ble of peace\_\_\_\_\_  
This is Christ's ta-ble; it's not yours or mine.  
Come to the ta-ble of peace\_\_\_\_\_  
3 Come to the ta-ble of love\_\_\_\_\_  
Come to the ta-ble of love\_\_\_\_\_  
This is Christ's ta-ble; it's not yours or mine.  
Come to the ta-ble of love\_\_\_\_\_  
4 Come to the ta-ble of hope\_\_\_\_\_  
Come to the ta-ble of hope\_\_\_\_\_  
This is Christ's ta-ble; it's not yours or mine.  
Come to the ta-ble of hope\_\_\_\_\_  
5 Come to the ta-ble of joy\_\_\_\_\_  
Come to the ta-ble of joy\_\_\_\_\_  
This is Christ's ta-ble; it's not yours or mine.  
Come to the ta-ble of joy\_\_\_\_\_

**For Everyone Born**

1 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
2 For wom - an and man, a place at the ta - ble,  
3 For young and for old, a place at the ta - ble,  
4 For just and un - just, a place at the ta - ble,  
5 For ev - ery - one born, a place at the ta - ble,  
for ev - ery - one born, clean wa - ter and bread,  
re - vis - ing the roles, de - cid - ing the share,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
a - bus - er, a - bused, with need to for - give,  
to live with - out fear, and sim - ply to be,  
a shel - ter, a space, a safe place for grow - ing,  
with wis - dom and grace di - vid - ing the pow - er,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrin - kled,  
in an - ger, in hurt, a mind - set of mer - cy,  
to work, to speak out, to wit - ness and wor - ship,

for ev - ery - one born, a star o - ver -  
for wom - an and man, a sys - tem that's  
for young and for old, the right to be -  
for just and un - just, a new way to  
for ev - ery - one born, the right to be

head.  
fair.  
long.  
live.  
free.

And God will de - light when we are cre -

a - tors of jus - tice and joy, com - pas - sion and peace: yes,  
God will de - light when we are cre - a - tors of jus - tice,  
jus - tice and joy.

**CALENDAR MARCH 5-MARCH 19**

Sunday March 5th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am  5:00 pm 6:15 pm 6:45 pm 7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Let's Talk, Let's Listen, <i>Chapel</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Youth Committee Meeting Junior High Youth Group Youth Band Practice Sr. High Youth Group Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, March 6th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday March 7th	10:00 am 6:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Knitters, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wednesday March 8th	7:00 pm	Lenten Vespers, <i>Chapel</i> Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday March 9th	10:30 am 12:00 pm 6:30 pm 7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Lenten Lunch, <i>1180 GPA</i> Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday March 12th	8:30 am 10:00 am 11:30 am  3:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Islam Workshop at Old Baptist Church in Cambridge
Monday March 13th	9:00 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Library</i> Finance Committee Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Tuesday March 14th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wednesday March 15th	7:00 pm	Lenten Vespers, <i>Chapel</i>
Thursday March 16th	12:00 pm 7:00 pm	Lenten Lunch, <i>1180 GPA</i> Maddie's Community Office Hours (k-8), <i>Dunkin Donuts Highland Ave.</i>
Saturday	9:00 am	Youth Group Tubing @ Nashoba



**SPRING VBS**  
Tues., April 18 - Fri., April 21

8:30 AM - Noon  
Lunch Bunch - extended  
program, pick up by 1:00 PM

Got questions? Email [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org)  
or call (781) 444-2510.

Our storybook-themed VBS will offer kids the chance to be brave princesses, adventurous knights, and to explore the continuing story of God's people through arts and crafts, theater, singing, and games. Vacation Bible School is open to students in Pre-K (toilet trained) through grade 5.

VBS DATES are Tuesday, April 18 - Friday, April 21 from 8:30 AM - Noon; Lunch Bunch extended program, pick up by 1:00 PM. Registrations will be accepted until Sunday, March 12, 2017.

Payment is due by April 1, 2017. Students may be wait-listed if program capacity is reached. The cost is \$25 for your first child, \$15 per additional sibling and \$5 for lunch bunch. Scholarships are available. If cost would prevent your student from participating in VBS, please reach out to Maddie at [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org).

April VBS Registration Form: Please fill out one per child.

Child Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Grade: \_\_\_\_\_ Birthday: (mm/dd/yy) \_\_\_\_\_  
Requested friend(s)/sibling(s) in same class: \_\_\_\_\_  
T-shirt Size (All sizes are Youth sizes): S M L XL  
Parent/Guardian Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Address: \_\_\_\_\_  
Home Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Cell Phone(s): \_\_\_\_\_  
Email Address(es): \_\_\_\_\_  
Emergency Contact Name & Number (other than parent(s) listed above): \_\_\_\_\_

Special needs/medications/allergies: \_\_\_\_\_  
Please check all of the sessions you would like your child to attend.

Tuesday April 18 <input type="checkbox"/> VBS 8:30am-noon <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch: noon-1pm	Wednesday April 19 <input type="checkbox"/> VBS 8:30am-noon <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch: noon-1pm	Thursday April 20 <input type="checkbox"/> VBS 8:30am-noon <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch: noon-1pm	Friday April 21 <input type="checkbox"/> VBS 8:30am-noon <input type="checkbox"/> Lunch: noon-1pm
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Forms and fees can be dropped off at or mailed to:  
The Congregational Church of Needham, attn: VBS  
1154 Great Plain Ave, Needham, MA 02492

*Thank you to our teachers and volunteers Jake and Jenny George,  
Vance Fernandez, Rachel Busby, Rob Dunlavey,  
Kevin Blume, and Shawn Rock.*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS & EVENTS**

**March 5, 2017**



The Congregational  
Church of Needham

**Events**

**Guatemala Reportback: March 12, 11:30 am, Linden Hall**

The church's delegation to Santa Maria Tzeja has just returned from a very memorable and inspiring trip, as Clark and Kay Taylor accompanied us to celebrate the 30th year of our partnership. Please join us for the Reportback presentation on March 12th, 11:30 am, in Linden Hall. We have wonderful stories and photos to share, along with a new idea to enhance our relationship and benefit the village. If you've ever thought about going on a delegation or simply want to know more about the partnership, this will reveal the experience in full color! Light refreshments will be served.

**Islam Workshop**

**Sunday, March 12 at 2pm at Old Cambridge Baptist Church**

Join a teach-in led by the Muslim Justice League (MJL), a Boston-based 501(c)(3) nonprofit organization advocating for human and civil rights and civil liberties that are threatened under national security pretexts. Topics will include:

- The anticipated "Muslim registry" and revised "Muslim ban"
- Potential attempts to silence and criminalize Muslim civil society (including, for example, new "terrorist" designations)
- Existing policies and campaigns that have targeted and harmed Muslim communities for years
- Actions allies can take to meaningfully challenge state persecution of Muslim communities

Admission is free, but attendees are asked to register in advance at [bit.ly/March12Teach-In](https://www.eventbrite.com/e/muslim-justice-teach-in-tickets-32299256947) to ensure adequate space. Register at <https://www.eventbrite.com/e/muslim-justice-teach-in-tickets-32299256947>

**Climate Change Film Opportunity - Sunday March 12, at 3 p.m.**

The powerful 90-minute climate change film, Time to Choose, will be shown March 12th at First Parish in Needham, 23 Dedham Ave. The film will be followed by a discussion of concrete steps to address climate change and a chance to browse informational tables from local groups. This free event is sponsored by First Parish in Needham and Green Needham Collaborative, as well as Metro West environmental groups, houses of worship and local League of Women Voters.

### **Interfaith, Intergenerational Common Read**

You are invited to join the Congregational Church of Needham, UCC, First Baptist Church in Needham, and First Parish of Needham Unitarian Universalist for a joint book reading of *March*, by Representative John Lewis. *March* is the story of the Civil Rights Movement in three parts, and each Book will be discussed at a different congregation. You have plenty of time to read it even if you have never read a graphic novel. Be adventurous! Take a risk! Book One's reading was completed in February and dates for Book Two and Book Three are as follows:  
**Book Two, March 21<sup>st</sup> at 7 pm** (First Parish in Needham);  
**Book Three, April 25<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm** (Congregational Church of Needham)

### **2nd Annual Chili Cook-Off—Saturday, April 1 @ 5:00 p.m.**

Are you a chef or a taster? Do you make a mean pot of chili and want to join the contest? Be a judge or chef at our great Chili Cook-Off! Tickets on sale in Fellowship Hall beginning in Mid March. Call the office, email [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org) or speak with Rev. Heike.

### **Guatemala 'Servathon' Coming Up April 8th**

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](mailto:nrlane6@hotmail.com).

### **FAMILY PROMISE Walkathon, Saturday, April 8**

Family Promise's largest fundraiser of the year. To **REGISTER TO WALK** with our 'Needham Congregational Church' team or to **DONATE** go to

<http://www.familypromisemetrowest.org>. Walkathon Team Formation and Fundraising *through the month of March*. Please stop by our coffee hour table.

**Support Week** First Congregational Church Natick, *April 30-May 7* There will be a Training at The Dover Church, *Tuesday, March 7* for those interested in volunteering who have not yet attended a training.

Thank you, Susan Kirk [susanckirk@comcast.net](mailto:susanckirk@comcast.net)

## **Announcements**

### **Flower Team Opportunity**

The Flower Team is looking for a special someone to take responsibility for our altar flowers for a month during the year. This person will coordinate the donation of these arrangements. In addition we decorate the church for Easter and Christmas - the most festive seasons of the year. This is a great time of fun and fellowship. If you think you might be interested contact Debbie Wentworth at [bmwfac@comcast.net](mailto:bmwfac@comcast.net) to find out more.

### **The Community Dinner**

The Community Dinner team thanks everyone for their contributions of reusable containers. They have been much appreciated by our guests. Please continue to bring your surplus containers in- they can be left in a bag labelled "Community Dinner Take-Out" or something like that, and left in the kitchen. Please make sure they are SUPER CLEAN (like run through the dishwasher) and intact. If you have questions about anything to do with the Community Dinners,

please don't hesitate to call or email Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) ([conroyjd@rcn.com](mailto:conroyjd@rcn.com))

### **Chancel Choir**

Please come sing with us! Chancel choir rehearsals for the month of January and February will be at 8:30 on Sunday morning in the sanctuary. We would love to have you be part of our choir!

## **Christian Education**

### **Communion Workshop Open to students in grades 2 and above**

Would your student like to learn more about Communion? Why is it bread and grape juice? Why do the ministers say what they do before we eat it? Find out at the Communion Workshop!

The workshop will be held in April and we will decide the day based on those who are interested - if your child would like to participate, send Maddie an email at [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org). We will take a doodle poll to find out which day/s will work best for those interested!

### **SPRING VBS**

#### **Sign up for Spring VBS: Kids of the Kingdom!**

Our storybook-themed VBS will offer kids the chance to be brave princesses, adventurous knights, and to explore the continuing story of God's people through arts and crafts, theater, singing, and games. Vacation Bible School is open to students in Pre-K (toilet trained) through grade 5.

Tuesday, April 18 - Friday, April 21

9:30 AM - Noon; Lunch Bunch extended program, pick up by 1:00 PM

Register by Sunday, March 12, 2017.

Scholarships are available. If cost would prevent your student from participating in VBS, please reach out to Maddie at [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org).

### **VBS: Volunteers needed!**

Volunteers are needed to help with all aspects of VBS - checking students in and out, preparing snacks, setting up classrooms, teaching, and shepherding. Whether you like cooking, games, crafts, or are up for anything, your help is needed! 2 adult volunteers (18+) are needed for each day of VBS. Students in grades 6 through 8 can participate in VBS as volunteer counselors in training. Students in grades 9 through 12 can sign up as counselors and are paid \$25/day.

Please contact Maddie at [youth@needhamucc.org](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org) if you are interested in participating as an adult volunteer, volunteer CIT, or High School counselor.

## **Youth Ministries & Announcements**

**Junior High Youth Group** meets most Sundays from 5:00 - 6:30 PM.

**Senior High Youth Group** meetings are Sunday night.

Please join us from 6:30 - 8:00 PM

Junior and Senior High Youth Groups schedule for March:

Sunday, March 5 and Sunday, March 26: regular youth group programming

Our **Senior High Snow Day Tubing @ Nashoba 9:00a.m.—3:00 p.m**

Email Maddie at [youth@NeedhamUCC.org](mailto:youth@NeedhamUCC.org) by March 12!

Our **Junior High Winter Retreat** will take us to Providence, RI on March 3-5. If you would like to join in on this opportunity for fellowship and faith exploration, there is still space! Email Maddie ASAP to register!

**Saturday, March 25 Community Building Retreat at Needham UCC.**

Workshops and Camp Day for kids of attendees. High school students will serve as counselors.

**Youth Band** has an additional opportunity to come together this year in March!

If you are a junior or senior high school student who would like to participate, youth band will practice during the last 15 minutes of JR High and the first 15 minutes of SR high youth group on Sunday, March 12, and an additional practice will be scheduled on Saturday, March 25, time TBD. Reach out to Maddie if you are interested in playing/singing!

For updates on church life, our family ministries, Christian Education and Youth

## **New or Visiting Our Church**

Ministries follow us at:

**@NeedhamUCC on Instagram**

**Congregational Church of Needham UCC on Facebook**

**@needhamucc on Twitter**

**[www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org)**

Welcome to all who are new or here for the first time. Please silence your cell phone before attending the service. You can Check In on Facebook and let people know you are here. Feel free to Tweet or Instagram during the service. If you would like or need a hearing device an usher will be able to assist you.

Children's Childcare is offered for infants, toddlers and pre-schoolers in the Nursery located downstairs during the service. After Time For Children, students are dismissed to their classrooms for Bible Village. On Communion Sundays, students attend Bible Village first and then join the Worship Service for Communion.

## **Stewardship & Attendance**

Our current pledge amount for 2017 is \$356,904.00. This represents a budget shortfall of \$66,859.00 for the year.

02/26/2017 Collections\* = \$1,845 2/26/2017 Worship Attendance = 108 people  
February Electronic Collections = \$11,190.69

Please contact the church office 781-444-2510 or [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org) to find out how you can give electronically.

\* Collection amount does not include additional pledges received electronically.