



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

April 17, 2016

Theme: Singing our Faith



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, April 17, 2016

10:00am

Hymn Sing

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 should go directly to the Chapel. Students in grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.

PRELUDE

Hymnus

Alexander von Fielitz(1860 - 1930)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Adele Chang

Leader: Jesus walked the earth with God's message of peace,
blessing all creation -

People: Offering abundant life for all!

Leader: Jesus preached God's love-- justice for the poor, full
sharing of earth's bounty;

**People: He rattled the authorities with hope and healing,
forgiveness and welcome!**

Leader: Worldly powers tried to stop him: led him to a tree and
crucified him; laid him in the earth: a garden tomb. Three
days in the earth, and then -

**People: Like the seed which dies to live, Jesus arose to new
life!**

Leader: Let us celebrate the risen Christ, alive in our midst
today.

**People: May we be hands and feet, hearts and minds of that
risen Christ, proclaiming the good news of abundant
life for all.**

***OPENING HYMN # 180 (PH) Alleluia! Alleluia! Heart to Heaven**

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 grace, form us into your Easter people.

Too often we hang on to our own fear and despair.

Forgive us when we fail to love others as you love us.

**Help us to live into the mystery of resurrection and new life
so that we may embody hope.**

Breathe into us your spirit,

as we live out your good news in this world.

Hear us, O Lord, as we pray ...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

7 Fold Amen

John Stainer(1840 - 1901)

ANTHEM

I Will Extol Thee

George Frideric Handel (1685 -1759)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Colossians 3: 12-17

NT, p. 189

OUR FAITH SET TO MUSIC (see insert for all hymns)

188 (PH) Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

314 (UMH) In the Garden

230 (NCH) Come, You Faithful, Raise the Strain

317 (PH) I Love to Tell the Story

261 (UMH) Lord of the Dance

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.

Pastoral Prayer

Congregational Response # 521 (NCH)

In Solitude

**In solitude, in solitude, I come to God in prayer.
In silence and simplicity, my spirit blossoms there.**

**Whene'er the world is troubling me, and stress is all around,
I seek the presence of my God, and healing light is found.**

OFFERTORY

Anthem

I Know That My Redeemer Liveth
from *Messiah*
George Frideric Handel (1685 - 1759)

**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 # 193 (PH)**

Thine Is the Glory

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

This Joyful Eastertide
Hymn tune - VRUECHTEN

POSTLUDE

Magnificat ("My Soul Doth Magnify the Lord")
Johann Pachelbel (1653 - 1706)

****You are invited to stand.***

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

- 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 Assistant: Adele Chang

Deacons: Dibby Moder, Sunu Yeh

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

Altar Guild: Diane Myers

Flowers: Jan Drake

Flower Delivery: Jean Veigas

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our grandparents—Kristen and Tom Mollerus

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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

Thanks for Guatemala Serv-A-Thon Support: Thanks to all who made financial pledges to the volunteers who carried out community-service work in the church and at the Needham Community Farm last Saturday. One team painted a lower-level hallway and cleaned tables in Fellowship Hall at the church, while another prepared 12 spring beds for planting at a Needham Community Farm site at Newman School on Central Ave. You can check out the work in person, or see photos on the Guatemala bulletin board near Fellowship Hall.

God Is Still Speaking - A Transgender Journey with God April 24 at 11:30 in Linden Hall

Some of us know transgender people and others do not, or may not be aware that we do. We may know little about what transgender means or we may be standing as allies with trans* people. In order to advance our understanding and appreciation of all God's children, the ONA Team is hosting Cynthia Hansen, a parent of two sons and a member of the Wellesley Village Church. CeCe will share her insights as a transgender woman and a person of faith. Please come hear about her journey into being fully herself. You will be richly rewarded. Lunch provided.

Annual Guatemala Yard Sale (Sat., May 14th, 9-2, 505 Great Plain Ave.)

Donations (and Volunteers) Needed: We are seeking items in clean, working condition (no clothing), including: Children's gear, toys/games, sports equipment, household items, collectible or vintage items, jewelry, artwork, DVD's, books, bikes, electronics (no TV's or computers), tools, garden supplies, outdoor furniture, or small indoor furniture items. Drop-Off Info: Beginning 7:00 pm, Sunday, May 8th thru Noon, Friday, May 13th at the Johnson's garage (505 Great Plain).

Lift left garage door and put donations inside. For questions or to volunteer, please contact Brenda Metzler at: bmetzler7@verizon.net or (781) 449-5696. Don't miss this opportunity to donate, volunteer and/or shop to support education in Santa María Tzejá. Thank you.

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!

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 mil-lerc291@verizon.net for more information.

Circle of Hope Mother's Day "Baby Shower"

In honor of Mother's Day, our church will sponsor a "Baby Shower" to create Welcome Baskets for babies born to the clients of Circle of Hope. They are looking for new baby bottles, wipes, Vaseline/A&D ointment, new bath towels with hoods, face clothes and blankets to assist mothers with their new babies. Other needed items include new onesies (newborn, 3-6 month and 6-9 month). A box will be in the entry to the sanctuary [on April 24](#), [May 1](#) and [May 8](#). Items will be delivered to Circle of Hope the following week. If you have questions, please contact Amy Massey at amyemassey@gmail.com.

Spring Outreach Opportunities, Saturday, May 7:

Volunteer with City Mission Society for a Boston Immersion Service Opportunity at Pilgrim Church in Dorchester. The day begins [at 9:30 a.m.](#) with volunteers helping to prepare the Church's weekly community meal that typically serves over 100 local residents. Volunteers will also join the guests for a sit-down meal. The day ends after cleanup, no later than 3pm.

REGISTRATION IS REQUIRED, along with a \$20 fee to help defray the cost of the program. Deadline to sign up is April 15. Contact Betsy Ericksen, bericksen@citymissionboston.org.

June Book Discussion Group: City Mission's Executive Director, Rev. June Cooper, who preached at our church in March, will lead a three-session discussion group on Robert D. Lupton's provocative book, *Toxic Charity: How Churches and Charities Hurt Those They Help*. The author shares his insights and experience that some well-intentioned charity and volunteer service can actually undermine the aspirations of people they intend to help.

Enrollment is first-come/first-served and limited to 20 participants. The group will meet for three sessions [on June 6](#), [June 13](#), and [June 20 from 6:30-8:30 p.m.](#) at Newton Highlands Congregational Church, [54 Lincoln St., Newton Highlands](#). To enroll in the group, please contact Peniey McClary, pmccrary@citymissionboston.org.

**SATURDAY
MAY 7TH
5 PM**

GREAT

CHILI

**ARE YOU CHEF
OR TASTER?**

COOK-OFF

It's the showdown of the Century!

Is the best chili made with 100% grass-fed beef or a good, old-fashioned mixture of beans and spices? Is it slowly simmered for 8 hours or cooked on high for 45 minutes? You be the judge at our very first Great Chili Cook-off!

**6 CHEF'S HAVE THROWN THEIR HAT IN THE RING ...
ARE YOU NEXT??**

Tickets will be on sale in Fellowship Hall
beginning in mid-April.

Tasters and cooks needed!

Want to submit a pot of your chili? Email
office@needhamucc.org to reserve a space!

CALENDAR April 17th-April 30th

Sunday, April 17th	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 11:40am	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service—Hymn Sing, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, April 18th		Church Offices Closed
Tuesday, April 19th	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Wed., April 20th	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Thursday, April 21st	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Friday, April 22nd	8:30 am	Vacation Bible School
Sunday, April 24th	10:00am 11:30am 11:40am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> God is Still Speaking– A Transgender Journey with God, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, April 25th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, April 26th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting Outreach Meeting
Thursday, April 28th	8:00 am 7:30 pm	EMT Meeting, <i>Library</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, April 30th	8:00 am 2:00 pm	Board Retreat, <i>1180 GPA</i> Confirmation Project