



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

April 24, 2016

Theme: Words of the Resurrected Christ



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 24, 2016

10:00am

*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 will be dismissed to the Chapel after Time for Children. Students in grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

PRELUDE

Flight of Angels
GF Handel (1685-1759)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Tom Mollerus

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 # 257 (NCH)**

Alleluia! Gracious Jesus!

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

Three Fold Amen

Ella Lou Diemer(b. 1927)

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

CHILDREN'S HYMN #325 (NCH)

**Child of Blessing,
Child of Promise**

Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!

Fresh from God, refresh our Spirit, into joy and laughter lead.

ANTHEM

Hayr Mer

Makar Edmalian(1856 - 1905)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

John 21: 1-19

NT, p. 110

SERMON

“Feed my Sheep”
Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 250 (NCH)

Listen to Your Savior Call

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

Ave Verum Corpus
Wolfgang Amadeus Mozart(1756 - 1791)

**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 # 530 (NCH)**

God Our Author and Creator

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Der Getso

traditional arr Rouben Grigorian(1915 - 1991)

translation - O Lord, Save the Armenians and make them glorious:
Save the Armenians. Please grant them your celestial
mercy, with which they may live here.

POSTLUDE

Trumpet Tune "Bonduca"

Henry Purcell(1659 - 1695)

****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: Tom Mollerus

Deacons: Scott Stewart, Charles Baker

Ushers: Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison, Kevin Ward

Altar Guild: Diana Conroy

Flowers: Jan Drake

Flower Delivery: Martha Lamb

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving
memory of Charles (Chuck) and Elizabeth (Betty) Pierce, Jr. by their
family.*

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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

Today: God Is Still Speaking - A Transgender Journey with God 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.

Introduction to Membership

Are you interested in exploring membership with us? Join us for an informational session on May 1, 2016 at 11:30 in the library. Please contact Rev. Heike at revheike@needhamucc.org if you would like to attend.

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.

The Annual Women's Retreat will take place at Craigville Conference Center on Cape Cod from Friday May 20 to May 21, 2016. All women of the church are invited to attend! Please reserve your spot with Rev. Heike at 781-444-2510 or at: revheike@needhamucc.org.

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. 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!

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) regu-

larly 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 at 781-449-6635 or, 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 milerc291@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 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, pmcclary@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!

**8 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 24th-May 7th

Sunday, April 24th	10:00am 11:30am	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
Sunday, May 1st	10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service/1st Formal Communion, <i>Sanctuary</i> New Member Orientation Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, May 2nd	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, May 3rd	10:00am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Youth Committee
Wed., May 4th	7:15 pm	EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, May 5th	12:00pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, May 7th	5:00 pm	Great Chili Cook-Off