



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

April 3, 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 3, 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-5 will begin in their classrooms and join their families in the Sanctuary for Communion. Students in grades 6-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

PRELUDE

*Allegro from Sonata No. 3
G.F. Handel(1685 - 1759)
Bruce Goody, Flute*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Sharmon Priaulx

Leader: We are here because Jesus still comes into our locked spaces and says: "Peace be with you."

People: We are here today like doubting Thomas questioning and not sure of your power.

Leader: We are here today hearing Jesus' promise of the Holy Spirit instilled in our lives.

People: We are here today because of Jesus, who asks "Do you truly love me? Feed my sheep."

Leader: We gather here to say sometimes timidly, sometimes with certainty: "Yes Lord, you know that we love you."

People: We are here as a congregation because many faithful disciples through the decades have listened to Jesus' words : "Do not be afraid, as the Father has sent me, so I send you."

***OPENING HYMN #301 (NCH) Crown with Your Richest Crowns**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

O Lord of life, we pray for all who bring Your word of life as a light to those in darkness; for those who bring Your word of peace to those enslaved by fear; for those who bring Your word of love to those in need of comfort.

Lord of love, peace, and resurrection life, be known through our lives and through Your power. When everything was dark and it seemed that the sun would never shine again, your love broke through. Your love was too strong, too wide, too deep for death to hold.

Gracious God, we praise you for the light of new life made possible through the Risen Christ. We praise you for the light of new life that continues to shine in our hearts today. We pray that the Easter light of life, hope and joy, will live in us each day; and that we will be bearers of that light into the lives of others. Hear us as we pray ...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

7 Fold Amen

John Stainer(1840 - 1901)

ANTHEM

A Bright Flame Before Me

Mark Burrows(b. 1971)

SCRIPTURE

John 20:19-30

NT, p. 110

SERMON

“Jesus Came and Stood Among Them”

Rev. Dr. Rosemary MacKay

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

If I Forget, Yet God Remembers
Daniel Pederson

* *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

ORDER FOR THE SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

*Invitation to the Table
Communion Prayer*

Prayer Response

**Holy, holy, holy. My heart, my adores you!
My heart know how to say to you: Holy are you Lord!**

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Music for the Bread and Cup:
#207 (NCH) Just as I am Without One Plea
#448 (NCH) Take My Life, God, Let It Be

Prayer of Thanksgiving

**Bountiful God, we give you thanks that you have refreshed us
at your table by granting us the presence of Christ.
Strengthen our faith. Increase our love for one another. Send
us forth into the world in courage and peace, rejoicing in the
power of the Holy Spirit. Amen.**

*CLOSING HYMN #223 (NCH)

What Wondrous Love is This

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

This Joyful Eastertide
Hymn tune - VRUECHTEN

POSTLUDE

Entr'acte from Carmen
Georges Bizet(1838-1875)
Bruce Goody, Flute

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

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

Special thanks to Bruce Goody, guest flutist, for sharing his gift of music with us this morning.

- 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: Sharmon Prialux

Deacons: Carol Miller, Jean Veigas

Communion Servers: Sally Fitzgerald, Rick Devereux,
Frank Luppino, Sunu Yeh

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

Altar Guild: Jean Veigas, Diane Myers

Flowers: Jan Drake

Flower Delivery: Caryl Johnson

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Tina Dirks and George McGarty.

COMMUNION

The Sacrament of Holy Communion is served on the first Sunday of every month in our church. Along with Baptism, it is one of two sacraments in the United Church of Christ.

At Holy Communion we remember that Jesus ate with his disciples on the last night before he died. In that upper room he transformed the Passover meal something new. As he broke the bread that night he reminded them that it was a symbol for his own body which was broken for all of us. As he lifted the cup of wine he told them that it was a symbol of the covenant- which had come from Abraham and Moses - between us and God.

So when we eat the bread and dip it into the cup we remember that God loved us so much that God sent Jesus. Through Christ we came to know God even better. At this table, through faith, we believe Christ joins us and comes to be our host.

Whoever you are and wherever you are on life's journey you are welcome at this table. We offer children instruction in the sacrament of Holy Communion in the second grade. We leave it to families to decide if their children will take the communion, but everyone is welcome at any age. If your child will not be taking communion but would like a short blessing, please tell one of the ministers.

When you come forward the minister will give you the bread and say – "The Bread of Heaven for you". Many people respond saying, "Amen" or "Thanks be to God". Dip the bread into the cup of grape juice. As you do, the Deacon will say, "The cup of salvation for you." Again you may respond with "Amen" or "Thanks be to God." You are encouraged to eat the bread soaked in the juice right away, and then return to your seat down the side aisle.

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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—Anyone interested in discussing The Holiday Fair and its Future is invited to a meeting in the Chapel after church at 11:30 am.

The holiday fair is our biggest fundraiser for the church. But with diminishing volunteer and people power, it has become harder every year to "pull it off." And "...because we have done it always this way..." might not work either anymore. Maybe it is time to rethink the holiday fair? Come and join a lively discussion! Bring your ideas of how to enliven a wonderful fellowship event or help create a new fundraiser to benefit the church.

Today—Last Chance at Silent Auction Items!

Please drop by Linden Hall after church today to place your final bids on Guatemalan handicrafts, vacation getaways, Red Sox tickets, and other donated items from yesterday's Not Your Average Talent Show fundraiser. Proceeds benefit education in Santa Maria Tzeja.

Have you wondered what it would be like **WALKING IN THE FOOTSTEPS OF MARTIN LUTHER?** Rev. Heike and a group of curious church friends took this journey of discovery last summer. Those who didn't go with them can now be armchair travelers in a power point presentation by Rev. Heike and a few friends on Thursday, April 7, 1:30pm, 1180 dining room. Come join Friendly Society members and friends (All are welcome!) for a learning and fun program. And if you want to make it a really special Thursday, come for Rev. Heike's soup lunch at noon and stay for the program. Soup is \$3, but the program is free!

ONA Ministry Team Reminder

Out MetroWest Trivia Night and Silent Auction April 9, 5:45pm at Framingham High School. Contact Kathie Carpenter (kacarp@comcast.net) right away if you want to participate. Youth welcome! Awesome time!

Guatemala 'Servathon' Coming Up -- Sponsors/Workers Needed

The Guatemala Partnership is seeking sponsors and volunteer workers for our day of community-service work at the church and at the Needham Community Farm (**April 9th**). Please consider sponsoring a volunteer who may ask for your pledge. And if you can work at this fundraiser, please contact Nancy Lane at: nrlane6@hotmail.com.

Environmental Ministries Team invites you to view True Cost on April 10 at 11:30 in Linden Hall

A movie about the environmental, social, and economic impacts of "fast fashion", the current obsession with purchasing the latest trends in fashion. Please join us for lunch and movie after church.

Faith Circle Book Group

This month the group will be reading Being Mortal by Atul Gawande. There will

be one group discussion session on Thursday, April 28 10:30-12:00. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net

Guatemala Yard Sale Save the Date and Donations

If your thoughts are turning to spring cleaning, please save your household 'treasures' for the Guatemala Yard Sale (Sat. May 14, 9am - 2 pm, at Caryl and Dave Johnson's). More details in the April FOCUS. For questions, contact Brenda Metzler: bmetzler7@verizon.net.

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!

Altar Flower Donations

Whether to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion, an opportunity awaits to accommodate your wishes. Please find an Altar Flower Donation Form in the circular rack in the Narthex. You may complete it and put it in the manila envelope provided in the rack. The cost of the arrangement is \$50 with a check payable to The Congregational Church of Needham. You may call the church office or contact Jan Drake 781-444-2303 or drakejm@gmail.com to receive more details if you are interested in remembering loved ones with flowers on the altar. The Flower Team looks forward to acting on your behalf.

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.

Family Promise Metrowest 7th Annual Walkathon on April 9, 2016

Beginning at 7:45-10:30am on Natick Common. Be part of this exciting day as volunteers and supporters gather to raise funds and awareness for Family Promise Metrowest, a comprehensive program making a difference in the lives of families who are homeless. Walk with our church team on the 5K route from the Natick Common to Natick High School and back or sponsor one of our church team walkers. Please go to www.familypromisemetrowest.org/ or stop by our coffee hour table to learn more. Thank you, Susan Kirk

Circle of Hope's Renewal 2016

Co-presented by Dedham Savings and Needham Bank, will take place April 9 and 10 at the Needham Sheraton. All proceeds benefit Circle of Hope and its mission to provide homeless children, women and men in and around Boston with clothing and necessities to preserve and enhance overall health and personal dignity.

Saturday, April 9, 2016 Renewal Preview Cocktail Party and Exclusive Sale of Vignette Items 6:30 pm-10:00 pm, \$75 per person. Visit circleofhopeonline.org to reserve your spot!

Sunday, April 10, 2016 Sale of vignette items continues Noon to 3:00 p.m. No admission fee.

Needham Art Association Show in Church Offices

The Needham Art Association thanks the staff and Board for the opportunity to hang its April Art Show in the church offices at 1180 Great Plain Avenue. More than 30 works of original art by Needham artists are on display; many available for purchase. The show will be open to the public from April 4-28 during office hours (8:30-4:30). The public is especially invited to the opening reception Saturday, April 9, from 1:00 to 3:00.



CALENDAR April 3rd-April 14th

Sunday, April 3rd	10:00am 11:30am 11:40am 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Church Meeting RE: Village Fair, <i>Chapel</i> Guatemala Auction, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, April 4th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, April 5th	10:00am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Youth Committee Meeting
Wednesday, April 6th	7:00 pm 7:15 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, April 7th	12:00pm 1:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Friendly Society Meeting/ Walking in the Footsteps of Martin Luther, <i>1180 GPA</i> CLUB 3-4-5 Meeting, Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, April 9th	8:00 am 2:00 pm	Guatemala Serv-a-Thon Communion Workshop, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Sunday, April 10th	10:00am 11:30am 11:40am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> EMT– True Cost, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, April 11th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Thursday, April 14th	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	The Center Open House Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>