



Alleluia!

Christ
is *Risen*

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.



EASTER SUNDAY

Sunday, April 5, 2015

11:15am

All children are welcome to stay in worship. Coloring materials are available from the ushers.

PRELUDE

Trumpet Minuet
Alfred Hollins (1865-1942)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Heike Werder

Leader: Let us gather in God's house to rejoice.

People: We come with joy and thanks.

Leader: Let us lift our voices to praise God.

People: God has made all things new.

Leader: Let the heavens tell the good news.

People: Jesus Christ is Risen.

Leader: Let our voices sing out the news.

People: Christ the Lord is Risen

***OPENING HYMN #233** (*Black Hymnal*)

**Christ the Lord Is
Risen Today**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Eternal God, as close to us as each breath, and still so full of
new surprises,
We give you thanks for the daily miracles of new life:
For everyday encounters with the sacred;
For hope that is stronger than despair;
For faith that refuses to quit;
For love that overcomes evil;
For Easter's wonder, born and re-born in us.
Fill our hearts with the promise of the resurrection as we
pray...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Choral Response

This Joyful Eastertide
Charles Wood (1866-1926)

ANTHEM

Beautiful Savior
David Allen
Shepherd's Staff Choir

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Mark 16: 1-8

p. 51

SERMON

"The Best Surprises"
Susan Cartmell

HYMN #241 (*Black Hymnal*)

Joy Dawned Again on Easter Day

OFFERTORY

Heike Werder

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

Antiphon from Five Mystical Songs
Ralph Vaughan Williams (1872-1958)

**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 heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you Lord!**

Distribution of the Bread and Cup

Music for the Bread & Cup:

#236 (*Black Hymnal*) Halleluja

#240 (*Black Hymnal*) Jesus Christ Is Risen Today

#245 (*Black Hymnal*) The Day of Resurrection

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 #242 (*Black Hymnal*)**

The Strife is O'er

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Hallelujah Chorus
From Messiah—George Freidrich Handel (1685-1759)
Valerie Becker, piano
Stanley Normile, trumpet

POSTLUDE

Hornpipe From Water Music
George Friedrich Handel

**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, our church website.

Worship Leader: Heike Werder

Deacons: Charles Baker, Sunu Yeh

Communion Servers: Lee McNally, Frank Luppino, Peter Atallah

Altar Guild: Chris Arren

Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Robert Kennedy, Rich Weitzel

Flowers: Kristin Mollerus

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. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Friendly Society April 9th at 1:15pm, Library.: The Friendly Society invites you to join in an informal presentation (rescheduled) "Touring at the MFA" on **Thursday, April 9.** Our guide Joanne Seiden will talk about her preparation for a tour of accessibility groups, and we'll imagine being on a tour as well. Questions can be directed to Joanne (Jseiden@basiclink; 781-449-6535).

Communion Workshop – April 11 – 10 a.m. – noon: Calling All First and Second Graders and older kids who have not taken the Communion Curriculum. Join Rev. Susan at the church for a program for children and their parents as we prepare for First Formal Communion Sunday May 3.

Who is this program for?

You if you have a child in first or second grade

You if you are a child in 1st or 2nd

Elementary school parents and their children who have not taken the communion workshop

Register today by sending an e-mail to revsusan@needhamucc.org. She will reserve a spot for you.

The Family Promise will host their 6th Annual Walkathon Saturday April 11th: Please join us by registering to walk with our Team or sponsoring one of our walkers. Visit the Family Promise website www.familypromisemetrowest.org for more information or stop by our coffee hour table to learn how you can support Family Promise Metrowest's largest fundraiser of the year. Susan Kirk susanckirk@comcast.net.

Guatemala Delegation 'Reportback', April 12, 11:30 am, Linden Hall: Please join our recently returned travelers to Guatemala, as they share photos and impressions of their trip in a lively and informative presentation. This is an opportunity to see what a delegation is like and to experience the energy and spirit engendered on both sides of the church's partnership with Santa María Tzejá. Light refreshments will be served.

April 26 is Hymn Sing Sunday: Please send the titles of your favorite hymns to Rev. Susan - revsusan@needhamucc.org.

New Grief Group : Grief does not end with a funeral. When you lose someone you love it takes a long time to adjust to the change. Whether the grief you experience is a death or other loss, sometimes it helps to know you are not alone. Living with someone who has memory loss is a grief process. Often it helps to be with others who have some similar experiences. If you would be interested in joining a prayer support group for those who are grieving please speak to Rev. Susan or send her an e-mail – revsusan@needhamucc.org.

Faith Circle Book Club: The Faith Circle Book group meets Thursdays. The group will run from 10:30-12:00 for 9 weeks. We will be reading, The Book of Forgiving: The Fourfold Path for Healing Ourselves and Our World by Reverend Desmond Tutu. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to get in touch with Christine Weitzel at cweitzel@verizon.net

Friendly Chimers: Friendly Chimers invites anyone interested in a fun, hands-on musical experience to join them in their rehearsals, in the sanctuary. Prerequisites: be able to keep time, enjoy being in a group. For information, contact Joanne Seiden 781-449-6535; jseiden@basiclink.com.

Youth Choir: Do you know a child that likes to sing? We would love to have more students join our youth choirs.

FACT: One of the only activities that activates, stimulates, and uses the entire brain is Music.

FACT: Research shows that music is to the brain as physical exercise is to the human body. Music tones the brain for auditory fitness and allows to decipher between tone and pitch.

Please consider this opportunity for your children!

Rehearsals are on Sundays throughout the year.

Joyful Noise—9:15-9:45 am

Hallelujah Choir—11:30-12:00 pm

Shepherd's Staff—12:00-1:00pm

Each choir will sing for the congregation 4-5 times throughout the year, culminating with Youth Sunday on June 7.

Adult Bible Study: Sunday 11:30 Conference Room: Sunday Bible Study: Gospel of John. We will meet in the reception room from 11:30-12:30 after church to continue our study of the book of John. This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Everyone is welcome to drop in and join us. For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dor-mouse99@gmail.com

Sunday School Volunteers Needed!: Be an assistant teacher or lead a workshop (like science, art, theater, games). Please visit our online sign up sheet (just go to www.needhamucc.org/sundayschool and click on Volunteer Sign Up under Important Links) or contact the office for more information. Just a friendly reminder that all Sunday School families are encouraged to sign up for ANY 7 spots for the whole year. If you don't have kids in the program, we would still LOVE your help!

Guatemala 'Servathon' Coming Up April 11 -- 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 ques-

tions or to work, please contact Nancy Lane at: nrlane6@hotmail.com .

August 2015 Delegation To Guatemala: The August delegation to visit our sister community of Santa Maria Tzeja is beginning to form. The dates for this trip will be August 5-16, 2015. If you are interested or have questions about this church outreach program, contact: Alan Clayton-Matthews, a.clayton-matthews@neu.edu or Caryl Johnson, carylgjohnson@gmail.com. The Guatemala Partnership website is <http://www.guatemalapartners.org/home/>

CALENDAR April 5th—April 16th

Sunday, April 5th Easter	8:30 am 9:00 am 10:00 am 11:15 am	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship– Family Easter Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Easter Egg Hunt Worship-Communion Service, <i>Sanctuary</i>
Monday, April 6th	9:00 am 6:00 pm 7:15 pm 8:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> Youth Committee, <i>Library</i>
Tuesday, April 7th	10:00 am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Knitters, <i>Conference Room</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Deacon’s Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday, April 9th	10:30 am 12:00 pm 1:15 pm 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception</i> Lunch with Heike, <i>Library</i> Friendly Society, <i>Library</i> Chancel Choir, <i>Choir Room</i>
Saturday, April 11th	10:00 am	Communion Wrkshp, <i>1180 Great Plain Ave.</i> Guatemala Servathon
Sunday, April 12th	9:00 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 4:30 pm 7:00 pm	Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Junior High Youth Group at Trampoline Park Senior High Youth Group Trivia Night
Monday, April 13th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, April 14th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Wed., April 15th	7:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday, April 16th	10:30 am 7:30 pm	Faith Circle Book Club, <i>Reception Room</i> Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>