

Communion

I am with
you always,
even unto
the end
of the world.

Matthew 28:20



April 6, 2014

Theme: Transformation

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 6, 2014

10:00am

*Infants, toddlers and preschoolers meet in PreK class downstairs
at 10am. Grades K-5 go directly to chapel at 10am and will join
their families in worship for communion. 6th-8th graders proceed
to the Stevenson Hall Classroom and 9-12th graders remain in
worship.*

PRELUDE

Beneath the Cross of Jesus
arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Diana Conroy

Leader: On these days of Lenten journey,

People: Christ goes with us side by side.

Leader: While we gather here for worship,

People: May our lives be focused with praise and care.

Leader: As we sing, pray, and listen,

People: May God's Spirit deep within us come alive.

Leader: And may this time of worship,

People: Be for us a constant guide.

Leader: Now let us sing with joy and vigor,

People: As we learn how to serve Christ more fully.

*OPENING HYMN # 38 (NCH)

"Lift Up Your Hearts!"

OPENING PRAYER

Diana Conroy

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

Gracious God, this is sacred space; here we stand on holy ground. When you are among us, we know that we cannot leave unchanged. Move our focus from ourselves to you. Make our motives pure, and when they are not, grant us mercy. We set aside our own agendas to listen and follow where you would lead us. May this hour of worship change us.

Embrace us as we pray ...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

My Savior and My God
Jay Althouse (b. 1951)
Bruce Goody, flute

ANTHEM

In Remembrance
Buryl Red and Ragan Courtney (1972)

SCRIPTURE LESSON John 6: 35, 41-51 NT, p. 93 ff.

SERMON “From Bread to Life” Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 333 (NCH) **O Bread of Life**

INTRODUCTION OF COMMUNION CLASS

Jamie Klopotoski

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

Ave Verum Corpus
W.A. 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

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
Hymns for the Bread & Cup:

Flute – Bruce Goody

“In The Lord” (see last page of Bulletin)

Taizé

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 # 349 (NCH)**

I Come With Joy

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go in Peace
tune: Ocean Park

POSTLUDE

Fugue in A minor
Johann Pachelbel (1653-1706)

Special thanks to Bruce Goody for sharing his musical talents with us this morning.

****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: Diana Conroy

Deacons: Peter Atallah, Tom Mollerus, Joanne Seiden,
Sally Fitzgerald, Lee McNally

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

Altar Guild: Diana Conroy, Denice Koljonen

Flowers: Kristin Mollerus

Flower delivery: Chris Arren

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Al Hyde and Jack Baldwin; fathers of Deb and John Baldwin.

Today we celebrate First Formal Communion with 9 children and their families who have completed a workshop on the Sacrament of Communion. Please join us in Fellowship Hall immediately following worship for a reception with cake for all.

First Formal Communion Participants

Hayden Andrews

Ashley Bradham

Sam Bradham

Nina Johnson

Lilly Meyi

Emma Pretorius

Emme Turner

Hutch Turner

Mac Turner

47 In the Lord

El Senyor

$\text{♩} = 69$

In the Lord I'll be ev-er thank-ful, in the Lord I will re-joice! Look to God, do not be a-
 El Se-nyor és la me-va for - ça, el Se-nyor el me-u cant. Ell m'hae-stat la sal-va-ci-

fraid; lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near; lift up your voic-es, the Lord is near. In the
 ó. En ell con - fi - o, i no tinc por. En ell con - fi - o, i no tinc por. El Se-

fine
 F Dm C

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.

The Congregational Church of Needham

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The Rev. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Jamie Klopotoski, Youth Minister

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Dir of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Youth Music Reception- If you heard our Youth Choirs last week, you know that they sound FANTASTIC, and they have a great time making music together in rehearsals. To share in the joy and to find out more about the growing Youth Music Program, please join us for a short **Youth Music Reception during coffee hour next week, April 6th**, following the First Communion Service. We will have information about how your child can participate (JOIN ANY TIME!) We will also be celebrating our new Youth Music Choir Director, Valerie Becker, for the outstanding job she is doing, and congratulating our wonderful young singers for their beautiful music so far this year. We welcome all of you to join us!

Guatemala 'Servathon' Seeks Sponsors/Workers- The Guatemala Partnership hopes to be able to count on your support as Sponsors and/or Workers for our day of community-service work projects at the church and in the wider community (April 12th). Please contact Nancy Lane at: nrlane6@hotmail.com, if you are able to work on this fundraiser, and/or please support the volunteer workers who may ask for your pledge. Proceeds support education and community development in our sister village of Santa María Tzejá. Thank you.

Hunger Relief Experiential lunch event - Sun. April 13

Did you know that 1 in 5 kids in the U.S. struggle with hunger? The Outreach Committee has recently been focusing more of its funding efforts on hunger relief organizations in Needham, Metrowest and Boston. Now it's time for the congregation to get involved! A series of opportunities in April & May have been coordinated for you to learn about the issue of hunger and to actively make a difference. We'll launch the series with an **experiential lunch-and-learning event after service on Sunday, April 13**, that will enlighten your thinking about hunger and present some important voices in our area's fight against food insecurity. Stay tuned for more details!

Calling all Soup Makers – Calling all soup makers for Maundy Thursday Dinner! We will be gathering for a simple soup dinner on the evening of **Maundy Thursday, April 17 at 6 pm** in Fellowship Hall. If you would like to contribute a home-made soup for our supper together, please e-mail Rev. Heike at revheike@needhamucc.org or call 781-444-2510.

Men's Breakfast, Sunday April 27 [Note change of date due to Easter]. The Men's Breakfast brings men of all ages and persuasions together once a month before worship in honest and lively discussion touching our faith and our lives in today's complex world. We get

together in the Library on the third Sunday of the month and enjoy breakfast fare provided by volunteers. We have always welcomed men of all ages and can always accommodate those with scheduling challenges. Arrive at 8:15 AM for fellowship and breakfast or by 9:00 AM for the discussion. On April 27, we will address the April worship theme of "Transformation" by discussing how we use our Christian faith in the 21st century to address changes in our lives and those of others. Contact Keith McClelland (kmmlkm@rcn.com) for more information.

EASTER PLANT DONATIONS – Please consider making a donation this Easter season to the Flower Fund in honor of loved ones. We are grateful for the flowers/plants that decorate our church and will acknowledge your generous offering in the Easter Sunday Bulletin. Unless you indicate otherwise, the flowers/plants that are used will be offered to our chancel choir to take home after the service as a symbol of appreciation for their gift of music. Thank you for your consideration. Please contact the church office at office@needhamucc.org to make a donation today!

Easter Egg Candy Needed- The Youth Groups are in the midst of planning their annual Easter Egg Hunt on Sunday, April 20th at 10am. We are in need of bags of individually wrapped candy with NO NUTS (No: Reese's, Butterfinger, Payday, Almond Joy, Snickers, etc.) Please drop off candy in the box outside of Rev. Jaime's office by April 13th. Thanks!

LIBRARY COMMITTEE NEEDS YOUR HELP: The Library Committee has added new books to the collection over the past several years and identified older books for possible discard. We don't want to discard books which may have special importance to the congregation. So, stop by the book cart at coffee hour and let us know if we are planning to discard an item that would be missed. Maybe the author has a relationship to the church – a former minister perhaps? Maybe there are references to Needham. Give us the benefit of our organizational memory before we move these books to the upcoming yard sale. For a catalog of our books, see www.librarything.com, search for NCCUCC in the search box and click on members.

Evaluations- The Board and Deacons are conducting a Church and Minister Evaluation in order to help us evaluate the effectiveness of the church and its ministers and hear about areas where we and they can grow. You are invited to fill out a survey in paper or electronic format. A link to the electronic version will come to you via e-mail. The e-mail may come to a household, but we invite all adult household members to respond individually.

The URL is <http://bit.ly/nucc2014survey>. The paper version will be available in church from March 30 through April 13. We ask that you respond by April 15. For paper responses, there will be a box in the Kimball Room (off the Narthex) on Sundays and in the church office during the week for your responses. Thank you for your thoughtful participation. If you have any questions, feel free to speak to Frank Lupino, Fabienne Madsen, Carol Oberle, Mike Yeh or Jackie Allen.

Bible Study - Sunday Group- Join us in the Reception Room at 11:30am. Newcomers are welcome! Contact Sunu Yeh for more information- dormouse99@gmail.com.

Thursday 10:30am Group- Contact Christine Weitzel for information cweitzel@verizon.net

CALENDAR for April 6th -17th

Sunday April 6th	9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> 9:15 am Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 10:00 am Worship & 1 st Formal Communion, <i>Sanct.</i> 11:00 am 1 st Communion Celebration, <i>Fellowship HL</i> 11:30 am Music Reception Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> 11:45 am Friendly Chime Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Chancel Choir Concert Rehearsal, <i>Chr Rm</i> 12:15 pm Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Music Office</i> 5:00 pm Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Music Office</i> 7:00 pm JH Youth Group SH Youth Group Guatemala Partnership Mtg, <i>Library</i>
Monday April 7th	9:00 am Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> 6:00 pm Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wednesday April 9th	7:00 pm Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday April 10th	12:00 pm Lenten Lunch with Rev. Heike, <i>Library</i> 7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>
Saturday, April 12th	8:00 am Guatemala Serv-A-Thon, <i>Kitchen, Library</i>
Sunday April 13th	9:00 am Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> 9:15 am Joyful Noise Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i> 10:00 am Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> 11:30 am Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Capital Campaign Q&A, <i>Chapel</i> Outreach Program – Hunger, <i>Linden Hal</i> 11:45 am Hallelujah Choir Rehearsal, <i>Music Office</i> 12:00 pm Chancel Choir Concert Rehearsal, <i>Chr Rm</i> Shepherd's Staff Rehearsal, <i>Music Office</i> 3:30 pm JH Youth Group 7:00 pm SR Youth Group
Monday April 14th	9:00 am Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> 6:00 pm Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Wednesday, April 16th	7:30 pm Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thursday April 17th	7:30 pm Chancel Choir Rehearsal, <i>Choir Room</i>