

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.



FIRST FORMAL COMMUNION

Sunday, May 1, 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 begin in the Chapel at 10am, then leave for
Communion in the Sanctuary.*

PRELUDE

Meditation
Felix Mendelssohn(1809-1847)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Joanne Seiden

Leader: We gather in this place—some empty, some filled, some whole, some broken:

People: Yearning for the Holy Spirit to fill us.

Leader: We come, with these ordinary people, who have shown us the way:

People: Trusting that God will continue to illumine our hearts.

Leader: We surround the Table of grace, so we might be fed by the Bread of life:

People: That graced, we may serve others; that healed, we may bring hope to the world.

***OPENING HYMN # 459 (NCH) Come, O Fount of Every Blessing**

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Meet us, Lord, on the road to Emmaus,
Guide us on the path toward our destination,
and renew our strength as we continue to walk
and commune with you.**

**Open our eyes, so we see the signs of your presence around us;
Open our hearts, so we may receive your peace and love;
and empower us to pass on to others
the grace you have shared with us so freely.**

Hear us, O Lord, as we pray for trust in your way, not ours ...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

The Lord Hear Our Prayer
Emma Lou Diemer(b 1927)

ANTHEM

Eternal God
John Rutter(1945)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 24: 36-43

NT, p. 86

SERMON

“Christ’s Gift of Trust”
Heike Werder

HYMN (seated) # 417 (NCH)

This Is a Day of New Beginnings

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

Be Calm and Peaceful
Johann Sebastian Bach (1685-1750)

**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 and Cup:
343 (NCH) Jesus Took the Bread

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 # 413 (NCH)**

By Gracious Powers

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Old Irish Blessing
Denes Agay (1911 - 2007)

POSTLUDE

Postlude XI
George Friedrich Handel(1685 - 1759)

****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: Joanne Seiden

Deacons: Sunu Yeh, Charles Baker

Communion Servers: Rick Devereux, Claudia Darmofal

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

Altar Guild: Diana Conroy, Carol Miller

Flowers: Gail Browne

Flower Delivery: Amy Kennedy

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of our grandparents, Nora and James Tuohy and Patrick Guttila by Nick and Carolyn Gutilla.

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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www.needhamucc.org*

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: Introduction to Membership

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

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.

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! The topic for the retreat is: Finding Our Balance. 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!

Is the Village Fair a long way off??? Not at all!! Knitters, crocheters and sewers dust off your needles and rev up your machines. Summer vacation is the perfect time to be creative by making items for the Knitting/Handcrafting table at

the **Fair**. For more information contact Debbie Wentworth at bmwfac@comcast.net.

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.

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**

**ARE YOU CHEF
OR TASTER?**



It's the showdown of the century!

Its 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!

Tickets will be on sale in Fellowship Hall
this Sunday!

Tasters Needed!

\$5 Admission & 1 Vote

\$10 Admission, 1 Vote
& a Limited Edition Commemorate Chili Cook-Off Bowl!

FIRST FORMAL COMMUNION

The following children have completed the Communion Workshop and they will be leading the congregation to the altar for the sacrament.

Nora Guttilla
Isabel Montzka



*There will be a special cake in
Coffee Hour in honor of this occasion.*

CALENDAR May 1st—May 14th

Sunday, May 1st First Formal Communion	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
Sunday, May 8th Bible Sunday	10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service/Bible Sunday, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Junior High Youth Group Senior High Youth Group
Monday, May 9th	9:00 am 6:00 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i> Confirmation Class, <i>Linden Hall</i>
Tuesday, May 10th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wed., May 11th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, May 12th	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, May 14th	9:00 am	Guatemala Yard Sale, <i>505 Great Plain Ave.</i>