

Sunday, May 15, 2016

10:00am

CONFIRMATION SUNDAY PENTECOST

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

Canon
Louis Couperin (1626-1661)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Scott Stewart

Leader: The Day of Pentecost is here! God's children have gathered in this place:

People: We are transformed into God's family by God's Spirit joining with ours.

Leader: Come, Spirit of adoption, and open our hearts to our sisters and brothers.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Come, Spirit of peace, and calm our trembling hearts.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

Leader: Come, Breath of God, and overturn our conventional lives.

People: Come, Holy Spirit!

***OPENING HYMN # 272 (NCH)**

On Pentecost They Gathered

OPENING PRAYER

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

**Spirit God, breathe into our lives and move us to action:
Where walls separate us, help us to break them down.
Where the doors of compassion are closed, blow them open.
Where our language divides, offer us translation.
Where our fear overcomes, fill us with the fire of courage.
Where forgiveness needs to be given, offer us words of love.
Where our lives are too comfortable, fill our sails with winds of chal-
lenge, moving us toward a new future.
Fill us with the hope and promise of Pentecost as we pray...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

The Lord Has Heard Our Prayer

Emma Lou Diemer (b 1927)

RITE OF CONFIRMATION

(Children leave for Bible Village after the Rite of Confirmation.)

Invitation

Questions of the Candidates

The Covenant of the Congregational Church of Needham and the statement of Welcome.

Blessing of the Confirmands

Congregational Welcome

We welcome you into full membership in the congregation. We promise you our continuing friendship and prayers. We promise to share with you the joys and labor of the church of Jesus Christ. By the power of the Holy Spirit, may we continue to grow together in God's knowledge and love. By the grace of God, may we be open to your gifts, as together we strive to live as a community that celebrates Christ's new life. Amen.

*Child of love, our love's expression, love's creation, loved indeed!
Fresh from God, refresh our Spirit, into joy and laughter lead.*

ANTHEM

Arioso in G (from Cantata #156)
Johann Sebastian Bach(1685 - 1750)
Eric Slosser - cello
Soomi Lee Lowry - piano

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Romans 8: 14-17 NT, p. 148

SERMON

“Real Good News”
Heike Werder

HYMN # 351 (NCH)

I Was There to Hear Your Boring Cry

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 o 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

The Gift of Love
Hal Hopson (b. 1933)

***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 # 263 (NCH)**

O Spirit of the Living God

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Old Irish Blessing
Denes Agay(1911 - 2007)

POSTLUDE

Duet
Johann Ludwig Krebs (1713-1780)

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

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

Special thanks to Eric Slosser and Soomi Lee Lowry for sharing their 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: Scott Stewart

Deacons: Rick Devereux, Susan Lively

Ushers: Mike Normile, Janet Jankowiak, Bob Everts, Jim Conroy

Altar Guild: Mary Barber

Flowers: Gail Browne

Flower Delivery: Joanne Seiden

The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Carolyn and Jack Prizer and Barbara and Rick Devereux by Dana and Rick Devereux.

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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

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.

Partner-Family Letters Due June 1st!

Our volunteer translators need time to work their magic on your partner-family letters for the August delegation to Santa Maria Tzeja, so please submit them by June 1st to: davebjohnson77@gmail.com or drop them off in the Guatemala Box or at the Church Office. Thank you.

Request for Altar Flower Donations

Altar flower donations are needed for Sunday, June 5th. 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 Beverly Bolivar at bwbolivar@verizon.net or at 781-449-2202.

Come join THE FRIENDLY SOCIETY on Thursday, May 26, 7:00 pm for an evening of Romantic French songs and show tunes presented by church members Carolyn MacGregor and Cici Hunt in the sanctuary. Afterwards you're invited to enjoy strawberry shortcake in Linden Hall. All are welcome for this delightful evening of free entertainment and refreshment. Contact Joanne Seiden for information or to RSVP if you'll stay for dessert (jseiden@basiclink.com, 781-449-6535).

You are invited to join Adult Bible Study. We will be reading the book of Ecclesiastes, in which a wise man reflects on the nature of our human life and our relationship to God. We meet on Sundays immediately after church from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. Contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com for more information. Please drop by and try us out!

The Environmental Ministry Team has information available about garden, lawn and tree care on their bulletin board in the hallway going towards Fellowship Hall. Please feel free to take any of the information you may need to help you create flower and vegetable gardens, provide green lawn care and plant and care for native trees.

The True Cost

Did you miss the Environmental Ministries Team's screening of this film last month about the social and environmental impacts of the fashion industry, what is being done and what YOU can do? You can still see it, as we have a both a DVD and a Blu-Ray copy available to loan out. Please contact Anne Hayek and

Isabell Wells at EMT@needhamucc.org to request one or the other, or call 781.449.2052.

Request for Ushers

Would you like to contribute to the life of our church, but are worried that you might not have the time? Consider ushering! Ushers serve one Sunday per month, and need to be in the sanctuary from about 20 minutes before and 20 minutes after service. Interested? Please speak with Eric Slosser or email him at eric@slosser.net.

Summer Music

If you are interested in contributing to our musical offering during the summer time please see Valerie Becker. These services are low key and it is a lovely way to share your gifts with everyone!

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, pmccrary@citymissionboston.org.

CALENDAR May 15th—June 5th

Sunday, May 15th Confirmation Sunday	8:00 am 10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Confirmation Breakfast Worship / Confirmation, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception</i> Junior High Youth Group Memorial Service for Frida Boyd, <i>Sanctuary</i> Senior High Youth Group
Monday, May 16th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Thursday, May 19th	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Friday, May 20th		Women's Retreat
Sunday, May 22nd	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 4:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception</i> Dave and Busters Senior High Youth Group
Monday, May 23rd	9:00 am	Cancer Support, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Tuesday, May 24th	7:00 pm	Outreach Meeting,
Thursday, May 26th	7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Friendly Strawberry Festival Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, May 29th	10:00am	Worship, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Monday, May 30th		Memorial Day—Office Closed
Tuesday, May 31st	7:00 pm	CE Meeting
Thursday, June 2nd	12:00pm 7:30 pm	Lunch w/ Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, June 5th Youth Sunday	10:00am 11:30am 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception</i> Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i>

AUGUST VBS

Animal Academy

August 22 - 26

8:30 AM - Noon

Kids ages 3-10 are invited to come and learn about the furry, feathery, and creepy-crawly members of God's family! Come sing songs, play games, learn about animals in our science workshops, do arts and craft projects, and participate in animal activities! A traveling petting zoo will come to visit. An animal shelter will show us the ways we can help homeless animals. And we'll have lots of fun learning to love all of Creation the way that God loves us! *Please note, children will be in supervised contact with farm animals and puppies.*

\$30 per day per student for first child, \$20 per day for each child after. Due by June 30. Please note, students must be potty-trained. Sign-ups begin May 15 at <http://needhamucc.org/VBS>

Lunch Bunch: Noon - 1 PM, \$5 per student Our snacks and lunches are entirely peanut and tree-nut free. Typical lunches: chicken nuggets, sandwiches, pizza.

Scholarships are available! Please reach out to us at youth@needhamucc.org if you are interested in a scholarship application.



CONFIRMED TODAY

MAY 15, 2016

Will Baker
Jonathan Bolivar
Julia Cuddy
Isabel Dirks
Dana Fernandez
McKenzie Huff
Henry Kennedy
Francesca Luppino
Madeline Mollerus
Alex Putprush
Claudia Sesso
Cole Stedman
Sophie Findlay Walters

Warm Thanks to their Confirmation Mentors

John Baldwin
Rob Dunlavey
Dave Johnson
Fabienne Madsen
Tom Mollerus
Judi Stewart
Jamie Turner
Jean Veigas
Carla Verschoor Kriss
Rein Verschoor Kriss

Diana Conroy
Caryl Johnson
Martha Lamb



The Congregational Church of Needham

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 missions 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.

Welcoming Statement

As a covenant community we are committed to the belief that all people are created equal before God. In affirmation of the inclusive love to Christ Jesus, we welcome persons of any race, gender, age, sexual orientation, ability and economic circumstance to full participation in community life and ministry. We strive to reflect these beliefs in the language and content of our worship and in our lives together.