



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

May 22, 2016



## 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, May 22, 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 be dismissed to the Chapel after Time for Children. Students in grades 9-12 may stay in the Sanctuary with their parents.*

**PRELUDE**

Prelude  
*by Henry Purcell*

**ANNOUNCEMENTS**

**CHORAL INTROIT**

*In memory of Frida Boyd*

Bradbury  
*arr Lloyd Larson*

Friendly Chimers under the direction of Crosby Goshgarian

**CALL TO WORSHIP**

Carol Oberle

Leader: We have come to worship God, the living God,

**People: Who calls prophets and teachers to bear witness.**

Leader: We have come to praise God, the almighty God,

**People: Who answers the forces of hatred and hurt with the power of grace.**

Leader: We have come to worship God, all-gracious God,

**People: Who chooses even you and me, to receive and carry the Word of life and hope.**

**\*OPENING HYMN # 261 (NCH)**

**Let Every Christian Pray**

## OPENING PRAYER

### *Call to Prayer*

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

**People: We lift them up to the Lord.**

Leader: Let us pray.

### *Unison Prayer*

**God of mercy,  
we come celebrating our unity,  
but we confess the many ways  
that we are divided.**

**Our nationality, ethnic origin, economic status,  
gender, age, and musical preferences  
all too often obscure the common calling  
we share in Christ's name.**

**May our common identity as your children  
and our communal witness to Christ  
bind us together in your name.**

**Forgive our tendency toward separation and division,  
and remind us that we are your Easter people.**

**Hear us as we pray ...**

### *Silent Prayer*

### *Lord's Prayer*

### *Prayer Response*

Amen from Ave Maria

*Maggie Furtak*

## TIME FOR CHILDREN

*All children leave for Bible Village after the Time for Children.*

## CHILDREN'S HYMN #325

## Child of Blessing, Child of Promise

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

## ANTHEM

Alleluia  
*Maggie Furtak*

**SERMON**

“Brave and Faithful Boldness”  
Rev. Wendy Vander Hart

**# HYMN**

**For Everyone Born**

For Everyone Born

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
for everyone born, clean water and bread,  
a shelter, a space, a safe place for growing,  
for everyone born, a star overhead,

Refrain:

and God will delight when we are creators  
of justice and joy, compassion and peace:  
yes, God will delight when we are creators  
of justice, justice and joy!

For woman and man, a place at the table,  
revising the roles, deciding the share,  
with wisdom and grace, dividing the power,  
for woman and man, a system that's fair,

[Refrain]

For young and for old, a place at the table,  
a voice to be heard, a part in the song,  
the hands of a child in hands that are wrinkled,  
for young and for old, the right to belong,

[Refrain]

For just and unjust, a place at the table,  
abuser, abused, with need to forgive,  
in anger, in hurt, a mindset of mercy,  
for just and unjust, a new way to live,

[Refrain]

For everyone born, a place at the table,  
to live without fear, and simply to be,  
to work, to speak out, to witness and worship,  
for everyone born, the right to be free,

[Refrain]

## 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.**

Leader: Let us pray:

*Pastoral Prayer*

*Congregational Response #521(NCH)*

**In Solitude**

**In solitude, in solitude, I come to 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*

Traveling a Mighty Rocky Road

*Maggie Furtak*

*\*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 # 388 (NCH)**

**Help Us Accept Each Other**

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Amen

*Maggie Furtak*

**POSTLUDE**

Offerte upon Vive le Roy!

*By Andre Raison*

*\*You are invited to stand.*

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

**A special thank you to Maggie Furtak for sharing her gifts as a composer with the choir and the congregation with some of her musical compositions in our Worship Service today.**

- 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](http://www.needhamucc.org), our church website.

*Worship Assistant:* Carol Oberle  
*Deacons:* Sally Fitzgerald, Susan Lively  
*Ushers:* Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison  
*Altar Guild:* Denice Koljonen  
*Flowers:* Gail Browne  
*Flower Delivery:* Martha Lamb

*The flowers on the altar are given to the glory of God and in loving memory of Robert T. Smart by the Haynes family.*

Reverend Wendy Vander Hart

Please greet and welcome our preacher today, the Reverend Wendy Vander Hart. Wendy is an Associate Conference Minister in the MA Conference of the United Church of Christ whose mission is to “nurture vitality and covenant among our churches to make God’s love and justice real.” Her focus is ministering to the ministry of the churches. She works with churches, pastors, search committees and the Committees on Ministry in the Northeast and Metropolitan Boston Associations. She comes to this work after having served two pastorates in 18 years at the Melrose Highlands Congregational Church and First Congregational Church in Reading and having served the Conference in many capacities. When weather permits she enjoys golf, gardening and riding her bike.

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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**

**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](mailto:dormouse99@gmail.com) for more information. Please drop by and try us out!

### **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](mailto: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 12th. 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](mailto:bwbolivar@verizon.net) or at 781-449-2202.

### **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!

**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.

### **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,  
[pmclary@citymissionboston.org](mailto:pmclary@citymissionboston.org).

**Request for Altar Guild Volunteers:** The Altar Guild is looking for volunteers. High school students are welcome to join. Please contact Carol Miller at [milerc291@verizon.net](mailto:milerc291@verizon.net) for more information.

**save THE DATE!**

# END OF THE YEAR BBQ

**Sun.  
June  
12th**

Immediately  
following Worship.



## CALENDAR May 22nd—June 5th

Sunday, May 22nd	8:15 am 9:00 am 10:00am 11:30am 4:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Friendly Chimers Rehearsal, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Dave and Busters Senior High Youth Group John Allen Installation, <i>Milton</i>
Monday, May 23rd	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Tuesday, May 24th	7:00 pm	Outreach Meeting
Thursday, May 26th	7:00 pm 7:30 pm	Friendly Strawberry Festival, <i>Linden Hall</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, May 29th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>
Monday, May 30th		Memorial Day– Office Closed
Tuesday, May 31st	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, June 2nd	12:00pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, June 5th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service/Youth Sunday, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i>

### You are Invited!

This Sunday, May 22, at 4 p.m., John Allen will be installed as the 23rd Pastor of the First Congregational Church of Milton. You are invited to attend this festive worship service. John. Martin B. Copenhaver, President of Andover-Newton Theological Seminary, will preach. Refreshments will be served afterwards.

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-up at church or 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](mailto:youth@needhamucc.org) if you are interested in a scholarship application.

