



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

August 28, 2016

Blessing of the Backpacks

Remembering Emmett Till

July 25, 1941 - August 28, 1955



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.

Childcare for infants, toddlers, and preschoolers is available in the preschool room downstairs during the service.

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Chopin prelude in D flat Minor
Soomi Lee Lowry, Pianist

WELCOME

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

***OPENING HYMN**

God, We Gather As Your People
(See insert)

PRAYER

Unison Prayer

Love Is Not Concerned
Alice Walker

love is not concerned
with whom you pray
or where you slept
the night you ran away
from home
love is concerned
that the beating of your heart
should kill no one

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

(please pray whatever form is familiar to you; many choose to pray Our Father and Mother....debts/debtors or trespasses/those who trespass...)

LIGHTING CANDLES FOR JOYS & CONCERNS

(while music is played, you're invited to come forward to light candles)

HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

This little Light of mine—I'm gonna let it shine
This little Light of mine—I'm gonna let it shine

This little Light of mine—I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine...

UPDATE FROM VBS

Maddie Downer

BLESSING OF THE BACKPACKS

SCRIPTURE LESSON

from Exodus 28

HYMN

This Little Light of Mine

Everywhere I go—I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go—I'm gonna let it shine
Everywhere I go—I'm gonna let it shine,
let it shine, let it shine, let it shine...

SERMON

“Remembering Emmett Till and Why His Black Life Still Matters”

Jim Mitulski

HYMN OF RESPONSE

Precious Lord
(See insert)

PASTORAL PRAYER

OFFERING OF TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

To A Wild Rose
Edward MacDowell

**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**

God of Grace and God of Glory
(See insert)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Ravel Sonatine, 1st Movement
Soomi Lee Lowry, Pianist

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

A special Thank you to Soomi Lee Lowry, guest pianist, for sharing her gift of music with us this morning.

Deacons: Joanne Seiden, Sally Fitzgerald

Altar Guild: Mary Barber

Ushers: Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison

Flowers: Debbie Wentworth

Flower Delivery: Joanne Seiden

The flowers on the altar are given today by Christine and Rich Weitzel and their children, Nicole and Ryan, in honor of Joan M. Waggener (Christine's mother). Grandma./Nana Joan has been missed every day this past year.

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.

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time.
- Please turn off your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like or need a hearing device.

The Board is responsible for the overall administrative life of the church including buildings, finances, personnel and the overall health of the church.

Moderator - Jackie Allen

Clerk - Keith McClelland

Term Ends 2017

Christine Weitzel

Len Chang

Carl Madsen

Michael Normile

Term Ends 2018

Blair Wentworth

Sharmon Prialux

Howie Sesso

Term Ends 2019

Jim Conroy

Diane Rees

Kristin Mollerus

The Deacons are responsible for the spiritual life and well-being of the church.

Chair - Frank Luppino

Vice Chair - Susan Lively

Term Ends 2017

Stephanie Oddleifson

Sunu Yeh

Joanne Seiden

Lee McNally

Sally Fitzgerald

Term Ends 2018

Charlie Baker

Kirby Salerno

Claudia Darmofal

Term Ends 2019

Rick Devereux

Dibby Moder

Scott Stewart

Carol Miller

Jean Veigas

Worship Schedule Through September 18, 2016

September 4 - Communion & Labor Day Sunday “All Work is Sacred”

Rev. Jim preaches on Luke 13:10-17.

Worship resumes in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 11

Welcome Back! Sunday & Communion– plan now to invite family and friends for this festive Homecoming Celebration.

September 18 - Rev. Heike will be preaching. The Guatemala Partnership welcomes everyone to Linden Hall following Worship for the August Delegation Report Back.

Rev. Jim Mitulski's Office Hours

Please contact the church office to schedule an appointment during his office hours of Tuesday & Wednesday 2-6pm; Thursday 2-5pm

*If these times do not work for you please contact the office for alternate availability.

Staff

Interim Senior Minister

The Rev. Jim Mitulski

RevJim@needhamucc.org

781-444-2510, ext. 106

Associate Minister

The Rev. Heike Werder

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Director of Children & Youth Ministries

Madelyn Downer

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Music Director

Valerie Becker

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Organist/Accompanist

Sangyoung Kim

Church Administrator

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Handyman

Bill Donovan

Housekeeper

Sanira Alchaar

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The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Bring a symbol of your Work to church next Sunday!

Next week is Labor Day Sunday – a day in the life of the church when we think about the work we do or is done for us, the work we do that gives us meaning, or maybe the work we wish we could do toward more or deeper meaning.

Everyone is invited to bring a symbol of their work for the altar; something that defines what you are doing; a symbol of your work; a symbol of what gives meaning to your life which sometimes is not what you do (or did) for a living.

Friendly Society

Our first meeting of the year welcomes Rev. Jim Mitulski for a get acquainted opportunity on **Sept. 8, 1:30, 1180 GPA**. Enjoy Heike's soup lunch at noon, then stay (or come) for fellowship and dessert. Members and friends are welcome.

Guatemala Partnership Welcome Back Brunch on September 11th

We would like to re-start the tradition in which Guatemala partner families host a welcome back brunch for the congregation, this year on September 11th following the service. If you are able to help, please see Val Kistler or Brenda Metzler after church to sign up to bring baked goods or other brunch items or to help with set-up or clean up. Or you can email Val Kistler at valk228@gmail.com. Let's make this a very special welcome back for the congregation, as we return from summer activities!

Altar Flower Donations

An opportunity awaits to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion in the month of September. Anyone interested may contact the church office at office@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510. Additionally, an altar donation form can be found in the circular rack in the Narthex. Complete the form and place it in the manila envelope. The Flower Committee looks forward to acting on your behalf.

Let's Read Together! "The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead

Join us in reading Colson Whitehead's timely new novel "The Underground Railroad." We'll gather on a weeknight in September to dis-

cuss the book, on a date yet to be determined. See Jim Mitulski or email with questions RevJim@needhamucc.org.

Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

Share Your Abundance Sunday!

If you have first crops, second crops, and bumper crops and you do not know what to do with it, bring it to church to share.

Items can be placed on the table outside for people to take.

Save the Date!

**Saturday
September 17th
6pm**

Pie-Athalon

Help us Welcome our new Interim Senior Minister, Rev. Jim Mitulski with a pie extravaganza! Bring your favorite sweet or savory pie to share.

If you're baking your pie and want to be entered in the contest for BEST PIE, please email the office at office@needhamucc.org





Ride for Food September 25, 2016

For all those who are interested in participating in the annual Ride for Food, it is time to sign up.

Please go to the Needham Community Council website and click on the rider. Follow instructions for signing up.

Our church group will be a sub-team of the Needham Community Council team.

For those who do not wish to ride but would like to sponsor our team, you will be encouraged to make a donation on Sundays for our riders, starting August 21, 2016. Rev. Heike has a pledge list, and will be ready to receive sponsorship donations.

So far, 8 people are planning to ride but we are hoping and wishing for more.

It is not too late starting to train for the ride. All you need to do is: dust off your bike, pump up the tires, find that helmet, and start biking!

CALENDAR August 28th– September 18th

Sunday, Aug. 28th Blessing of the Backpacks	10:00am	Worship Service, <i>Chapel</i>
Sunday, Sept. 4th	10:00am	Worship Service– Communion, <i>Chapel</i>
Monday, Sept. 5th Labor Day		Office Closed
Tuesday, Sept. 6th	10:00am 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Prayer Shawl Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Youth Committee
Wed., Sept. 7th	6:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thurs., Sept. 8th	12:00pm 1:30 pm 7:30 pm	Lunch with Heike, <i>1180 GPA</i> Friendly Society Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, Sept, 11th Welcome Back Sunday & Communion	10:00am 11:00pm 11:15am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Village Orientation & Registration Welcome Back/Refreshments Junior High Youth Group Orientation Senior High Youth Group Orientation Guatemala Partnership Meeting
Monday, Sept. 12th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 13th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wed., Sept. 14th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thurs., Sept. 15th	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Holy Homework/Senior High, <i>Youth Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sat., Sept. 17th	6:00 pm	Pie-Athalon! Meet Rev. Jim Mitulski
Sunday, Sept. 18th	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Guatemala Report Back Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i>

274 God, We Gather as Your People

G/A D G D

1 God, we gath - er as your peo - ple to raise our song a -
 2 Oh, we sing for all the chil - dren, that one day they be
 3 Oh, we pray for all the young lives cut short by fear and
 4 God, we're work - ing for the fu - ture when chil - dren far and

G D D/F#

bove, and we dare to claim the prom - ise of your
 free; and we sing for gen - er - a - tions yet to
 shame, so a - fraid of who they are and whom they
 wide can live their lives with dig - ni - ty and

Asus4 A Bm

love. Though the day may not yet
 be, that they nev - er have a
 love. May the mes - sage now be
 pride. As they grow in strength and

D/A G D/F#

be here, we trust it soon will be, when your
 rea - son to doubt that they are blest. May they,
 ban - ished that your love is for the few; may their
 stat - ure, may they join us hand in hand, as a -

INVITATION AND HOSPITALITY

Refrain
D

Em7 Asus4 A7 D G/D

chil - dren will be free.
in your love, find rest.
faith in you re - new.
gainst all hate we stand. Oh, may our

G D/F# G

hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen

D/F# Em D/F# Asus4

wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - ery - one in - side.

F#7/A# Bm D/A G

For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be -

D/F# Em Asus4 A7 D G/D D

long. May that wel - come be our song.

The image shows a musical score for a song titled "Invitation and Hospitality". It is written in G major (one sharp) and 4/4 time. The score consists of five systems of music, each with a vocal line and a guitar accompaniment line. The guitar line includes chord diagrams and chord names above the staff. The lyrics are written below the vocal line. The first system includes a "Refrain" label above the G/D chord. The lyrics are: "chil - dren will be free. in your love, find rest. faith in you re - new. gainst all hate we stand. Oh, may our hearts and minds be o - pened, fling the church doors o - pen wide. May there be room e - nough for ev - ery - one in - side. For in God there is a wel - come, in God we all be - long. May that wel - come be our song."

Precious Lord, Take My Hand

Thomas A. Dorsey

George N. Allen

1. Pre - cious Lord, take my hand, Lead me on, help me
2. When my way grows drear, Pre - cious Lord, lin - ger

The first system of music consists of a treble and bass staff in 3/4 time, key of B-flat major. The treble staff contains the vocal melody with two verses of lyrics. The bass staff provides a simple harmonic accompaniment.

stand; I am tired, I am weak, I am worn;
near; When my life is al - most gone,

The second system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics describe the singer's state of exhaustion and despair.

Thru the storm, thru the night, Lead me on to the
Hear my cry, hear my call, Hold my hand lest I

The third system continues the melody and accompaniment. The lyrics express a plea for help and guidance through difficult times.

light, Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.
fall; Take my hand, pre-cious Lord, lead me home.

The fourth system concludes the piece with a final plea for help and a request to be led home.

God of Grace and God of Glory

436

Harry Emerson Fosdick, 1930; alt.

1 God of grace and God of glo - ry, on your peo - ple
 2 From the e - vils that sur - round us and as - sail the
 3 Cure your chil - dren's war - ring mad - ness; bend our pride to
 4 Set our feet on loft - y plac - es; gird our lives that
 5 Save us from weak res - ig - na - tion to the e - vils

pour your power; crown your an - cient church - 's sto - ry;
 Sav - ior's ways, from the fears that long have bound us—
 your con - trol. Shame our reck - less, self - ish glad - ness,
 they may be ar - mored with all Christ - like grac - es,
 we de - plore; let the search for your sal - va - tion

bring its bud to glo - rious flower. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 free our hearts for faith and praise. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 rich in things and poor in soul. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 in the fight to set us free. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,
 be our glo - ry ev - er - more. Grant us wis - dom, grant us cour - age,

for the fac - ing of this hour, for the fac - ing of this hour.
 for the liv - ing of these days, for the liv - ing of these days.
 make our bro - ken spir - its whole, make our bro - ken spir - its whole.
 in the quest for lib - er - ty, in the quest for lib - er - ty.
 serv - ing you whom we a - dore, serv - ing you whom we a - dore.

Harry Emerson Fosdick, a prophetic preacher and writer, taught at Union Theological Seminary from 1915 to 1946. This hymn was written for the opening service and dedication of Riverside Church, New York City, which he served for twenty years.

Tune: CWM RHONDDA 8.7.8.7.8.7.7.
 John Hughes, c. 1907