



# CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

*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.*

September 11, 2016  
Welcome Back Sunday!

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

## **PREDLUDE**

Prelude in E flat  
*Scotson Clark(1840 - 1883)*

## **INVOCATION**

**\*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #417 (NCH)**

**This is a Day of New Beginnings**

## **ANNOUNCEMENTS**

Rev. Jim and Rev. Heike

## **TIME FOR CHILDREN**

## **CONGREGATIONAL GREETING**

## **PRAYER**

Act of Remembrance of 9/11

*Centering Prayer*

*( prayer written by Rev. Jaqueline Lewis of Middle Collegiate Church in New York City )*

Loving God of Peace: On this anniversary of unbelievable sorrow, comfort those who mourn, and guide our hearts toward healing and hope. Remind us of the love of Christ, love which leapt over cultural and ethnic boundaries to feed the hungry, seek the lost and care for the least. Make of Your children, no matter how we name You, one human family, bound together in the work of justice and peacemaking. Make us one with the Light that shines in the darkness and illumines a path toward understanding and reconciliation. Let love be our genuine call. Amen

*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... )*

*Prayer Response*

Sevenfold Amen  
by John Stainer

*Responsive Reading*

Connections Are Made Slowly  
by Marge Piercy from the poem "Seven of Pentacles"

Connections are made slowly, sometimes they grow underground

***You cannot tell always by looking what is happening.***

More than half a tree is spread out in the soil under your feet.

***Penetrate quietly as the earthworm that blows no trumpet.***

Fight persistently as the creeper that brings down the tree.

***Spread like the squash plant that overruns the garden.***

Gnaw in the dark and use the sun to make sugar.

***Weave real connections, create real nodes, build real houses.***

Life a life you can endure: make love that is loving.

***Keep tangling and interweaving and taking more in, a thicket and bramble  
wilderness to the outside but to us interconnected with rabbit runs and burrows and lairs.***

Live as if you like yourself, and it may happen:

***Reach out, keep reaching out, keep bringing in.***

This is how we are going to live for a long time: not always,

***For every garden know that after the digging, after the planting, after the long  
season of tending and growth, the harvest comes.***

**ANTHEM**

A Gaelic Blessing  
John Rutter (b. 1945)

**SCRIPTURE LESSON**

**Luke 15, 1-10**

# 77 The peace of the earth be with you

LA PAZ DE LA TIERRA 87. 97. 76

Am F G Esus E

The peace of the earth be with you, the peace of the heav-ens too; the

Am F G Esus E

peace of the riv - ers be with you, the peace of the o - ceans too.

C G Am Em Am

Deep peace fall - ing o - ver you.

C G Am Em A

God's peace grow - ing in you.

Text: Guatemalan traditional; translated by Christine Carson  
Music: Guatemalan folk melody

SERMON

“Home Is the Place You Get to... “  
Jim Mitulski

HYMN

The peace of the earth be with you  
Guatemalan Folk Song

OFFERTORY

Anthem

Rivers of Love  
Douglas Wagner (1952)

*\*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.**

*Offertory Prayer*

**COMMUNION CELEBRATION**

God is with you.

**And also with you.**

Let us lift up your hearts.

**We lift them up to God.**

Let us give God thanks and praise

**it is a good and joyful thing to do.**

It is a good and joyful thing to do, always and everywhere to give you thanks, Holy One, Mother and Father of us all. Therefore we praise you, joining our voices with all the prophets, martyrs, angels and saints, people of faith in every age, and with all of creation as we sing this hymn to the glory of your names.

**Santo (Holy)**

15

ARGENTINA 67.95

San - to, san - to, san - to, mi cor - a - zon te a - do - ra! Mi  
Ho - ly, ho - ly, ho - ly, my heart, my heart a - dores you! My

cor - a - zon te sa be de - cir: san - to e - res Se - ñor.  
heart is glad to say the words: you are ho - ly, Lord.

Text: Variation on traditional liturgical text

Music: unknown; arranged by The Iona Community, based on two-part version as taught by Pablo Sosa

Arrangement copyright © 1990 WGRG The Iona Community (Scotland).

Used by permission of G.I.A. Publications, Inc., exclusive agent.

*Words of Institution*

*Blessing of Bread and Cup*

*Invitation to the Table*

ALL are welcome to receive the Bread and Cup (Gluten free option available. The cup contains grape juice). Everyone is welcome to come forward at the prompting of the Deacons; if you prefer to remain in your seat to receive communion, the Deacons will come around to serve you. Parents are welcome to decide at what age children receive communion. All children, youth and adults are welcome to come forward for a blessing in addition to or in lieu of Communion.

*Communion Hymn*

*(sung during the distribution of communion, repeat verses as there is time)*

Come to the Table

*(see insert)*

*Communion Prayer*

Having communed together at Christ's table, let us renew our covenant with each other:

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.

**\*CLOSING HYMN #247 (NCH)**

**My Shepherd is the Living God**

**BENEDICTION**

**CHORAL BENEDICTION**

Go in Love  
*Don Besig (b. 1936)*

**POSTLUDE**

Postlude  
*Henry Purcell(1659 - 1695)*

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

*Worship Assistant: Jane Clayton-Matthews*

*Deacons: Sunu Yeh, Stephanie Oddleifson*

*Communion Servers: Kirby Salerno, Carol Miller*

*Altar Guild: Diana Conroy, Laura Cullen*

*Ushers: Alex Cullen, David Libby, Nancy Lane, Eric Slosser*

*Flowers: Marie Puffer*

*Flower Delivery: Caryl Johnson*

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving memory of Barbara Fay and Robin MacMillan by Ken, Debbie (Fay), Erin and Tom Basset.*

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time.
- Please silence your cell phone before attending the service.
- Please Check In on Facebook and let people know you are here.
- You can Tweet or Instagram during the service.
- Please ask an usher if you would like or need a hearing device.

### Worship Schedule Through October 2, 2016

#### **September 18**

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

#### **September 25**

Guest preacher, the Rev. Martha M. Cruz, a minister in the United Church of Christ and the American Baptist Church, is a doctoral student at Andover Newton and a former staff member of Church Women United. She is on twitter @CubanMatriarch, where she describes herself as Immigrant, Preacher, Spiritual Director, Writer, Mother, Spouse, Grandmother, Student, Autism Advocate, Cuban-Born New Yorker, Musical Theater Lover..

#### **October 2**

We will observe World Communion Sunday, the Feast of Francis of Assisi and acknowledge with the beginning of the Jewish High Holy Days and Rosh Hashanah (the Jewish New year 5777).



### **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!

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  
Ken Allen  
Carl Madsen  
Michael Normile  
Howard Sesso

Term Ends 2018  
Blair Wentworth  
Sharmon Priaulx

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

9/4/2016 Worship Attendance = people 67

9/4/2016 Collection & Pledges = \$3,703

Please contact the church office (781-444-2510 or [office@needhamucc.org](mailto:office@needhamucc.org)) to find out how you can give electronically.

### **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  
RevHeike@needhamucc.org  
781-444-2510, ext. 105

Director of Children & Youth Ministries  
Madelyn Downer  
Youth@needhamucc.org  
781-444-2510, ext. 104

Music Director  
Valerie Becker  
musicdirector@needhamucc.org

Organist/Accompanist  
Sangyoung Kim

Church Administrator  
Danielle Jurdan  
Office@needhamucc.org  
781-444-2510, ext. 101

Office Assistant  
Cindy Sullivan  
Office2@needhamucc.org  
781-444-2510, ext. 100

Bookkeeper  
Suzanne Leslie  
Finance@needhamucc.org  
781-444-2510, ext. 113

Handyman  
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper  
Sanira Alchaar

The Congregational Church of Needham  
1154 & 1180 Great Plain Avenue  
Needham, Massachusetts 02492  
[www.needhamucc.org](http://www.needhamucc.org)

Facebook: Congregational Church of Needham UCC  
Twitter @needhamucc Instagram: needhamucc  
781-444-2510 office@needhamucc.org  
*The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus*



## ANNOUNCEMENTS

### **TODAY: Q&A With Rev. Jim 11:30am, September 11, Linden Hall**

Rev. Jim is hosting a Q & A with our congregation to open the discussion about ...

- \* Why Interim Ministry?
- \* What will our time together look like?
- \* How long will it last?
- \* What will we accomplish?
- \* How will it feel?

### **Welcome Back Brunch Today!**

The Guatemala Partnership invites everyone to a Welcome Back Brunch immediately after the service today. Serve yourself some homemade goodies (prepared by our Guatemala partner families) in Linden Hall and then head into Fellowship Hall to reconnect with old friends and make new ones. An informal forum with Rev. Jim will follow.

### **Pie-athlon**

You are cordially invited to our first annual Pie-athlon on **September 17, 2016 from 6 to 8 pm in Fellowship Hall**. This event will give you a chance to meet our Interim Senior minister Jim Mitulski.

Pie Makers: We are looking for wildly "insane" varieties of pies – salty and sweet, with meat and without, fruit or vegetable, fish or fowl, with crust and without, round or square – you decide. Please call (781-444-2510) or e-mail Rev. Heike ([revheike@needhamucc.org](mailto:revheike@needhamucc.org)) if you plan to make a pie and what kind for the event.

### **August Delegation 'Reportback', Sunday, Sept. 18, 11:30 am, Linden Hall**

All are invited to attend this presentation by the August travelers, including several of our high school youth, who will share highlights of their visit to our sister community of Santa María Tzejá. If you are considering joining a delegation, don't miss this opportunity to see what it's all about! Light refreshments will be served.

### **Breakfast with Rev. Jim October 2 & October 23, 8:30-9:30am in the Church Library**

Come have breakfast with our new Interim Minister, Rev. Jim Mitulski. No need to sign up – everyone is welcome. No need to bring anything but your questions, and your vision as we look ahead to the Interim Ministerial Period.

### **Let's Read Together!**

*"The Underground Railroad" by Colson Whitehead September 21 @ 7:00pm*

Join us in reading Colson Whitehead's timely new novel "The Underground Railroad." We'll gather on **September 21 at 7:00pm** in the 1180 Living Room to discuss the book. See Jim Mitulski or email with questions [RevJim@needhamucc.org](mailto:RevJim@needhamucc.org). Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

*"The Third Reconstruction: Moral Mondays, Fusion Politics, and the Rise of a New Justice Movement" by Rev. Dr. William J. Barber and Jonathan Wilson-Hartgrove September 28 @ 7:00pm*

We'll gather on **September 28 at 7:00pm** in the 1180 Living Room to discuss the book. See Jim Mitulski or email with questions [RevJim@needhamucc.org](mailto:RevJim@needhamucc.org). Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

### **September Sign-Ups for February 2017 Delegation to Guatemala**

We are seeking more adults and youth travelers to join the church's February 15-26, 2017 delegation to Guatemala. Please speak with co-leaders Brenda Metzler or Fred Moder today after church to learn more/sign up. Tickets must be purchased by late September, due to competition with school vacation travelers, so don't let this unique opportunity pass you by. The cost is approximately \$1,500. You may also e-mail your interest to Fred at: [fmoder@verizon.net](mailto:fmoder@verizon.net).

### **Attic Treasures**

Now is the time to sort through your Former Favorites and White Elephant gifts that have never been used! The Attic Treasures will be back at the Village Fair this year. To donate your new or gently used items or to help out on the day of the fair contact Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) or [conroyjd@rcn.com](mailto:conroyjd@rcn.com).

## CALENDAR September 11th—October 2nd

Sunday, September 11th <b>Welcome Back Sunday &amp; Communion</b>	10:00am 11:00pm 11:15am 11:30am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Village Registration Welcome Back/Refreshments Q&A with Rev. Jim, <i>Linden Hall</i> Junior High Youth Group Orientation Senior High Youth Group Orientation Guatemala Partnership Meeting
Monday, September 12th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Tuesday, September 13th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Wednesday., September 14th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, September 15th	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Holy Homework/Senior High, <i>Youth Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Saturday, September. 17th	6:00 pm	Pie-Athalon! Meet Rev. Jim Mitulski, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
Sunday, September 18th	8:15 am 10:00am 11:30am  1:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i> Senior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i> Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i>
Monday, September 19th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Wednesday, September 21st	7:00 pm	The Underground Railroad Book Discussion, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, September 22nd	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, September 25th	10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Parents Brunch Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i>
Monday, September 26th	9:00 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception</i>
Tuesday, September 27th	7:00 pm	CE Meeting, <i>1180 GPA</i> Outreach Meeting
Wednesday, September 28th	7:00 pm	The Third Reconstruction Book Discussion, <i>1180 GPA</i>
Thursday, September 29th	7:30 pm	Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, October 2nd	8:30 am 10:00am 11:30am 4:00 pm  7:00 pm	Breakfast with Rev. Jim, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Blessing of Animals Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>