



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

September 13, 2015

Theme: Communion and Community



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, September 13, 2015

10:00am

*Pre-K children are invited to the nursery throughout the service.
Students in grades K-8 will begin in the chapel and join their families in the sanctuary for Communion.*

PRELUDE

Preludes by J. S. Bach

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Kirby Salerno

Leader: Friends in Christ, welcome to this hour of worship.

People: We have come to worship the living God!

Leader: Even if you're tired and worn out—

People: We will worship God with all our heart.

Leader: Lay down the heavy things you are carrying—

People: For God hears our prayers.

Leader: Listen to what Jesus wants to tell you—

People: We are listening with an open heart.

Leader: Friends, let us worship together the Living God!

***OPENING HYMN # 8** (*Black Hymnal*)

Praise to the Living God

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 faith.
Guide us on the path toward our destination.
Renew our strength as we continue to walk with each other.
Walk with us to show us the way.
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 as we pray ...**

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response #769 (Black Hymnal)

Hear Our Prayer, O God

ANTHEM

Be Thou My Vision
Bob Chilcott (born 1955)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

1 Corinthian 11: 23-26

p. 163, NT

SERMON

“Eating Together”
Heike Werder

HYMN (*seated*) # **330** (*Black Hymnal*)
gether

Let us Break Bread To-

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

God So Loved the World
John Stainer (1840-1901)

**Doxology*

**Praise God from whom all blessing 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 (*Black Hymnal*)

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 # 459** (*Black Hymnal*) **Come, O Fount of Every Blessing**

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

May The Lord Watch Over You
Ruth Elaine Schram

POSTLUDE

Edvard Grieg Op. 68, No.1

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

- 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 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 Leader: Kirby Salerno

Deacons: Stephanie Oddleifson, Sally Fitzgerald

Communion Servers: Lee McNally, Sunu Yeh,
Charles Baker, Mary Lou Hughes

Altar Guild: Diana Conroy, Carol Miller

Ushers: Alex Cullen, Frank Luppino, Nancy Lane, Eric Slosser

Flowers: Chris Arren

Flower Delivery: Martha Lamb

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 Bassett.

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.

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The Rev. Dr. Susan Cartmell, Senior Minister
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
Madelyn Downer, Director of Children &
Youth Ministries

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Request for Altar Flower Donation - Altar flower donations are needed for **Sunday, September 20 and Sunday, September 27**. The cost of the arrangement is \$50.00 with a check payable to The Congregational Church of Needham. You may call the Church office or contact Chris Arren 781-449-4228 or c_arren@yahoo.com to receive more details if you are interested in remembering loved ones with flowers on the altar.

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 for more information.

Monthly Luncheons: Lunches have resumed. Please join us on the first Thursday of every month for soup, delicious bread and dessert, for fellowship and conversation. Lunch will be served at **12 noon at 1180 Great Plain Avenue** in the dining room. Everyone is welcome to attend!

Bible Village: The Sunday School program is looking for intergenerational volunteer teachers! Parents, high school and college students, sage church members, curious and fun people who can show our kids how much God loves them by leading a Bible Village workshop—all are invited to teach! We provide all of the materials and the lessons beforehand. Lessons are straightforward and easy to teach—and our kids are so much fun! Sign-up at: www.tinyurl.com/ChildrenYouthSignUp

Noah's Ark Preschool: Noah's Ark Preschool has 2 openings in their Lion class (4/5 year olds-Pre-K) for this fall. If you or someone you know is interested, please visit their website for more details...
<http://www.noahsarkneedham.org> or contact Ann Lyons at 781.449.2439

Adult Bible Study, Sunday's @ 11:30 Conference Room: Sunday Bible Study: Small group discussion based on reading a few chapters of the Bible at a time. We meet immediately after church, from 11:30 to 12:30 in the reception room. This fall we will continue our study of the minor prophets. Take a look at how God is still speaking to us, even in stories from thousands of years ago! This is a great opportunity to discuss your spiritual questions with other people of faith. Everyone is welcome to drop in and join us. For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Family Promise Metrowest, From Judy Mongiardo, Network Coordinator-Thank you, Needham Congregational Church! This summer you opened your hearts to the guests of Family Promise Metrowest while they were housed at Fisk United Methodist and First Congregational Churches in Natick, offering them safe shelter, nourishing meals, and gracious hospitality. These gifts free them from worry about sustenance as they engage in education or job training,

employment searches, and work diligently to return to sustainable independence. The loving care which FPM Congregations provide is the foundation of our program to homeless families with children. For all who prepared a meal, hosted a dinner, stayed overnight, read to a child, set up rooms, did laundry and more we are ever grateful.

Our next support week is **Nov. 22-28 with First Congregational Church Na-tick**. There will be 6 Training Sessions this fall if you are interested in becoming a part of this meaningful program. Please be sure to stop by our table Welcome Back Sunday to learn more. Heidi Wiesel heidi.wiesel@gmail.com or Susan Kirk susanckirk@comcast.net

KEEP THE PROMISE: AN EVENING OF FOOD TASTING TO BENEFIT FAMILIES WHO ARE HOMELESS: NOVEMBER 7, 2015

Hosted by: Temple Shir Tikva, 141 Boston Post Road, Wayland

7:00PM - 11:00PM: Come and enjoy delicious small plate appetizers and delectable desserts from local restaurants. Join our silent and live auction with Comedian Chris Zito and dance the night away with Stacey Peasley and The Grown Ups. Tickets go on sale September 8. Last year's event was sold out. Visit our website to purchase tickets and to learn more about this event , www.familypromisemetrowest.org or call the office at 508-318-4820. Come join the fun and help raise funds and awareness for Family Promise Metrowest and our Day Center Shelter and Transitional Housing Program.

"Lay Leadership" Web Page: We have a new Lay Leadership page on the Needham UCC web site. The page lists all church officers, all members of the five elected church committees, and many of the other church teams and committees with contact information. To reach the Lay Leadership page from the Needham UCC home page, click on "Contact Us" at the upper right, just above the pictures, then on "Lay Leadership" on the page that comes up.

Registration for the 2015/2016 school year at The Center is now open: The Center is an after school drop-in program for 6th (and returning 7th/8th) graders. With staff supervision, we hope that youth grow in confidence and respect for themselves and others, develop lasting friendships, learn to make positive choices, and pursue new interests. For more information, visit www.myyouthcenter.org or call 781-453-4078 or email info@myyouthcenter.org

LED Bulb Donations to Continue: If you are out shopping for energy efficient LED bulbs for your home, please consider purchasing one or two for the church. Please leave bulbs in the donation box located near the mailboxes in the church office. Here is a list of what is needed for the church:

14 12W (800-1100 lumens) A-21 lamps

45 8W (450-800 lumens) A-19 lamps

30 8W (450-800 lumens) G25 lamps

All of the lamps should have a temperature of 2700K which will provide warmer

light. Check out the EMT bulletin board for more information about LED bulbs.

Your Legacy?: Have you considered leaving the church in your will? For more information contact Len Chang. adelennig@verizon.net. Thanks for considering this important way to light the path for others who follow.

Friendly Chimers: Friendly Chimers invites anyone interested in a fun, hands-on musical experience to join them in their rehearsals, in the sanctuary. Prerequisites: be able to keep time, enjoy being in a group. For information, contact Joanne Seiden 781-449-6535; jseiden@basiclink.com.

Boiler Replacement Campaign: Make a tax deductible contribution towards the efforts for energy efficiency in our church at 1154 Great Plain Ave. With the addition of our 3 new boilers, we change our heat efficiency from 60% to 96%. With our other energy saving efforts, we hope to reduce our carbon footprint 25% by 2020! We have the potential to save \$10,000- \$15,000 each year! That savings could be used for outreach programs, Sunday school activities, further energy reduction and more! Please donate to defray the costs of the heating system which includes variable speed pumps, thermostats, an energy management system, some flow/check valves and insulation of pipes. Any contributions may be earmarked for the "Boiler Replacement Campaign". Also, if your employer has a matching program, please consider requesting a contribution match from them. Send your contribution to Danielle in the church office.

The Furniture Team needs your help. The church has lots of wonderful new space to furnish and put to work for church programs. Monetary and in-kind donations are welcome: **MOST WANTED FURNITURE LIST:** Two large conference tables and chairs, Nichols & Stone college arm chairs, Pair of modern upholstered chairs, Pair of traditional upholstered chairs, Loveseat, Coffee table and side table, FIVE 60" round folding tables. Items must be in very good condition. Upholstered pieces can be in need of slipcovers. Please contact Judi Stewart at jmgstewart@verizon.net with photos and dimensions or call 781-449-3999. The furniture team would like to look at all furniture prior to donation.

CALENDAR September 13th—September 26th

Sunday, Sept. 13th Communion & Welcome Back Sunday	10:00 am 5:30 pm 7:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Youth Group Kick Off Pizza Party Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, Sept. 14th	8:30 am 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i> 1154 GPA EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 15th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, 1180 GPA
Wed., Sept. 16th	7:30 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Thurs., Sept. 17th	7:00 pm	Youth Committee Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Saturday, Sept. 19th	6:00 pm	Guatemala Partnership Social, <i>Johnson's Home</i>
Sunday, Sept. 20th	8:15 am 10:00 am 11:30 am 5:00 pm 6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Men's Breakfast, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>Conference Room</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Junior High Youth Group Youth Group Dinner Senior High Youth Group
Monday, Sept. 21st	8:30 am	Cancer Support Group, <i>Reception Room</i>
Tuesday, Sept. 22nd	7:00 pm	Christian Education Committee
Saturday, Sept. 26th	8:30 am	All Day Church Meetings