



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 25, 2016

*Childcare for infants, toddlers, & preschoolers is available in the preschool room downstairs during the service.
After Children's Time, students are dismissed to their classrooms for Bible Village.*

PRELUDE

Allegro
JS Bach

INVOCATION

*PROCESSIONAL HYMN #436 (NCH)

God of Grace and God of Glory

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Rev. Jim

CONGREGATIONAL GREETING

PRAYER

Prayer in Solidarity with our Bikers in Ride for Food

written by Rev. Heike

Loving God, we who bear Christ's name comprise a unique kind of family.

It is our faith in Christ that bonds us together, a faith that calls us to worship and work in Jesus' name.

Bless everyone in the sanctuary as we worship this morning!

Bless everyone who is not here with us worshipping this morning for whatever reason.

Especially send your blessing upon our 18 **Riders for Food** on the road this morning as they fulfill a commitment made to raise funds for the Needham Community Council.

Bless everyone who gave so generously toward a good and just cause – for everyone has a right to good and healthy food.

Bless all the work we do in Christ's name to build up your realm in the midst of our today.

May we praise you and seek your guidance with our prayers ...

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
John Stainer

TIME FOR CHILDREN

Children leave for Bible Village after Time for Children.

CHILDREN'S HYMN # 327 (NCH)

Jesus Loves Me

POETRY READING

Adam Lawrence Dyer
from "Love Beyond God", Skinner House, 2016

ANTHEM

O Sing Unto the Lord a New Song
Peter Aston

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Luke 16:19-31

Hiroko Hardebeck

HYMN (*see insert*)

I Choose Love
In tribute to Emanuel AME, Charleston and the nine who died

SERMON

The Reverend Martha M. Cruz
Communications and Church Relations Officer
The Pension Boards, United Church of Christ

HYMN

Don't Be Afraid
(see insert)

COMMUNITY PRAYERS

Call to Prayer

Leader: God is with you.

People: And also with you.

Leader: O God, 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!

Concerns and Celebrations

Prayers For

Healing for Emily Downing.

Priscilla Lazuk who is mourning the death of her husband Al.

The friends of Betty Byers who passed away this week.

Joyce Bere and her family on the death of her aunt Dorothea Emery.

Prayers for Our Friends and Families, Our Church, Our Community, and the World

Prayer of Remembrance for Terence Crutcher and Keith Lament Scott

Congregational Response

Don't Be Afraid
(see insert)

OFFERING OF TITHES AND GIFTS

***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 #382 (NCH)**

Come We Who Love God's Name

BENEDICTION

Rev. Jim

CHORAL BENEDICTION

Go in Love
Don Besig (b. 1936)

POSTLUDE

Marche Romaine
Charles Gounod

**You are invited to stand*

Worship Assistant: Hiroko Hardebeck
Deacons: Kirby Salerno, Sally Fitzgerald
Altar Guild: Mary Barber
Ushers: Rob Blauvelt, Craig Morrison
Flowers: Marie Puffer
Flower Delivery: Joanne Seiden

The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in respectful memory of Esther and Guy Smith, our unofficial church greeters who made all who entered our sanctuary feel especially welcome.

- 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.

Riders for Food from the Congregational Church



Carla and Rein Verschoor Kirss, Nancy and Dave Tegeler, Francois Misiak, Mike Normile, Jim Ruetenik, Kenny Ruetenik, Lynn and Phil Gotwals, Linda and Seth Bauer, Mike Boyd, Carol Miller, Jamie Schweer and Heike Werder, Jane Clayton-Matthews, and Mike Yeh.

Riders individually have raised \$6,846; Church members gave around \$1,700, and Outreach will add another \$1,000 which brings us to a grand total of \$ 9,546 as donation to the Needham Community Council. That is simply awesome! Thank you everyone!

9/18/2016 Worship Attendance = 141 people 9/18/2016 Collection & Pledges = \$4,334
Please contact the church office (781-444-2510 or office@needhamucc.org) to find out how you can give electronically.

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

<u>Term Ends 2017</u>	<u>Term Ends 2018</u>	<u>Term Ends 2019</u>
Christine Weitzel	Blair Wentworth	Jim Conroy
Ken Allen	Sharmon Priaulx	Diane Rees
Carl Madsen		Kristin Mollerus
Michael Normile		
Howard Sesso		

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

Chair - Frank Luppino
Vice Chair - Susan Lively

<u>Term Ends 2017</u>	<u>Term Ends 2018</u>	<u>Term Ends 2019</u>
Stephanie Oddleifson	Charlie Baker	Rick Devereux
Sunu Yeh	Kirby Salerno	Dibby Moder
Joanne Seiden	Claudia Darmofal	Scott Stewart
Lee McNally		Carol Miller
Sally Fitzgerald		Jean Veigas

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
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781-444-2510, ext. 104

Music Director
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Organist/Accompanist
Sangyoung Kim

Church Administrator
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Bookkeeper
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781-444-2510, ext. 113

Handyman
Bill Donovan

Housekeeper
Sanira Alchaar

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The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Today: Poetry Lovers! Sunday Sept 25th at Noon: Join us for a joint program at First Parish UU that we are co-sponsoring featuring Adam Lawrence Dyer author of "Love Beyond God" (Skinner House books 2016). He will be reading some of his poetry in Worship today. Adam is a UU seminary student at Pacific School of Religion and a former student of Rev. Jim's.

Altar Flower Donations: Whether to honor a loved one or celebrate a special occasion, an opportunity awaits to accommodate your wishes. We have a vacancy in the month of October. Anyone interested may contact the church office at 781-444-2510. Additionally, an altar flower donation form can be found in the circular rack in the Narthex. You may complete a form and put it in the manila envelope. The Flower Committee looks forward to acting on your behalf.

Let's Read Together!

"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 Rev. Jim or email with questions RevJim@needhamucc.org. Books are available for purchase in the book store shelves next to the Chapel.

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.

Parent's Brunch – Sunday October 2 @ 11:30am: In order to not compete with the Ride for Food, The Parents Brunch has been rescheduled to Sunday October 2nd. Rev. Jim, Rev Heike and Maddie invite anyone to who are parents a child or youth ages 0-19 to join them in a discussion on how our youth and CE program can work with your family. It takes a village and we are a part of yours.

Friendly Society: If you missed this program "HOW DID RELIGION SHAPE NEEDHAM?" at the Needham Historical Society recently, you have another opportunity at FRIENDLY SOCIETY's **October 6 meeting, 1:30 pm, 1180 GPA**. Our speaker is Gloria Greis, Executive Director of the Needham Historical Society who will also take some questions afterwards. The program is free, and ALL ARE WELCOME!

Faith Circle Book Group: Hello Everyone-- I wanted to invite you to join our Fall Faith Circles book discussion group. We will be meeting 8 Thursdays this Fall from 10:30-12:00 to discuss the book, Not in God's Name: Confronting Religious Violence. I think it will be a great book for discussion and will foster some interesting conversations. The group starts Thursday, October 6 and ends Dec. 1. If you would like a copy of the book, please let me know and I can get you one for \$20. Please let me know if you are planning on attending for the duration or for only a few sessions, either is fine. I have attached the syllabus and please note, I am hoping you can read Chapter 1 by our first meeting together. Any questions, please let me know. Christine Weitzel.

Invitation from the Board: For everyone who was unable to attend the June 26 Capital Campaign Forum, the Forum will be repeated on **Sunday, October 16, at 8:30 AM (before worship)**. Together with our Treasurer, Jen Connors, Board Members will update you on the Capital Campaign, the future use of 1180 Great Plain Avenue and plans for capital improvements at 1154 Great Plain Avenue.

(Spoiler alert: These are all related!) We plan to review where we are, how we got here, and options for the future- short and long term. We are interested in hearing from you as we move forward together. I hope you can join us.
Jackie Allen, Moderator

EMT: The Environmental Ministry Team (EMT) presents a fall Climate Change Café: Sunday, October 16th at 11:30 A.M. in Linden Hall. Please join **Mary Lou Andre**, President of Organization by Design, a wardrobe management, fashion and image consulting firm, and editor of Dressing Well Online, as she discusses wardrobe essentials. She will help us decide what we should keep and what we should donate from our closets. A light lunch will be served.

Friendly Chimers: One of the choirs of our church, begins its year on October 2 and continues rehearsing every Sunday through December 4, after church from 11:30-12:15 in the Sanctuary. If you'd like to join us making music, please contact Joanne Seiden (781-449-6535, jseiden@basiclink.com).

Bible Study: Interested in joining a small group which will support your own faith journey? Join us for weekly Bible Study immediately after church from 11:30-12:30 in the Reception Room. Each week we meet to discuss a few chapters of the Bible. This fall we will be reading the gospel of Matthew together. Everyone is welcome to drop in and try us out! For more information or to be on the mailing list to receive weekly summaries, please contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Flower Delivery: Interested in delivering flowers after church? It can be as often or seldom as you wish. Maybe you would like to do it with a friend or a spouse? It is a ministry that reaches out and lets people know we care, and are thinking about them. If you are interested in helping, please email: martha_lamb@aol.com.

THE FAIR IS COMING! You're familiar with the festive fall and Christmas decorations at the GARDEN FENCE. □ We welcome gently used Christmas ornaments, wreaths and decorations that might be recycled into brand new decorations others will appreciate and buy! Please leave your donation in the small kitchen & label it GARDEN FENCE. Contact Joanne Seiden (781-449-6535, jseiden@badiclink.com). Thanks very much.

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.

The Auction is going UPSCALE! We are looking for high-end donations valued at \$100.00 or more. . . for example, garden center gift certificates, restaurant gift certificates, spa days, massages or vacation homes. Items valued between \$50.00 and \$100 will go in our raffle. Please consider donating! Thank you so much! Your Auction Team! Caryl Johnson and Fabienne Madsen. Contact us via email: carylgjohnson@gmail.com or fabienne@fabienmadsendesign.com.

CALENDAR September 25th—October 9th

Sunday, September 25th	10:00am 11:30am 12:00pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> 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	6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, October 2nd	8:30 am 10:00am 11:30am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Breakfast with Rev. Jim, <i>Library</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Village Open House Parents Brunch Friendly Chimers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Blessing of Animals Junior High Youth Group, <i>Youth Room</i> Guatemala Partnership Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Monday, October 3rd	9:00 am 7:15 pm	Cancer Support Group, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i>
Tuesday, October 4th	6:00 pm 7:00 pm	Community Dinner, <i>Linden Hall</i> Youth Committee Meeting
Thursday, October 6th	12:00pm 1:30 pm 6:30 pm 7:30 pm	Lunch w/ Heike, <i>1180 Dining Room</i> Friendly Society, <i>1180 GPA</i> Holy Homework, <i>Youth Room</i> Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> Choir Practice, <i>Linden AB</i>
Sunday, October 9th	10:00am 11:30am 3:30 pm 5:00 pm	Worship Service/Baptism, <i>Sanctuary</i> Bible Study, <i>1154 Reception Room</i> Friendly Chimers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Haunted House Youth Meeting Junior High Youth Group

I Choose Love

Lindy Thompson

Mark A. Miller

♩. = 48

Piano

The piano introduction consists of two staves. The right hand plays chords in the treble clef, and the left hand plays a bass line in the bass clef. The key signature has three flats (B-flat, E-flat, A-flat), and the time signature is 6/8. The tempo is marked as quarter note = 48.

5

1. In the midst of pain, I choose love.

2. In the midst of war, I choose peace.

3. When my world falls down, I will rise.

4. In the midst of pain, I choose love.

This system contains the first four lines of lyrics and the corresponding musical notation for the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is in the treble clef, and the piano accompaniment is in the bass clef. The lyrics are: 1. In the midst of pain, I choose love. 2. In the midst of war, I choose peace. 3. When my world falls down, I will rise. 4. In the midst of pain, I choose love.

8

— In the midst of pain, I choose love.

— In the midst of war, I choose peace.

— When my world falls down, I will rise.

— In the midst of pain, I choose love.

This system contains the next four lines of lyrics and the corresponding musical notation for the vocal line and piano accompaniment. The lyrics are: — In the midst of pain, I choose love. — In the midst of war, I choose peace. — When my world falls down, I will rise. — In the midst of pain, I choose love.

A reproducible congregational box is found on page 105.

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In the midst of pain, sor-row fall - ing down like rain, I a -
 In the midst of war, hate and an - ger keep - ing score, I will
 When my world falls down, ex - pla - na - tions can't be found, I will
 In the midst of pain, sor-row fall - ing down like rain, I a -

17

wait the sun a - gain, I choose love. I choose
 seek the good once more, I choose peace. I choose
 climb to ho - ly ground, I will rise. I will
 wait the sun a - gain, I choose love. I choose

21

love. _____
 peace. _____
 rise. _____
 love. _____

1., 2., 3. 4.

1., 2., 3. 4.

Don't be afraid

105

Irregular

Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger,

my love is stron-ger than your fear.

Don't be a-fraid. My love is stron-ger and

I have prom-ised, prom-ised to be al - ways near.

Text: John L. Bell
 Music: John L. Bell

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