



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

United Church of Christ

September 4, 2016

Labor Day Sunday
All Work is Sacred
Communion



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.

The Summer Day

Who made the world?

Who made the swan, and the black bear?

Who made the grasshopper?

This grasshopper, I mean-

the one who has flung herself out of the grass,

the one who is eating sugar out of my hand,

who is moving her jaws back and forth instead of up and down-

who is gazing around with her enormous and complicated eyes.

Now she lifts her pale forearms and thoroughly washes her face.

Now she snaps her wings open, and floats away.

I don't know exactly what a prayer is.

I do know how to pay attention, how to fall down

into the grass, how to kneel down in the grass,

how to be idle and blessed, how to stroll through the fields,

which is what I have been doing all day.

Tell me, what else should I have done?

Doesn't everything die at last, and too soon?

Tell me, what is it you plan to do

with your one wild and precious life?

—Mary Oliver

MUSIC FOR GATHERING

Woke Up this Mornin'
Madelyn Downer, Guitar

WELCOME

Rev. Jim & Rev. Heike

*OPENING HYMN

Hail the Glorious Golden City
(See Insert)

PRAYER

Centering Words

To Be Of Use
By Marge Piercy

I want to be with people who submerge in the task,

***Who go into the fields to harvest and work in a row
and pass the bags along.***

Who stand in the line and haul in their places,

***Who are not parlor generals and field deserters but
move in a common rhythm when the food must come in
or the fire be put out.***

The work of the world is common as mud, Botched, it smears the hands, crumbles to dust.

***But the thing worth doing well done has a shape that
satisfies, clean and evident.***

Greek amphoras for wine or oil, Hopi vases that held corn, are put in museums but you know they were made to be used.

***The pitcher cries for water to carry and a person for
work that is real.***

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

(You're welcome to light candles of joy or concern for your private intentions. You are also invited to place on the altar things which represent your work or your labor.)

HYMN

'Tis a Gift to Be Simple
(See Insert)

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Matthew 20:1-16

HYMN

'Tis a Gift to Be Simple
(See Insert)

SERMON

"All Labor is Sacred"
Rev. Heike & Rev. Jim

PRAYERS

OFFERING OF TITHES and GIFTS

OFFERTORY MUSIC

Spring in the Garden
by Bohuslav Martinu

****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

Blessing of the Bread and Cup

(Everyone is welcome to receive the bread and cup, in memory of Jesus and a sign of God's love for us and of love for each other.)

Gluten Free option available.

Communion Song

Come to the Table of Grace

(See Insert)

Passing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer After Communion

by Cesar Chavez

Show me the suffering of the most miserable;
So I will know my people's plight.
Free me to pray for others;
For you are present in every person.
Help me to take responsibility for my own life;
So that I can be free at last.
Grant me courage to serve others;
For in service there is true life.
Give me honesty and patience;
So that I can work with other workers.
Bring forth song and celebration;
So that the spirit will be alive among us.
Let the spirit flourish and grow;
So we will never tire of the struggle.
Let us remember those who have died for justice;
For they have given us life.
Help us love even those who hate us;
So we can change the world.
Amen.

***CLOSING HYMN**

Where Are Liberty and Justice?

To the Tune: Ode to Joy

(See Insert)

BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

Raging Fire
Phillip Phillips
Madelyn Downer, Guitar

**You are invited to stand*

A special Thank You to Madelyn Downer, on guitar, for sharing her gift of music with us this morning.

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.

Deacons: Dibby Moder, Joanne Seiden

Altar Guild: Jean Veigas, Diana Conroy

Ushers: Jim Leighton, Phil Gotwals, Rich Weitzel, Robert Kennedy

Flowers: Marie Puffer

Flower Delivery: Jean Veigas

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God and in loving
memory of Emily Campbell by the Lucas Family.*

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.

- 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.

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 Priaulx
 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

Term Ends 2018

Charlie Baker
 Kirby Salerno
 Claudia Darmofal

Term Ends 2019

Rick Devereux
 Dibby Moder
 Scott Stewart
 Carol Miller

8/25/2016 Worship Attendance = 65 people

8/25/2016 Collection & Pledges = \$ 1,342

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

Worship Schedule Through October 2, 2016

Worship resumes in the Sanctuary on Sunday, September 11

Jim will preach on Luke 15:1-10 and the poem “The Seven of Pentacles” by Marge Piercy”. We will celebrate Communion as a sign of congregational unity and celebration. Be sure to invite friends and family members, and make a special effort to reach out to people who have not been here in a while. After church Jim will lead a forum with questions and answers and about the next period of intentional interim ministry. If you have particular issues you would like to make sure Jim addresses, talk to him, make an appointment to see him in person, or email him at revjim@needhamucc.org.

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).

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

Facebook: Congregational Church of Needham UCC

Twitter @needhamucc Instagram: needhamucc

781-444-2510 office@needhamucc.org

The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

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.

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?

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!

Pie-athalon

You are cordially invited to our first annual Pie-athalon 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) if you plan to make a pie and what kind for the event.

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 discuss 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.

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. Please donate your new or gently used items. For questions please contact Diana Conroy (781-449-3350) or conroyd@rcn.com to get information about donating, or helping out on the day of the Fair.



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 September 4th—September 18th

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 7:15 pm	Music Team Meeting, <i>Conference Room</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Library</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 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, 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>1180 GPA</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, <i>Fellowship Hall</i>
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>

September 4, 2016

HYMN Inserts

140 Hail the Glorious Golden City

$\text{♩} = 42$

1. Hail the glo - rious gold - en cit - y, pic - tured
 2. We are build - ers of that cit - y. All our
 3. And the work that we have build - ed, oft with

by the seers of old: ev - er - last - ing light shines
 joys and all our groans help to rear its shin - ing
 bleed - ing hands and tears, oft in er - ror, oft in

o'er it, won - drous things of it are told.
 ram - parts; all our lives are build - ing - stones.
 an - guish, will not per - ish with our years:

Wise and right - eous men and wom - en dwell with -
 Wheth - er hum - ble or ex - alt - ed, all are
 it will live and shine trans - fig - ured in the

Words: Felix Adler, 1851-1933
 Music: Rowland Hugh Prichard, 1811-1887

HYFRYDOL
 8.7.8.7.D.

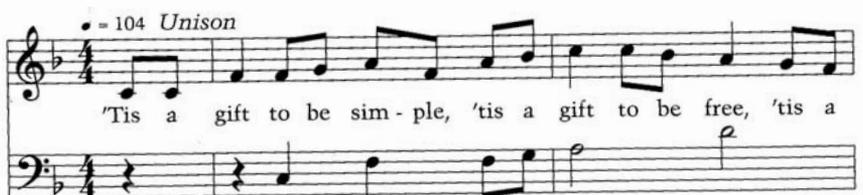
- in its gleam - ing wall, wrong is ban - ished
called to task di - vine; all must aid a -
fi - nal reign of right: it will pass in -

from its bor - ders, jus - tice reigns su - preme o'er all.
like to car - ry for - ward one sub - lime de - sign.
to the splen - dors of the cit - y of the light.

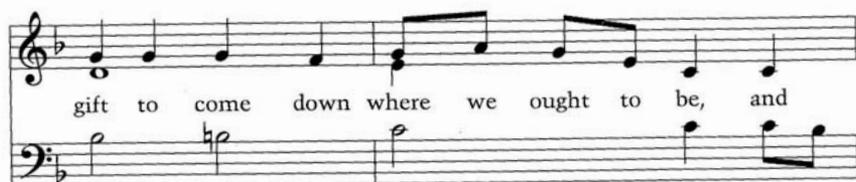
IN TIME TO COME

'Tis a Gift to Be Simple

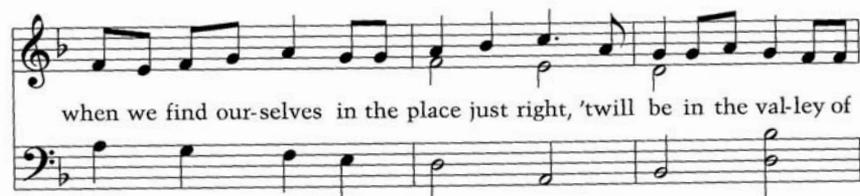
♩ = 104 Unison



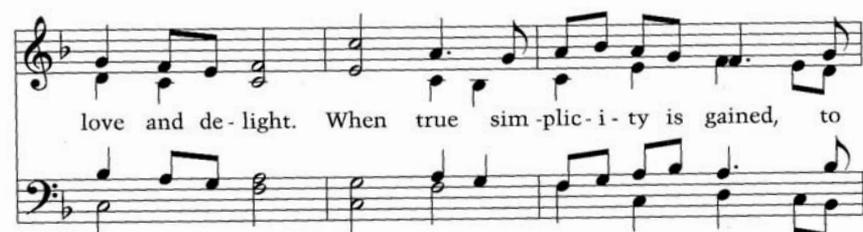
'Tis a gift to be sim - ple, 'tis a gift to be free, 'tis a



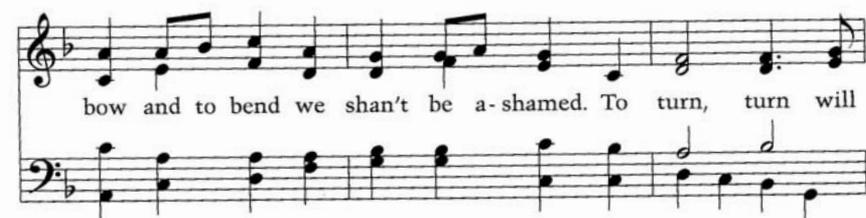
gift to come down where we ought to be, and



when we find our-selves in the place just right, 'twill be in the val-ley of



love and de-light. When true sim-plic-i-ty is gained, to



bow and to bend we shan't be a-shamed. To turn, turn will

Words: Joseph Bracket, 18th cent.
Music: American Shaker tune

SIMPLE GIFTS
Irregular with refrain

be our de-light, 'till by turn-ing, turn-ing we come 'round right.

The image shows a musical score for a vocal line and piano accompaniment. The vocal line is written on a treble clef staff with a key signature of one flat (B-flat) and a 4/4 time signature. The piano accompaniment is written on a bass clef staff. The lyrics are: "be our de-light, 'till by turn-ing, turn-ing we come 'round right." The music consists of two staves. The vocal line starts with a quarter rest, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The piano accompaniment starts with a quarter note, followed by a series of eighth and quarter notes. The piece ends with a double bar line.

112 Come to the Table of Grace



1. Come to the ta - ble of grace. _____
 2. Come to the ta - ble of peace. _____
 3. Come to the ta - ble of love. _____
 4. Come to the ta - ble of joy. _____



- Come to the ta - ble of grace. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of love. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. _____



- This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.
 This is Christ's ta - ble not just yours or mine.



- Come to the ta - ble of grace. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of peace. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of love. _____
 Come to the ta - ble of joy. _____

Where Are Liberty and Justice?

Amos 4: 1, 5: 11-12, 24; Proverbs 1:20-23, 3: 13-18

*** Tune Ode To Joy of Reverse Page***

*Where are liberty and justice when so many live in need?
Let us rise to caring action, showing faith and love through deeds.
Holy Wisdom, give us courage; help us be Your prophets bold,
joining You to end oppression, truth and fairness to uphold.*

*Now the rich are growing richer, while the poor cry in distress;
heads of corporations flourish, while the poor have less and less.
Millions suffer unemployment; many more are underpaid;
give us power, Holy Wisdom, so that changes can be made.*

*How unjust that some make millions, crushing others with their
greed,
basic rights of workers flaunting, never hearing those in need.
Holy Wisdom, come to help us; give us power to unite,
moving hearts and changing systems, joining hands to work for
right.*

*Holy Wisdom, send us forward, working for equality,
economic fairness bringing, making dreams reality.
As we join with those who suffer, fill us with Your loving care;
may we take Your peaceful pathways, bringing justice everywhere.*

The first system of musical notation for 'Ode to Joy' is presented in a grand staff format, consisting of a treble clef staff and a bass clef staff. The key signature is one sharp (F#), and the time signature is 4/4. The melody in the treble staff begins with a quarter note G4, followed by quarter notes A4, B4, and C5. The bass staff provides a harmonic accompaniment with quarter notes G2, A2, B2, and C3.

The second system of musical notation continues the piece. The treble staff melody progresses with quarter notes D5, E5, and F#5, followed by a half note G5. The bass staff accompaniment continues with quarter notes D2, E2, and F#2, followed by a half note G2.

The third system of musical notation shows the melody in the treble staff moving to quarter notes G5, F#5, E5, and D5. The bass staff accompaniment continues with quarter notes A2, G2, F#2, and E2.

The fourth system of musical notation concludes the piece. The treble staff melody ends with quarter notes C5, B4, and A4. The bass staff accompaniment ends with quarter notes D2, C2, and B1.