



CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH OF NEEDHAM

September 7, 2014

Theme: Hospitality



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 7, 2014

10:00am

Childcare is available downstairs in the crib/toddler room for infants and toddlers. Preschoolers, Grades 6-8 go directly to classes at 10 am. Grades K-5 will start in the chapel at 10 am for workshops, then leave for Communion in the Sanctuary.

PRELUDE

I Need Thee Every Hour
arr. Dale Wood (1934-2003)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

CALL TO WORSHIP

Heike Werder

Leader: Welcome to a time of wonder.

People: And music that calls us home.

Leader: Welcome to a place where we listen to God's Word.

People: And come to be inspired and challenged.

Leader: Welcome to an hour of holy hospitality.

People: Hospitality that teaches us how to open ourselves to friends and strangers, too.

Leader: Welcome to a place of open windows and open doors.

People: Let us come with open minds, open hands, and open hearts.

***OPENING HYMN #12(NCH)**

I Sing the Mighty Power of God

OPENING PRAYER

Heike Werder

Call to Prayer

Leader: Lift up your hearts.

People: We lift them up to the Lord.

Leader: Let us pray.

Unison Prayer

God of Abraham and Sarah, we stand in awe of those who welcomed strangers and loved their neighbors as themselves. Take us into the heart of Your radical hospitality, Holy One. Help us find the generous table you have spread for us, whether we deserve it or not, whether we have earned it or not, whether we believe in You or not. Be with us in this hour. Come into the rooms of our hearts that feel lonely. Come into the rooms of our souls that feel lost. As we draw near to you, so sustain us that we reach out to those who rarely find their way to tables of laughter or goodness. Bless us in this hour that we might be a blessing to others...

Silent Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Prayer Response

I Need Thee Every Hour
arr. John Ness Beck (1930-1987)

ANTHEM

Intermezzo Op. 118, No. 2
Johannes Brahms (1833-1897)
Soomi Lee Lowry, piano

SCRIPTURE LESSON

Genesis 18: 1-10 p. 13

SERMON

“The Demands of Hospitality”
Susan Cartmell

HYMN (seated) next page

All Are Welcome

OFFERTORY

Concerns and Celebrations

Anthem

This Touch of Love
Carl Schalk (b.1929)

****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

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 & Cup:

#332 (NCH) As We Gather at Your Table

#347 (NCH) Let us Talents and Tongues Employ

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 # 423 (NCH)**

Great is Your Faithfulness

BENEDICTION

CHORAL BENEDICTION

The Lord Bless You and Keep You
Peter C. Lutkin (1858-1931)

POSTLUDE

Prelude and Fugue in C Major
J.S. Bach (1685-1750)

**You are invited to stand.*

- Welcome to all who are here for the first time. Please fill out the blue “Welcome” card in the pews to receive weekly emails or newsletters.
- 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: Rev. Heike Werder

Deacons: Sunu Yeh, Fabienne Madsen,

Communion: Lee McNally, Sally Fitzgerald, Connie Kaufman,
Peter Atallah

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

Altar Guild: Sherrill Salisbury, Val Kistler

Flowers: Chris Arren

*The flowers on the altar are given to the Glory of God by Francis and
Christine Arren.*

ALL ARE WELCOME

TWO OAKS
Marty Haugen



1. Let us build a house where love can dwell and
2. Let us build a house where proph - ets speak, and
3. Let us build a house where love is found in
4. Let us build a house where hands will reach be -
5. Let us build a house where all are named, their



all can safe - ly live. A place where saints and
words are strong and true. Where all God's chil - dren
wa - ter, wine and wheat; A ban - quet hall on
yond the wood and stone, To heal and strength - en,
songs and vi - sions heard And loved and treas - ured,



chil - dren tell how hearts learn to for -
dare to seek to dream and God's reign a -
ho - ly ground, where peace and jus - tice
serve and teach, and live the Word they've
taught and claimed as words with - in the



give. Built of hopes and dreams and vi - sions, rock of
new. Here the cross shall stand as wit - ness and as
meet. Here the love of God, through Je - sus, is re -
known. Here the out - cast and the stran - ger bear the
Word. Built of tears and cries and laugh - ter, prayers of



faith and vault of grace, Here the love of Christ shall
sym - bol of God's grace; Here as one we claim the
veiled in time and space, As we share in Christ the
im - age of God's face, Let us bring an end to
faith and songs of grace. Let this house pro - claim from



end di - vi - sions:
faith of Je - sus; } All are wel - come, all are wel - come,
feast that frees us;
fear and dan - ger:
floor to raft - er:



all are wel - come in this place.

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
The Rev. Heike Werder, Associate Minister
The Rev. Jamie Klopotoski, Youth Minister

Bobby DeRegis, Director of Music Ministries
Valerie Becker, Director of Youth Music
The Rev. Dr. Paul Clayton, Pastor Emeritus

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Altar Flowers September 21st: The Flower Committee is looking for a donor of altar flowers for September 21. Do you have a student heading off to college, or a loved one who has earned an award or accomplished something special? Why not honor this occasion by donating flowers to the Church? This is a beautiful way to share your milestone with the Church community. As always, memorial flowers are appreciated. For more details, please contact Christine Arren 781-449-4228.

Guatemala Delegation Report Back, September 14th, 11:30am, Linden Hall: Colorful pictures and impressions from the recent memorable visit to Santa Maria Tzeja will be shared. Many wonderful experiences were had in people's homes, with village children, and in gatherings with village leaders. Please join us to learn more about our church's 27 year partnership and the opportunity it provides for personal engagement and growth. Light refreshments will be served.

Trip to Germany: Plans for our trip to Germany are on their way. If you or a member of your family (extended family too) might be interested in traveling with us, please let them know about these deadlines. Prices and dates depend on the number of people and length of trip. Projected travel dates are: ***June 24 to July 3, 2015***. For better airline fares bookings need to be considered soon. ***RSVP by September 15th*** to Rev. Heike or contact her for more information.

FRIENDLY SOCIETY MEETINGS: Meetings resume this month with informal programs. All are welcome. Bring a friend or drop in as a guest. Please mark your calendar for **Thursday, September 18, 12 pm OUR TREASURES AND CRAFTS**, bring a brown bag lunch and a treasured object or craft to share with everyone in an informal show and tell.

Saturday, September 20, 6:00-8:00pm-Guatemala Partnership Friends & Family Event: There will be plenty of fun, food, and entertainment. Please plan to join us for an evening of fellowship and celebration for all the wonderful work supported by our congregation. ***Caryl and Dave Johnson will host us at 505 Great Plain Ave.***

Adult Bible Study: Sunday 11:30-12:30 Reception Room Everyone is welcome to drop by any Sunday after church to try out Bible Study. Those of us who have participated have found it a wonderful way to get to know each other and to increase our comfort level reading the Bible. Our goal is to support each other in our journey of faith. Last year we read Luke and Isaiah by studying a few chapters at a time. We will be selecting another book of the Bible soon to read for the fall, so please join us! For more information, contact Sunu Yeh at dormouse99@gmail.com.

Help Make Your Mark On The New Building: We are so excited to start using our new space. If you would like to be part of getting our new space ready we could use your help. We are planning a work day that will consist of light cleaning, painting, gardening and general sprucing. If interested please contact the office at office@needhamucc.org or 781-444-2510. Opportunities to help for all ages!

Sign-Ups for February 2015 Delegation to Guatemala: Please contact Brenda Metzler to sign up or request information—bmetzler7@verizon.net. Travel dates are February 11-22, 2015. We especially need youth (with or without parents). The window of opportunity will close when tickets are purchased in late September, so don't delay.

Noah's Ark Board Position : There is an opening for a treasurer for the preschool board. We need someone to keep track of the budget and attend the Board meetings monthly on the second Monday. Please speak to one of the ministers or NAP Board president Laurie Davis if you are interested in being considered.

CALENDAR SEPTEMBER 7— SEPTEMBER 14

Sunday, September 7th	10:00am 11:30am	Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Backpack Blessing, <i>Fellowship Hall</i> Bible Study, <i>Reception Room</i> JH Group Ice Cream Party Guatemala Meeting, <i>Library</i> SH Group Ice Cream Party
<i>Welcome Back and Communion Sunday</i>	5:00 pm 7:00 pm	
Monday, September 8th	9:00 am 7:15 pm	Cancer Support, <i>Reception</i> EMT Meeting, <i>Conference</i>
Tuesday, September 9th	7:00 pm	Deacon's Meeting
Wednesday, September 10th	7:00 pm	Board Meeting, <i>Library</i>
Thursday, September 11th	7:30 pm	Chancel Choir, <i>Choir Room</i>
Sunday, September 14th	9:00 am 10:00am 11:30am 5:00 pm 7:00 pm	Chancel Choir, <i>Sanctuary</i> Worship Service, <i>Sanctuary</i> Friendly Chime Ringers, <i>Sanctuary</i> Guatemala Report Back, <i>Linden Hall</i> JH Group Kickball Tourney SH group Kickball Tourney