

CAPTIVITY



Matthew 5:13-16; 13:33

7/14 @ 10am, LIVE! on-site & online
Connect at www.NeedhamUCC.org

The Congregational Church of Needham, *United Church of Christ*

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Rev. Maddie Foster, *minister for Christian education & youth*

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Many: may we find opportunities for generosity toward others and ourselves.

One: May we find moments of encounter, even in isolation.

Many: May we find stories and memories, even in the most complicated corners.

One: May we start again where we have failed again.

Many: May we confess and be confessed to.

One: Because this is a way of living that's worth living daily.

All: Let us worship God together in spirit and in truth, in word and in deed.

HYMN *In Christ There is No East or West (see below)*

TIME ESPECIALLY FOR CHILDREN

Rev. Maddie Foster

READING FROM SCRIPTURE

from the Gospels,

Matthew 5:13-16, 13:33

SERMON

“Captivity”

Rev. John MacIver Gage

HYMN

God Abundant, God of Wonder (see below)

SHARING OUR PRAYERS Response: “O God / **hear our prayer**”

THE LORD’S PRAYER

(using these or whichever words are closest to your own heart)

Our Father/Mother in heaven, holy is your name. Your reign come, your will be done, on earth as in heaven. Give us today our daily bread. And forgive us our sins, as we forgive those who sin against us. And lead us not into temptation, but deliver us from evil. For yours is the kin-dom and the power and the glory forever. Amen.

ANTHEM

O Divine Redeemer, by F. Gounod Maria Whitcomb,
soprano

Ah, turn me not away, receive me
though unworthy.

Ah, turn me not away, receive me
though unworthy.

Hear Thou my cry, hear Thou my
cry,

Behold, Lord, my distress!

Answer me from Thy throne,
Haste Thee, Lord, to mine aid!

Thy pity show in my deep
anguish,

Thy pity show in my deep
anguish.

Let not the sword of vengeance
smite me,

Though righteous Thine anger, O
Lord!

Shield me in danger, O regard me!

On Thee, Lord, alone will I call!

O divine Redeemer, O divine
Redeemer!

I pray thee grant me pardon, And
remember not

Remember not my sins! Forgive
me!

O divine Redeemer! I pray Thee,
grant me pardon

And remember not, remember not,
O Lord, my sins!

Night gathers round my soul
Fearful, I cry to Thee, Come to
mine aid, O Lord!

Haste Thee, Lord, haste to help
me!

Hear my cry, hear my cry Save
me, Lord in Thy mercy;
Hear my cry, hear my cry! Come
and save me, O Lord!

O divine Redeemer! O divine
Redeemer!

I pray Thee, grant me pardon, and
remember not

Remember not, O Lord, my sins!

Save in the day of retribution
From death shield Thou me, O my
God!

O divine Redeemer, have mercy!
Help me, Savior!

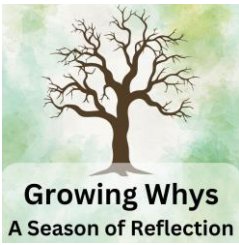
PARTNERING IN THE GOOD NEWS

SINGING OUR THANKS AND PRAISE

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures
here below; Praise God above, you heavenly hosts
Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost.**

WE ARE BLESSED AND SENT FORTH POSTLUDE

CHURCH ACTIVITIES & ANNOUNCEMENTS: July 14, 2024



Growing Whys: A Season of Reflection

Contribute your intention to our “Growing Whys” beginning April 21!

Our preaching teams have reflected on the “whys” of their ministries within our church community. Now you are invited to set an intention for yourself and the ways you hope to grow in relationship and engage in the life and ministry of the church. Write your intention on the leaf post-its provided during worship and add it to our tree or message the Zoom greeter and they can add one for you. *In the fall, you’ll be invited to reflect on the ways you’ve lived into that intention, or ways you understand your intention in a new way. You may wish to hold on to some symbol, photo, or small token of your intention from your summer months to bring back and share.*



Mindful Meditation Online

Sundays @ 8pm LIVE! via Zoom at

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/79920727588>

What is mindful meditation? It's a type of meditation in which you focus on being intensely aware of what you're sensing and feeling in the moment, without interpretation or judgment. Practicing mindfulness involves breathing methods, guided imagery, and other practices to relax the body and mind and help reduce stress. Who couldn't use more of that? Join longtime practitioner Sue Findlay and others Sunday evenings online via Zoom.



Ministerial Review Survey

Every year we conduct a review of our ministers, and we encourage input from all members of the congregation. If you would like to participate in the annual review process for Rev. John, please fill out the survey at the following link no later than **Friday, July 26:**

<https://forms.gle/o2aQnPFbYgsEwgAH7>

The Ministerial Review Team will compile and anonymize the feedback from the congregation, and share it with each minister later this summer. If you have any question or concerns about this process, please talk to one of the members of the Ministerial Review Team.

In Christ There is No East or West

In Christ there is no East or West, in God no South or North;
but one community of love throughout the whole side earth.

In love shall true hearts everywhere our high communion find;
Our service is the golden cord close binding human kind.

In love is neither Jew nor Greek and neither slave nor free;
for all are family in God and so are kin to me.

In hope now meet both East and West, in love meet South and North,
one joyous, true community throughout the whole wide earth.

God Abundant, God of Wonder

God abundant, God of wonder, God of every living thing,
God of justice and of righteousness, empower us as we sing.

May the wisdom Jesus offers be the gift that we can bring:

God's love is meant for all.

Praise the source of all creation. Share the holy affirmation
free to folks in every nation: God's love is meant for all.

How insulting to imagine you would only bless a few
based on creed or right belief. We know it matters what we do.
When we cultivate compassion then your truth is shown a new:

God's love is meant for all.

Praise the source of all creation. Share the holy affirmation
free to folks in every nation: God's love is meant for all.

Those who tell us that our country has a special role to play
in the vision of the holy have an awful lot to say.
But you can't oppress your neighbor if you walk the Jesus way

God's love is meant for all.

Praise the source of all creation. Share the holy affirmation
free to folks in every nation: God's love is meant for all.

God whose house has many dwellings and an ever open door,
how we worship matters less than how we treat thee oppressed and poor.

Now we join in celebration and we shout for ever more:

God's love is meant for all.

Praise the source of all creation. Share the holy affirmation
free to folks in every nation: God's love is meant for all.