

The United Church of Christ, Congregational
Burlington, MA
Worship for the Season of Pentecost
InGathering Sunday

"We gather for worship, study, planning and mission to celebrate the life, teachings, death and living presence of Jesus Christ which frees us to love boldly and to serve gladly as God would want us to do."

November 20th, 2022

10:30 A.M.

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We believe God calls us to love unconditionally, following the example of Jesus Christ.

Recognizing that all people are equal in the sight of God, we seek to be an inclusive and respectful community for persons of every color, age, sexual orientation, gender, ability and economic means.

In our calling to express the love and welcome of Christ, we affirm the dignity and worth of every person, and declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation.

We strive to respond to the needs of our town and world with practical deeds of love.

We welcome individuals and families of every configuration into the full life and ministry of this church, and invite you to join us on our faith journey!

Coming...

Musical Prelude

Meditative Thought

Rumi

"Wear gratitude like a cloak, and it will feed every corner of your life."

Welcome & Announcements

***Please rise in body or spirit.**

Introit I Woke up This Morning #85 in The New Century Hymnal

I woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Woke up this morning with my mind stayed on Jesus,
Hallelu, hallelu, hallelujah.

Praising & Learning...

***Call to Worship**

One: We have been given the gift of life!

All: Praise the God of creation!

One: We have been given the gift of Jesus' life!

All: Praise the God of redemption!

One: We have been given the gifts of passion and resilience!

All: Praise the God of Holy Spirit!

***Opening Hymn**

“We Gather Together”

#421

***Opening Prayer**

Holy God, Source of life and being, we gather to worship you with thanksgiving. Trusting in your creative and redeeming heart, we ask you to bless us with the qualities we need for living faithfully. Turn us inward, outward, and around in ways that will benefit your vision for your church, community, and world. In Christ, we pray as Jesus taught: Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come; thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day 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 thine is the kingdom, and the power, and the glory forever. Amen.

***Praise**

Psalm 95: Sing a Song to the Lord – Liam Lawton

**Sing a song to the Lord's holy name.
May the wonders of God be proclaimed.
Sing a song to the Lord, now acclaim.
Alleluia! Alleluia! Holy is God's name!**

Sharing of Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns

Litany

Inspired by *Psalm 95*

One: O come, let us sing to God and let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our being and salvation!

All: Let us come into God's presence with thanksgiving and joyful singing of praises!

One: Our God is a great God, more wondrous and gracious than all other gods!

All: In God's care and concern are the depths, breadths, and heights of all creation.

One: O Come, let us worship and humble ourselves before God, our Maker!

All: For our God is our God, and we are God's people.

One: O that today, we would listen for and to God's voice!

All: Amen.

***Devotional Hymn**

“Great is Your Faithfulness”

#423

Reflecting & Praying...

Scripture Readings

Luke 17:11-19 & I Thessalonians 5:16-18

Luke

Luke: On the way to Jerusalem Jesus was going through the region between Samaria and Galilee. As he entered a village, ten lepers approached him. Keeping their distance, they called out, saying, "Jesus, Master, have mercy on us!" When he saw them, Jesus said to them,

Jesus: **Go and show yourselves to the priests.**

Luke: And as they went, they were made clean. Then, when one of the lepers saw that he was healed, turned back, praising God with a loud voice. He prostrated himself at Jesus' feet & thanked him. And he was a Samaritan! Then Jesus asked,

Jesus: **Were not ten made clean? But the other nine, where are they? Was none of them found to return and give praise to God except this foreigner?"**

Luke: Then Jesus added,

Jesus: **Get up and go on your way; your faith has made you well.**

I Thessalonians

Paul: **Rejoice always, pray without ceasing, and give thanks in all circumstances; for this is the will of God in Christ Jesus for you.**

Our Sermon

21st Century Stewardship: It's About More than Money...
"Stewardship of Gratitude"

Rev. Ed Koonz

Anthem **Look at the World – John Rutter**

Look at the world, everything all around us:
Look at the world, and marvel every day.
Look at the world: so many joys and wonders,
So many miracles along our way.

Praise to thee, O Lord, for all creation,
Give us thankful hearts, that we may see:
All the gifts we share, and every blessing,
All things come of thee.

Look at the earth bringing forth fruit and flower;
Look at the sky, the sunshine and the rain;
Look at the hills, look at the trees and mountains,
Valley and flowing river, field and plain:

Praise to thee....

Think of the spring, think of the warmth of summer
Bringing the harvest before the winter's cold.
Everything grows; everything has a season,
Till it is gathered to the Father's fold:

Praise to thee....

Every good gift, all that we need and cherish
Comes from the Lord in token of his love;
We are his hands, stewards of all his bounty;
His is the earth, and his, the heavens above:

Praise to thee....

Pastoral Prayer

Prayer Response

Lord, Listen to Your Children Praying

**Lord, listen to your children praying,
Lord, send your Spirit in this place;
Lord, listen to your children praying,
Send us love, send us power, send us grace.**

Committing...

Stewardship Invitation

(During the singing of our musical offering and the playing of the offertory, come forward with your morning offering, pledge card, Time & Talent Survey, and/or donations for People Helping People.)

Musical Offering

“Come, O Thankful People Come”

#422

Offertory

* **Doxology** **Praise God from whom All Blessings Flow #780 in hymnal**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, you heavenly host;
Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.**

* **Prayer of Dedication & Consecration**

* **Musical Interlude**

Going...

* **Commissioning**

One: Let us go with deep gratitude for all our blessings!

All: We have been richly blessed by God!

One: Let us be faithful stewards of our gratitude!

All: Let us generously share our blessings.

* **Closing Hymn**

“For the Fruit of All Creation”

#425

* **Benediction**

Postlude

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Rev. Ed Koonz, Interim Pastor
Sarah LaFontaine, Guest Pianist
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant

JOYS and CONCERNS

Cindy Phillips and the Davis Family on the sudden passing of Aaron Davis
Nancy Todd and family
Norah Killilea fighting RSV Tom & Bobbie's great niece
Alan Wright's cousin Tim and friend Jimmy's dad
Joyce Carpenter's brother Bob and niece Cindy
Jan Costa's friend Heidi Kirby
Anne Stafford and son Bill
Jane Raymond
Jessy McNeil's brother Mel, sister Grace
Ginger Mungillo's daughter Cindy, son Jim
Sheila Vitale
Roberta Low
Jean Williamson
Joe Stoddard's Mom Lillian and sister-in-law Joy Stoddard
Marilyn Langley and friend Mary Chase
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn Larsen
Sally Mansfield's son, Mark
Tom Killilea and his brother Jim
Claire Simas
Luella Brown
Kelly Sievert
Jean Bastos
Rev. Elizabeth King
Jan Blandino and daughter Brenda, son-in-law Rick
Barbara Garland
Henry Knopp
John Heald's sister Susan & Mom

So much gun violence!
Mother Earth!
Our Nation!
The people of Ukraine!

Our First Responders! Our caregivers!
Urgent Care workers!
Military here and abroad!

GUEST PIANIST

Please welcome our guest pianist, Sarah Lafontaine, this morning. She received her Master's Degree in Music in Piano Performance from UMass/Amherst. Sarah has played for a variety of performance and chamber groups as well as for local church services and has been the accompanist for the Mishawum Choral Society since 2005. She will be with us until mid-December.

Church Vision Statement, adopted February 2017:

*At the UCC Burlington, we cultivate a thriving environment, which empowers us to embody the beloved, diverse community that Jesus modeled for us, proclaiming that **all are welcome, all are loved**. We celebrate our colonial roots as we change, adapt and grow into who God is calling us to be. We respect the sanctity of each person's spiritual journey and we are blessed by the gifts that each person brings to the life of the church. We join together in faithful service and advocacy with the ongoing hope that we can make the world a better, more just, and peaceful place for everyone.*

Our Church Goal for 2022:

UCC Burlington recognizes that our world continues to experience challenges and is undergoing change. In this recognition, we will grow in our Christian faith by embracing the peace that can be found in Jesus' love. We will find opportunities to see the beauty in the world and the joy of living. We will focus on being grateful for all our blessings, both big and small. Inspired by the scripture from Colossians 3: 12-14, "Therefore, as God's chosen people, holy and dearly loved, clothe yourselves with compassion, kindness, humility, gentleness and patience. Bear with each other and forgive one another if any of you has a grievance against someone. Forgive as the Lord forgave you. And over all these virtues put on love, which binds them all together in perfect unity."

Thanksgiving Ingathering and Distribution
Following worship, we will meet in Sewall Hall for coffee. Many will help with sorting food for our distribution to families taking place at 2pm. Please note, no children allowed to stay for the distribution due to the sensitivity of those who will be coming to collect food. We hope you understand!

WORSHIP PARTICIPANTS

November 20 – Ingathering Sunday

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|----------------|---|
| Pastor: | Rev. Ed Koonz |
| Pianist: | Sarah LaFontaine |
| Lay Leader: | Sarah Clark |
| Head Usher: | Deb Glancy |
| Ushers: | Chris Stahlinski
John Heald
Everett Langley
Dick Butler
Bobbie Killilea |
| Greeter: | Chris Stahlinski |
| Flowers: | Mums |
| Collector: | Everett Langley |
| Nursery: | |
| Sunday School: | Deb Raymond |
| Coffee Hour: | Chris Stahlinski |

November 27 First Sunday of Advent Worship will begin at 10:20am with a carol sing!

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|----------------|------------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Ed Koonz |
| Pianist: | Sarah LaFontaine |
| Lay Leader: | Marcia Rich |
| Head Usher: | Chris Stahlinski |
| Usher: | |
| Greeter: | |
| Flowers: | Bobbie Killilea |
| Nursery: | Marge Zamanian |
| Sunday School: | Deb Raymond |
| Coffee Hour: | |

UPCOMING EVENTS

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|--------|--|--------------------|
| Today | Worship-Ingathering | 10:30a |
| | Sunday School | |
| | Food gathering | 11:30a |
| | Distribution | 2-5p |
| | Cleanup | 4-6p |
| Nov 21 | Interfaith Ecumenical
Thanksgiving Worship
Service @ St. Mark's | 7:00p |
| Nov 23 | No Choir Rehearsal | |
| Nov 24 | Happy Thanksgiving! | |
| Nov 25 | Church Office Closed | |
| Nov 26 | All welcome to come
and decorate the
Sanctuary for Advent! | 9:30a |
| Nov 27 | Worship begins at
For a Carol Sing before
Worship
Advent Workshop | 10:20a

noon |

DECEMBER HILLTOP ARTICLES ARE DUE by NOVEMBER 27TH!

ADVENT CAROL SING

Each Sunday in Advent, *beginning November 27*, we will meet in the sanctuary at 10:20am to sing some of our favorite Christmas Carols! Please join us! Booklets will be in the pews for you to browse through!



CITY MISSIONS, COAT BOSTON

We will be collecting new coats, hats, mittens, gloves and scarfs (infant to xx-large).

There is a bin located at coffee hour.

Due by November 27!



GIFT CARD PROGRAM

It's time for that win-win again! Order gift cards to use yourself or to give as gifts, and a percentage comes back to the church at no cost to you!

Check out the **RaiseRight.com** website (formerly ShopWithScrip) to find ones with large rebates and place your own order or order on line and leave a check (made out to the church) in the Gift Card Orders mailbox.

Ordering deadline November 27th.

Cards available on December 4th.

"I'M DREAMING OF A GREEN CHRISTMAS" ADVENT WORKSHOP SUNDAY, NOVEMBER 27, 2022

Please join the Green Team during coffee hour for "green" gift wrapping ideas, decorations and gift ideas. Advent devotions and calendars will also be available.