

**The United Church of Christ, Congregational  
Burlington, MA**

**NINETEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST**

*"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."*

**September 29, 2024**

**10:30AM**

\* + \* + \* + \* + \*



***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**

Bach Partita in A Minor Allemande

Brian Gionet

**Welcome & Announcements**

**Introit**

**I Woke Up This Morning**

**NCH #85**

**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.**

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

## Praising & Learning...

### **\*Call to Worship** - written by Rev. Quentin Chin, *UCC Worship Ways*

One: As God is our shepherd we need nothing else.

**All: We rest in green pastures and walk by still waters, which renews and refreshes our spirits.**

One: God guides us along paths of righteousness

**All: And walks with us through shadowed valleys so we are not afraid. The shepherd's Staff comforts us.**

One: God set the banquet table for us in the presence of our enemies. There we're anointed with oil and our cup overflows.

**All: Goodness and mercy shall never depart from us as long as we dwell in the house of God.**

### **\*Opening Hymn**

Christians, Rise and Act your Creed

NCH #537

### **\*Opening Prayer**

**God of abundance, God of blessings, may your Spirit of peace and gratitude rest in our hearts this morning. You lay the welcome mat before us. You invite us in. You feed us and nourish us. You extend hospitality to us to the ends of the earth. You make the rains fall upon our fields. You offer to us the gifts of the earth: seed and grain and all manner of good things. God, speak to us this morning and remind us that in your Spirit we have all that we could ever need: peace, love, and hope in abundance, forever and ever. Amen.**

### **Children of God Time and Red Wagon (Pantry Donations)**

#### **Sharing of Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns**

### **\*Devotional Hymn**

The Lord's my Shepherd

Insert

## Reflecting & Praying...

### **Scripture Readings**

#### **The first reading is from Psalm 23**

The LORD is my shepherd; I shall not want.

<sup>2</sup> He makes me lie down in green pastures;  
he leads me beside still waters;

<sup>3</sup> he restores my soul.

He leads me in right paths  
for his name's sake.

<sup>4</sup> Even though I walk through the darkest valley,  
I fear no evil,

for you are with me;  
your rod and your staff,  
they comfort me.

<sup>5</sup> You prepare a table before me  
in the presence of my enemies;  
you anoint my head with oil;  
my cup overflows.

<sup>6</sup> Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me  
all the days of my life,  
and I shall dwell in the house of the LORD  
my whole life long.

## Second Reading is from the letter of Paul to the Phillippians

<sup>11</sup> Not that I am referring to being in need, for I have learned to be content with whatever I have. <sup>12</sup> I know what it is to have little, and I know what it is to have plenty. In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need. <sup>13</sup> I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

## Our Sermon

Chris Stahlinski, Lay Preacher

## Anthem

Be In Our Gathering – Sandra T. Ford

Our Choir

Be in our gathering, Spirit of All,  
Binding in love your chosen and called.  
Be in our mission, making us whole,  
Moving to service and touching each soul.

Be in our struggles, so that we live  
Able to differ and to forgive.  
Heal our divisions with your embrace,  
Weaving them into your fabric of grace.

Spirit of God, Heavenly dove,  
Fill us we pray with your goodness and love.  
Fill us we pray with your goodness and love.

Be in our searching, humbly we pray,  
Lighting the journey, guiding our way;  
Wisdom of Ages making us one,  
Parting the darkness, revealing The Son.

Be in our worship, God, to impart,  
Patience and kindness to every heart;  
Heirs to your promise, hope yet to come,  
Born of the knowledge that you are our home.

Spirit of God, Heavenly dove,  
Fill us we pray with your goodness and love.  
Fill us we pray with your goodness and love.  
Amen, Amen.

## Pastoral Prayer

**Committing...**

## Stewardship Invitation

## Offertory

## \*Doxology

Lyrics adapted by William Abernethy; tune *NCH #780*

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below;  
Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One. Amen.**

## \*Prayer of Dedication & Consecration

## **Going...**

**\*Closing Hymn**

Touch the Earth Lightly

NCH #569

**\*Benediction**

**Postlude**

Bach Partita in A Minor Bouree Angloise

Brian Gionet

\* \* \* \* \*

### **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.

Join us after worship next Sunday, October 6th

#### **SPECIAL MEETING WARRANT**

-To consider and vote upon empowering the Parish Council to spend up to \$20,000 from the Endowment Fund as seed money for a Christmas Tree Fundraiser.

Rev. Andrew Harris, Pastor  
Brian Gionet, Director of Music Ministries  
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education  
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant  
Uccburlington.org / 781-272-4547

## JOYS AND CONCERNS

Joan Zink's daughter Jen DeSario  
Christa Brown  
Joe Stoddard and Paul Mouratidis  
Bobbie Killilea's friend Kat-Breast Cancer spreading  
Mark Omobono's friend Dave  
Mark Flecchia's friend Mike  
Carpenter Family  
Claire Simas, niece Janice and  
daughter Marianne  
Billy Martin and friend Barbara  
Bill Livezey  
Lynn and Lee Tirrell's friend Bob  
Bill Beyer's friend Lloyd Rosenberg  
Sarah Tredeau's friend Megan  
Sally Willard's friends Maureen and Jack  
Chris Stahlinski's sisters  
Laura Nowell's cousin Nigel and friend Mary  
Brian Gionet's Dad  
Roberta Low  
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn  
Jessy McNeil's sister Grace  
Skip Glancy's sister Dorothy  
Marilyn Langley's brother Bill  
Kelly Sievert  
Bill Hitchcock  
Jan Blandino's grandson Toby, her  
Daughter Brenda and Son-in-law Rick  
Ginger Mungillo's daughter Cindy and  
Ginger's son Jim  
Jean Bastos  
Barbara Garland  
  
Middle East, Ukraine,  
Violent weather!  
Mother Earth!  
Our Country's future!

### TRUE NORTH COFFEE SHOP

Join Pastor Andrew on Thursdays 9-11am.  
Come by for a cup of coffee and a chat!

### BIBLE STUDY WEDNESDAYS 2PM (HYBRID)

PUB THEOLOGY - Next Date is October 17  
8-9pm

Join Andrew at Emerald Rose  
785 Boston Road, Billerica, Ma.  
All are welcome; bring a friend

*Chris Stahlinski donated today's altar flowers in  
memory of her sister, Elaine Jones.*

## WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

### September 29 Worship 10:30am Red Wagon and Green Team Event

Pastor:	Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist:	Brian Gionet
Lay Leader:	Chris Stahlinski
Head Usher:	Deb Glancy
Usher:	Carol Downing
Greeter:	Carol Downing
Flowers:	Chris Stahlinski
Collector:	Joan Zink
Nursery:	
Sunday School:	Deb Raymond
Host:	Chris Stahlinski
Lunch:	Volunteers
Enjoy a light lunch with Guest Speaker	

### October 6 Communion, NIN, Stewardship

Communion Prep:	Marge Zamanian
Pastor:	Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist:	Brian Gionet
Lay Leader:	Chris Stahlinski
Head Usher:	Dave McNeil
Usher:	Carol Downing
Greeter:	Carol Downing
Flowers:	Deb Glancy
Collector:	Dick Butler
Nursery:	Jan McSheffrey
Sunday School:	Deb Raymond Donna Ferro
Coffee Host:	
Baker	

## NEWS FROM THE GREEN TEAM!

Please join the Green Team for a light lunch after worship as we welcome guest speaker, Gretchen Carey, who will be speaking to us on recycling with an emphasis on plastics. Gretchen is the sustainability manager for the New England Region for Republic Services. She is also a LEED Green Associate and Zero Waste TRUE Advisor.  
***Light lunch offered for all!***

## UCC COFFEE HOUSE



**October 5, 2024 7-9:30 pm**

**Get your tickets now!**

If you can help setup and decorate, please meet at the church Friday October 4<sup>th</sup> 1pm.

## SUNDAY SCHOOL UPCOMING PROGRAMS

**10/6 Seasons of the Spirit:** Wilderness

**10/13 Service Sunday:** We all love coffee hour, so the Sunday School groups will help by providing coffee hour. The Sunday School students will come right to Sewall Hall at 10:30 to setup and prepare snacks for coffee hour including cleanup.

**10/20 All Church Worship:** The kids will usher, pass out the friendship pads and collect the offering.

## CONFIRMATION NEWS!

Confirmation Class Starts TODAY!  
4-5:30PM at Hancock Church in Lexington  
Questions, speak with Andrew or Deb Raymond

## WORLD COMMUNION

### NEIGHBORS IN NEED - OCTOBER 6TH

Neighbors in Need Is one of the Church's special offerings. This year it will be on October 6<sup>th</sup>. In the pews you will find "Neighbors in Need" envelopes. There will also be envelopes outside Bobbie's office. Alternately you can mail your donation to UCC Congregational at 6 Lexington Street. Please add NIN on the memo line. If you want to give digitally you can do that through Vanco.

## STEWARDSHIP SUNDAY-OCTOBER 6

Next Sunday there will be packets available from our Board of Finance and Stewardship. Please read information in your October Hilltop from Pastor Andrew, explaining what Stewardship means for our church.

**PUMPKIN PATCH AT  
ST. MARK'S CHURCH  
OPEN SEPTEMBER 29-OCTOBER 30  
NOON-6PM!**



**COME SHOP LOCAL AND SUPPORT OUR  
BURLINGTON PANTRY!**

**OCTOBER 27 FROM 3:30-4:30 PM  
HALLOWEEN PARTY IN SEWALL HALL**



Start getting your costumes ready for the Halloween parade! There will be games, prizes and a light snack. Invite your friends!

Adults feel free to come in costume as well!

## CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE



If you like to knit or crochet or just want to come and enjoy some lighthearted conversation, C4C meets every Thursday at 1pm in the church conference room. We are hybrid so if you can't come in person you can always join us on Zoom. All are welcome!

## WISH PROJECT-CHELMSFORD, MA

It's fall with winter approaching, so ***please only donate fall and winter clothing to the Wish Project.*** The Wish Project has limited space and cannot store out of season clothing. All donated clothing must be clean, free of holes and stains. There is a bin under the coat rack for your donations.

## ON-LINE AUCTION OCTOBER 26-NOVEMBER 2

To help with our Auction, we are looking for gift cards from local merchants. Do you visit spas, hairdressers, fortunetellers, golf courses, restaurants, florists, fitness centers and more? Also, keep in mind timeshares, vacation homes, pet sitting, crafts, artwork, sports equipment, etc. We will also be looking to collect individual items to make baskets.

Read more detailed information printed in your October Hilltop Newsletter and Weekly Email Blasts. Let's have some fun and share with our community!

For questions, please contact:

Deb Raymond  
Julie Lewis  
Kari Lynch  
Anna Karwan  
Joan Zink

### ALCOHOL POLICY QUESTIONNAIRE

Parish Council would like your input as we go through the process of reviewing some of our church policies. Our current policy regarding alcohol is to NOT allow it within our facilities. Please take a few thoughtful minutes to complete this online survey and share your comments and questions with us. We would like to hear from as many congregants as possible in order to fairly represent the membership. There is a link to the survey on the church website:

<https://uccburlington.org/alcohol-policy-survey/>.

Paper copies are also available in the church office.

The short link to the survey is  
<https://bit.ly/uccburl1>.

**Please return your responses by Sunday, October 13.**

## ONLINE AUCTION BASKET PREP

\*\*\*\*\* We need your help!! \*\*\*\*\*



**When:** Sunday, October 13, 2024 (after Church service). We'll be creating themed baskets for the Auction by combining individual items.

How can you help?

### **Bring in individual items to donate.**

- Have you received a gift that you will never use?
- Do you have any other new, never-used items that you want to donate?

### **Help us create themed baskets by combining like items.**

-If everyone brings at least one item, we should be able to group items together into several themed baskets. Come and be a part of the Auction!

-If you'd rather, please feel free to donate a whole basket, if you'd like! Just let us know by filling out a Donation Form (at coffee hour) with details about your basket.

You can bring in your donated items and leave them in the Conference Room, where there is a box marked for the donations; or you can bring your donations on October 13th!

We appreciate any items you can donate, and any help you can provide! Together - Let's make the Online Auction a success!!

### **GIFT CARD FUNDRAISING**

Start now to gather your gift cards for the Christmas Season and more!

Or reload gift cards that you use on a regular a basis.

To learn more about the Gift Card Program check the Fundraising Bulletin Board. It's an easy way to donate to the church. Get Gift cards at full value and a percentage comes back to the church. It's a win, win for both!

## Christian, Rise and Act Your Creed

537

*Francis Albert Rollo Russell, 1893; alt.*

1 Chris - tian, rise and act your creed; let your  
 2 Hearts a - round you sink with care; you can  
 3 Of - fer oth - ers hope and joy, and God's  
 4 Come then, law di - vine, and reign: faith that

prayer be in your deed; Seek the right, per - form the  
 help their load to bear; You can bring in - spir - ing  
 wor - ship your em - ploy; Giv - ing thanks in hum - ble  
 doubt as - sails in vain, Per - fect love be - reft of

true, raise your work and life a - new.  
 light, strength - en them to do the right.  
 zeal, learn - ing all God's will to feel.  
 fear, born in heaven and ra - diant here.

*Francis Albert Rollo Russell was a writer on scientific subjects and a Fellow of the Royal Meteorological Society. This hymn was first published in the Pilgrim Hymnal (1904). The tune originated with a text used for the Feast of the Holy Innocents.*

Tune: INNOCENTS 7.7.7.  
 The Parish Choir, 1850



# The Lord's My Shepherd

84

Based on Psalm 23  
"Scottish Psalter," 1650, alt.

CRIMOND C.M.

Melody by Jessie S. Irvine, 1836-1887



1 The Lord's my shep - herd, I'll not want; He makes me down to lie  
2 My soul he doth re - store a - gain; And me to walk doth make  
3 Yea, though I walk in death's dark vale, Yet will I fear no ill,  
4 My ta - ble thou hast fur - nish - ed In pres - ence of my foes;  
5 Good - ness and mer - cy all my life Shall sure - ly fol - low me;



In pas - tures green; he lead - eth me The qui - et wa - ters by.  
With - in the paths of right - eous - ness, E'en for his own name's sake.  
For thou art with me, and thy rod And staff me com - fort still.  
My head thou dost with oil a - noint, And my cup o - ver - flows.  
And in God's house for ev - er - more My dwell - ing - place shall be. A - men.



# I to the Hills Will Lift Mine Eyes

85

Based on Psalm 121  
"Scottish Psalter," 1650

DUNDEE C.M.

"Scottish Psalter," 1615



1 I to the hills will lift mine eyes; From whence doth come mine aid?  
2 Thy foot he'll not let slide, nor will He slum - ber that thee keeps.  
3 The Lord thee keeps, the Lord thy shade On thy right hand doth stay;  
4 The Lord shall keep thy soul; he shall Pre - serve thee from all ill.



My safe - ty com - eth from the Lord, Who heaven and earth hath made.  
Be - hold, he that keeps Is - ra - el, He slum - bers not, nor sleeps.  
The moon by night thee shall not smite, Nor yet the sun by day.  
Hence - forth thy go - ing out and in, God keep for - ev - er will. A - men.



# Touch the Earth Lightly

Shirley Erena Murray, 1992

Unison  
Brightly

1 Touch the earth light - ly, use the earth gent - ly,  
 \* 2 We who en - dan - ger, who cre - ate hun - ger,  
 3 Let there be green - ing, birth from the burn - ing,  
 4 God of all liv - ing, God of all lov - ing,

\*The second verse only may be sung in A minor, omitting the sharps except where indicated in parentheses.

nour-ish the life of the world in our care:  
 a - gents of death for all crea - tures that live,  
 wa - ter that bless - es, and air that is sweet,  
 God of the seed - ling, the snow, and the sun,

Gift of great won - der, ours to sur - ren - der,  
 We who would fos - ter clouds of dis - as - ter—  
 Health in God's gar - den, hope in God's chil - dren,  
 Teach us, de - flect us, Christ re - con - nect us,

trust for the chil - dren to - mor - row will bear.  
 God of our plan - et, fore - stall and for - give!  
 re - gen - er - a - tion that peace will com - plete.  
 us - ing us gent - ly, and mak - ing us one.

Shirley Erena Murray's notes on this hymn state that the title line is borrowed from an Australian Aboriginal saying. The "clouds of disaster" mentioned in stanza 2 refer to nuclear testing by France, which New Zealand has protested at the United Nations many times.

Tune: TENDERNESS 5.5.10.D.  
Colin Gibson, 1992