

The United Church of Christ, Congregational
Burlington, MA

Twenty-Fourth 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."

November 3, 2024

10:30am

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By John Stuart

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

Divenire (Original) by L. Einaudi

Brian Gionet

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

I sing as I Arise Today
I sing as I arise today!
I call on my Creator's might:
The will of God to be my guide,
The eye of God to be my sight.

V. 1 #83

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

Praising & Learning...

*Call to Worship

One: After Jesus's ascension, the people came together to form the newborn church.

All: Today, we gather together as the same church; the living body of Christ.

One: The early church members found comfort in community.

All: Today, we find comfort in community as we strengthen and support one another.

One: As the people came together, they held all things in common and shared with anyone who had need.

All: Today, we share our gifts in the spirit of compassion and generosity.

One: Our forebears would gather around the table to break bread, share a meal, and celebrate Christ's living presence among them.

All: Today, we break bread together with glad and generous hearts, praising God and celebrating the goodwill of the people.

One: Day by day, the church grew, as the grateful children of God shared the good news of grace far and wide with a weary world.

All: Today, with joyful hearts, we sing songs of hope and good news, sharing God's word of love and grace, trusting that God will continue to bless this family of believers forever and ever. Amen.

*Opening Hymn

Joyful, Joyful We Adore You!

NCH #4

*Opening Prayer

O God of abundant blessings, on this day we thank you for drawing us together as your church. We thank you that we do not walk alone on this journey of faith. We thank you for the kindness and support of our church family, our fellow pilgrims, on this winding path of life. As we have found belonging here in your spiritual family, we pray that others who are lost and wandering might find their way here as well, into this sanctuary of love and grace. With open arms and open hearts, we pray. Amen.

Sharing of Joys & Concerns

*Devotional Hymn

When the Saints go Marching In

Insert

Reflecting & Praying...

Scripture Readings

Acts 2:43-47

Awe came upon everyone because many wonders and signs were being done through the apostles. All who believed were together and had all things in common; they would sell their possessions and goods and distribute the proceeds to all, as any had need. Day by day, as they spent much time together in the temple, they broke bread at home and ate their food with glad and generous hearts, praising God and having the goodwill of all the people. And day by day the Lord added to their number those who were being saved.

Our Sermon

Anthem

Bells of Church morning

Organ Solo

All Saints Remembrance

Rev. Andrew Harris

Committing...

Stewardship Invitation

Offertory

*Response

*Prayer of Dedication & Consecration

Communion

Invitation to the Table

One: We remember that this is God's table, and so we say, come from the north and come from the south, come from the east and come from the west. Come regardless of age or race or sex or creed or orientation or identity.

All: We come not because we must, but because we may. We come seeking mercy, forgiveness, healing, and peace.

One: Come one and all. The table of Christ is prepared for you.

Communion Hymn

Gift of Finest Wheat v 1-3

Insert

Prayer of Confession

One: On this Sabbath day of Holy Communion, we open our hearts to God, we lay bare our vulnerabilities, we lift up our penitent confessions, and we seek God's abundant mercy. Holy One, when we forget your presence in our lives,

All: God forgive us.

One: When we serve our own self-interest instead of serving you and your people,

All: God forgive us.

One: When we are overcome with fear, worry, anger, and resentment,

All: God forgive us.

One: When our disappointment clouds our wisdom and confuses our actions,

All: God forgive us.

One: When we are unfaithful to our covenant with you and one another,

All: God forgive us.

One: When we have not loved you with our whole heart,

All: God forgive us.

One: Let us pray...

Assurance of Pardon

All: Forgiving and gracious God, you know me. You know everything about me. You know me better than I know myself. You know all the good deeds and bad deeds I have done. You see me in my brokenness and my weakness. You see me in my strength and beauty. You see me as I am: a beloved child of God.

One: Merciful God, Your grace is sufficient for all our needs, covering all our sins. May we accept in our hearts that there is more forgiveness in You than there is sin in us. In the light of Christ, and in communion with one another, we surrender to your mercy and give thanks for your word of forgiveness. Amen.

Prayer of Consecration

One: Pour out your Holy Spirit upon us, we pray, as you gather us all in this place. May the broken bread become our healing and the cup of grace our fullness that we might empty ourselves to become a blessing to those who long for peace and reconciliation in their lives.

All: **Come, Holy Spirit Come, be with us in all of our eating and drinking together. Amen**

Sharing of the Bread and Cup

Prayer of Thanksgiving

Going...

*Closing Hymn

Go My Children with My Blessing

NCH #82

*Benediction

Postlude

Sonatina in G Major by Beethoven

Brian Gionet

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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.

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
Christa Brown
Joe Stoddard and Paul Mouratidis
Tom Killilea's brother Jim
Bobbie Killilea's sister's friend Kat
Mark Flecchia's friend Mike
Carpenter Family
Claire Simas, niece Janice and daughter Marianne
Billy Martin and friend Barbara
Lynn and Lee Tirrell's friend Bob
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 and Joyce
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

Hurricane Victims
Middle East, Ukraine,
Mother Earth!
Our Country's future!

Today's altar is decorated with a cornucopia.
Deacons would like us to remember to give thanks
for all we have and all we can offer.

November 3 Communion Worship

Communion Prep: Marge Zamanian
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader: Sally Willard
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher: Lucy Damiani
Greeter: Chris Stahlinski
Flowers: Cornucopia-Deacons
Collector: Joan Zink
Nursery: Mark Flecchia
Sunday School: Kids in Worship
Coffee Host:
Baker: Donna Flecchia

November 10 Worship-Love Offering

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Brian Gionet
Lay Leader: Jan Costa
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher:
Greeter:
Flowers: Cornucopia-Deacons
Collector: Marcia Rich
Nursery: Mark and Donna Flecchia
Sunday School: Ariana Musselman
Jan McSheffrey

Coffee Host:
Baker:

BOOK DISCUSSION TODAY

The book title is: *Nature's Best Hope*. Whether you had a chance to read the book or not, join us to hear ways to help save the world in your own backyard!

CHRISTIAN EDUCATION AND SUNDAY SCHOOL INFO

Today the Sunday School kiddos will walk over to the Cemetery and see graves of those who help establish our church.

Confirmation Class Schedule

11/8 – 11/9 Retreat
11/17 4-5:30pm at UCC Burlington

SAVE THE DATE

Parish Council is inviting you to a luncheon on Pledge Sunday, November 17, 2024 after worship. This will be a potluck luncheon to celebrate everyone's giving of their time, talent and treasure. Please see the signup sheet at coffee hour. HOPE TO SEE YOU THERE!

You should have received your Stewardship packet at church or in the mail. Please read the materials and carefully and prayerfully consider your financial pledge as well as your offering of time and talent for 2025. We will be collecting pledge cards and time and talent surveys on Stewardship Sunday, November 17th.

If you haven't received your Stewardship packet, please reach out to Julie Lewis at jalewis@gmail.com.

TRUE NORTH COFFEE SHOP

Andrew will no longer have pastor hours at the coffee shop beginning this week. Instead, he would like you to schedule an appointment. You can sign up through the link below:
<https://calendar.app.google/g6MNjHjWXY6SWCG69>

BIBLE STUDY WILL CONTINUE ON WEDNESDAYS 2PM (HYBRID)

11/6 - Second Isaiah (Isaiah 40)
11/13 - Jonah (Jonah 4:1-11)
11/20 - "What is a prophet again?"

Zoom Link:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/86101550567>

PUB THEOLOGY

Third Thursday of the Month

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

How is Pub Theology working? Take a survey:
<https://forms.gle/WJEiJBaPEvPsbwNS6>



COAT DRIVE

We are running a coat drive through *Coat Boston* for children sizes infants to adults.

The organizers hope to collect 4,000 **new** coats, hats, scarves and gloves. The sizes needed are infants to adults.

There will be a bin outside Bobbie's Office for your donation. We thank you!


CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

C4C will move back to meeting in the conference room from 1 to 3pm Thursdays afternoons. Our project will include knitted scarves, hats and gloves/mittens for infants through high school seniors. These will be donated in early December to the Boston Coat Drive which this year is being run by the Lexington UCC Church.



Joyful, Joyful, We Adore You

Ps. 145:10; Isa. 49:13



Henry van Dyke, 1907; alt.





1 Joy - ful, joy - ful, we a - dore you, God of glo - ry, God of love;
 2 All your works with joy sur - round you, earth and heaven re - flect your rays,
 3 You are giv - ing and for - giv - ing, ev - er bless - ing, ev - er blessed,
 4 Mor - tals, join the might - y cho - rus which the morn - ing stars be - gan;


Hearts un - fold like flowers be - fore you, open - ing to the sun a - bove.
 Stars and an - gels sing a - round you, cen - ter of un - bro - ken praise.
 Well - spring of the joy of liv - ing, o - cean depth of hap - py rest!
 Bound - less love is reign - ing o'er us, re - con - cil - ing race and clan.

Melt the clouds of sin and sad - ness, drive the storms of doubt a - way;
 Field and for - est, vale and moun - tain, flower - y mead - ow, flash - ing sea,
 Lov - ing Spir - it, Fa - ther, Moth - er, all who love be - long to you;
 Ev - er sing - ing, move we for - ward, faith - ful in the midst of strife,

Giv - er of im - mor - tal glad - ness, fill us with the light of day.
 Chant - ing bird and flow - ing foun - tain, teach us what our praise should be.
 Teach us how to love each oth - er, by that love our joy re - new.
 Joy - ful mu - sic leads us on - ward in the tri - umph song of life.



Henry van Dyke was a noted church leader, U.S. ambassador, Navy chaplain, and prolific writer. Many people associate this hymn with Beethoven's ninth symphony, but few are aware of the original poem by the German classicist F. Schiller (1759–1805) that inspired Beethoven.

Tune: HYMN TO JOY 8.7.8.7.D.
 Ludwig van Beethoven, 1824
 Adapt. and harm. Edward Hodges, 1846

When The Saints Go Marching In

1. O when the saints go march-ing in, O when the
 2. O when the sun re-fused to shine, O when the
 3. O when they crown Him Lord of all, O when they

3

saints go march-ing in,
 sun re-fused to shine, O Lord, I want to be in that
 crown Him Lord of all,

6

when the saints go march-ing in.
 num-ber when the sun re-fused to shine.
 when they crown Him Lord of all.

You Satisfy the Hungry Heart 523

Refrain D Bm G F#m D/F# Em A D

You sat-is - fy the hun - gry heart with gift of fin - est wheat;

Bm F#m Em A D *Fine*

come give to us, O sav - ing Lord, the bread of life to eat.

Bm G F#m G A7 Bm

- 1 As when the shep - herd calls his sheep, they know and heed his voice,
- 2 With joy - ful lips we sing to you our praise and grat - i - tude
- 3 Is not the cup we bless and share the blood of Christ out - poured?
- 4 The mys - tery of your pres - ence, Lord, no mor - tal tongue can tell:
- 5 You give your - self to us, O Lord; then self - less let us be,

to Refrain
Em A Em Em7 A

so when you call your fam - ily, Lord, we fol - low and re - joyce.
that you should count us wor - thy, Lord, to share this heav - en - ly food.
Do not one cup, one loaf, de - clare our one - ness in the Lord?
whom all the world can - not con - tain comes in our hearts to dwell.
to serve each oth - er in your name in truth and char - i - ty.

Guitar chords do not correspond with keyboard harmony.

Submitted together, this text and tune were chosen from about two hundred entries to be the official hymn for the 41st International Eucharistic Congress held at Philadelphia in 1976. At the center of its many biblical images, the third stanza draws on 1 Corinthians 10:16-17.

Go, My Children, with My Blessing

Jaroslav J. Vajda, 1983, 1990; alt.

1 Go, my chil-dren, with my bless-ing, nev - er a - lone;
2 Go, my chil-dren, fed and nour-ished, clos - er to me;

Wak - ing, sleep-ing, I am with you, you are my own;
Grow in love and love by serv - ing, joy - ful and free.

In my love's bap - tis - mal riv - er I have made you mine for - ev - er,
Here my Spir - it's pow - er filled you, here with ten - der com - fort stilled you;

Go, my chil - dren, with my bless-ing, you are my own.
Go, my chil - dren, fed and nour-ished, joy - ful and free.

For marriage services, this stanza may be sung between stanzas 1 and 2 above.

In this un-ion I have joined you hus-band and wife,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life:
Each the oth-er's glad-ness shar-ing,
each the oth-er's bur-dens bear-ing,
Now, my chil-dren, live to-geth-er as heirs of life.

American hymnwriter and translator Jaroslav Vajda crafted this benediction text as though God were "dismissing the congregation after worship, while drawing together a review of the events that transpired during the service." The wedding stanza was a later addition.

Tune: AR HYD Y NOS 8.4.8.4.8.8.8.4.
Traditional Welsh melody
For another harmonization, see 425