

The United Church of Christ, Congregational
Burlington, MA

FIRST SUNDAY OF LENT

"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."

March 9, 2025

10:30am

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Morning Meditation

Even if you did nothing during the whole of your hour but bring your heart back and place it again in Our Lord's presence, though it went away every time you brought it back, your hour would be very well employed.
– St. Francois de Sales

Musical Prelude

Introit Alas! and Did My Savior Bleed

Welcome and Announcements

Opening Prayer

One: Holy One, fill us with your Holy Spirit.

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: When we're lost,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: When we're tested and tried,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: When we feel we can't go on any farther,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: As we gather with companions on the road,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: As we walk the road to Jerusalem,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: As we journey through Lent,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: In all we say and all we do, every day and every night,

All: Lead us through the wilderness.

One: And all God's people said,

All: Amen

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

Opening Hymn

Open the Eyes of My Heart (Paul Baloche)

Insert

Psalter Reading Psalm 91

You who live in the shelter of the Most High,
who abide in the shadow of the Almighty,
will say to the LORD, "My refuge and my fortress;
my God, in whom I trust."

Because you have made the LORD your refuge,
the Most High your dwelling place,
no evil shall befall you,
no scourge come near your tent.

For he will command his angels concerning you
to guard you in all your ways.
On their hands they will bear you up,
so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.
You will tread on the lion and the adder;
the young lion and the serpent you will trample under foot.

Those who love me, I will deliver;
I will protect those who know my name.
When they call to me, I will answer them;
I will be with them in trouble;
I will rescue them and honor them.
With long life I will satisfy them
and show them my salvation.

Popcorn Prayer**Devotional Hymn**

Just As I Am

NCH #207

Reflecting & Praying...**Reading from the Hebrew Bible – Deuteronomy 26:1-1**

"When you have come into the land that the Lord your God is giving you as an inheritance to possess and you possess it and settle in it, you shall take some of the first of all the fruit of the ground, which you harvest from the land that the Lord your God is giving you, and you shall put it in a basket and go to the place that the Lord your God will choose as a dwelling for his name. You shall go to the priest who is in office at that time and say to him, 'Today I declare to the Lord your God that I have come into the land that the Lord swore to our ancestors to give us.' When the priest takes the basket from your hand and sets it down before the altar of the Lord your God, you shall make this response before the Lord your God: 'A wandering Aramean was my ancestor; he went down into Egypt and lived there as an alien, few in number, and there he became a great nation, mighty and populous. When the Egyptians treated us harshly and afflicted us, by imposing hard labor on us, we cried to the Lord, the God of

our ancestors; the Lord heard our voice and saw our affliction, our toil, and our oppression. The Lord brought us out of Egypt with a mighty hand and an outstretched arm, with a terrifying display of power, and with signs and wonders; and he brought us into this place and gave us this land, a land flowing with milk and honey. So now I bring the first of the fruit of the ground that you, O Lord, have given me.' You shall set it down before the Lord your God and bow down before the Lord your God. Then you, together with the Levites and the aliens who reside among you, shall celebrate with all the bounty that the Lord your God has given to you and to your house.

Gospel Reading - Luke 4:1-13

Jesus, full of the Holy Spirit, returned from the Jordan and was led by the Spirit in the wilderness, where for forty days he was tested by the devil. He ate nothing at all during those days, and when they were over he was famished. The devil said to him, "If you are the Son of God, command this stone to become a loaf of bread." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'One does not live by bread alone.' "

Then the devil led him up and showed him in an instant all the kingdoms of the world. And the devil said to him, "To you I will give all this authority and their glory, for it has been given over to me, and I give it to anyone I please. If you, then, will worship me, it will all be yours." Jesus answered him, "It is written, 'Worship the Lord your God, and serve only him.' "

Then the devil led him to Jerusalem and placed him on the pinnacle of the temple and said to him, "If you are the Son of God, throw yourself down from here, for it is written, 'He will command his angels concerning you, to protect you,' and 'On their hands they will bear you up, so that you will not dash your foot against a stone.' "

Jesus answered him, "It is said, 'Do not put the Lord your God to the test.' " When the devil had finished every test, he departed from him until an opportune time.

Sermon

Caring for our Souls

Rev. Andrew Harris

Anthem

O Lord Hear My Prayer

Choir

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**

Traveling Mercies

Insert

***Benediction**

Postlude

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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
Bill Hitchcock's girlfriend Denise
Ryan Roitman-Waters
Bob Cuccio and his son Jessie
Nancy Davis son-in-law Michael
Bill Livezey
Donna DeSimone's Brother-in-law
Anna Karwan's mom Irene
Laura Nowell's brother Nick, cousin Nigel,
friend Mary
Elaine Glancy
Lynn Tirrell and daughter Cindy
Karen Butler's brother-in-law Lenny
Ted Brierley
Barbara Naddaff's friend Mary
Tonia Egan's Mom and Dad
Claire Simas
Paul Raymond
Shirley Fong's Mom Mary
Kay Shute
Julies Lewis's cousin Alicia
David Leonard's sister Lucinda
Tom Killilea's brother Jim
Bobbie Killilea's sister Karla
Chris Stahlinski's sisters
Brian Gionet's Dad
Roberta Low
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn
Jessy McNeil's sisters Grace and Joyce
Skip Glancy's sister Dorothy
Marilyn Langley's brother Bill
Kelly Sievert
Jan Blandino's grandson Toby, daughter
Brenda, son-in-law Rick
Ginger Mungillo and daughter Cindy, son Jim
Barbara Garland

Victims of the Wildfires and Hurricanes

Mother Earth and Our Country!

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.

WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

MARCH 9 Worship-Love Offering

| | |
|----------------|----------------------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Andrew Harris |
| Organist: | Brian Gionet |
| Lay Leader: | Chris Stahlinski |
| Head Usher: | |
| Usher: | Sally Willard |
| Greeter: | Sally Willard |
| Collector: | Deb Raymond |
| Nursery: | Kate Smith |
| Sunday School: | Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro |
| Coffee Hosts: | |
| Baker: | Deana Tredeau |

BIBLE STUDY

Join Pastor Andrew on Wednesdays, 2-3pm
in the conference room and on
Zoom livestream. All welcome!

Pastor contact info: If you would like to have
a meeting with Pastor Andrew you can contact
him at

[https://calendar.app.google/g6MNjHjWXY6SW
CG69](https://calendar.app.google/g6MNjHjWXY6SWCG69)

AGING WITH GRACE WORKSHOP

As we enter Lent there will be a workshop each Sunday following coffee hour. Aging with Grace is the topic. Anyone who may be caring for an aging family member, friend or even yourself may have many questions and concerns on how to handle this facet of life. We will search ways through poems, stories, passages to help us along the way. All are welcome to join us. Please contact Debbie Claar at deborahsclaar@gmail.com

MUSIC MINISTRY SURVEY

As we prepare to begin the search for our next Director of Music Ministry, we'd like to hear your thoughts on music ministry at our church. If you could take a few minutes to fill out this Music Ministry survey, we would really appreciate it. There will be paper copies at church as well. Follow this link to fill out the survey:

<https://forms.gle/z1MajQdkSMHZt9rz5>

CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

Join us on Thursday afternoons at 1pm in the conference room. We are in the process of making prayer shawls, prayer squares and blankets for the Linus Project. We also offer a hybrid connection so you can join us on Zoom as well!

Burlington Performing Arts Parent Association

In partnership with  **got sneakers?**
A Sneaker Recycling Organization
BPAPA we are helping to raise money to be used for costs related to performances, travel, scholarships, end of year banquets, equipment, etc.

YES, we want your sneakers!
ONLY paired, Athletic rubber soled shoes
in excellent to fair condition

(SEE THE BIN IN THE HALLWAY)

CHRISTIAN ED NEWS

- 3/9 All Church Worship-Band Sunday
- 3/16 No Sunday School
Service Sunday offering
Coffee Hour and Bake sale for
St. Patrick's Day Cookie Sale
- 3/23 "Seasons of the Spirit" curriculum
- 3/30 Science Sunday



BAKE SALE!

Sunday March 16 - Kids hold a bake sale after church and provide coffee hour.

The kids will meet in **Sewall Hall at 10am** to begin making cookies for the bake sale. They will not attend the church service.

The Bake Sale benefits CE programs. It will be St. Patrick's Day themed with cookies and coffee cake. The Sunday School will not attend church service.

Come get a treat for yourself or as a gift! Parents are welcome to provide cookies for the sale.

POOL PARTY FOR ALL AGES!



UPDATE: March 16th 2-3pm

We will head over to the Boys and Girls Club for a swim!

Please contact Deb for a headcount. We need to know how many lifeguards we need that day.

See signup sheet at coffee hour!

Open the Eyes of my Heart

Chorus:

Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You
Open the eyes of my heart, Lord, Open the eyes of my heart
I want to see You, I want to see You

To see you high and lifted up, Shining in the light of Your glory
Pour out Your power and love, As we sing holy, holy, holy (x2)

(Chorus)

Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
Holy, holy, holy
I want to see You

(Chorus)

Just as I Am

207

Charlotte Elliott, 1836; alt.

John 6:37; Eph. 2:14

1 Just as I am, with - out one plea but that your
2 Just as I am, though tossed a - bout with man - y a
3 Just as I am, you will re - ceive, will wel - come,
4 Just as I am, your love un - known has bro - ken

blood was shed for me, And that you called in -
con - flict, many a doubt, Fight - ings and fears with -
par - don, cleanse, re - lieve; Be - cause your prom - ise
ev - ery bar - rier down; Now to be yours, and

vit - ing me, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
in, with - out, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
I be - lieve, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!
yours a - lone, O Lamb of God, I come, I come!

This text appeared in Charlotte Elliott's Invalid's Hymn Book, published in England in 1836. Disabled at age thirty, she continued a career of writing and editing. This hymn has been translated into many languages.

Tune: WOODWORTH L.M.
William B. Bradbury, 1849

Traveling Mercies

Chorus:

Traveling Mercies

Love the journey

God is with us on every road

Traveling mercies

love the journey

God is with us all the way home

A simple blessing that's often spoken

when it is time to take to the road

A benediction to send us forward

trusting the spirit will lead us home

Chorus

Sometimes our feet take two good steps forward

Only to fall back ten steps behind

God's walking with us, we're being guided

Grace often writes straight with crooked lines

Chorus [Repeat]

Jesus Tested by the Devil

Narrator: The Story of the Devil testing Jesus starts in the wilderness with Jesus.

Devil: If you are God's son, turn these stones into bread.

Jesus: Noone can live only on bread; they need the word of God.

Narrator: The devil took Jesus to a mountain top so he could see all the lands and people

Devil: I will give all of this to you if you will worship me.

Jesus: Go away Devil. Worship God and only him.

Narrator: The Devil takes Jesus to Jerusalem to the top of the temple.

Devil: If you are God's son, jump off.

Jesus: Don't try to test the Lord your God.