

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

"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."

July 27, 2025

10:30am

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SEVENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

Coming...

Summer Worship Series Week 4: I've Been Meaning to Ask... Where does it hurt?

We believe everyone carries hurt and has the capacity to acknowledge the pain of others. We believe God draws close to us in every moment of suffering. We commit to vulnerability and compassion.

Musical Prelude

Wachet auf, ruft uns Stimme Walter

Aline Beck

Welcome & Announcements

Introit

I Sing as I Arise Today

NCH #83

**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.**

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

Praising & Learning...

***Call to Worship**

One: We are from north and south.
All: We are from tiny apartments and expansive homes.
One: We are from this city and from others far away.
All: We are from big families and dinners made for one.
One: We are from stages of grief and stages of love.
All: We are from hot summers and cold winters.
One: We are from kitchens with passed down recipes,
All: and front porches with old, familiar swings.
One: We are from the dust of the earth and the stars of the sky.
All: We are from a lot of places, but today we are here.
One: Today we are together.
All: Holy God, gather us in.

***Opening Hymn**

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

NCH #57

***Opening Prayer**

Holy God,
Today we will read stories of those who have known hurt—
people who have carried shame,
who have lived with grief and chronic illness,
who have felt alone and ignored,
who have seen the depths of suffering.
As we listen, we will be reminded of
the hurt we have carried during these fragile days—
memories and regrets co-mingling in our chests.
And as we listen, we will be reminded
that our neighbors, our siblings in faith,
also come to this space carrying burdens.
So dust off our ears and stretch open the
canvases of our hearts so that in our pain,
we might lean into one another as we lean into you.
Pull us close.
We are listening.
Amen.

Red Wagon (Pantry Donations)

Sharing of Joys, Sorrows, & Concerns

***Devotional Hymn**

I Need You Every Hour

NCH#517

Reflecting & Praying...

Scripture Readings

Mark 5:21-43

When Jesus had crossed again in the boat to the other side, a great crowd gathered around him, and he was by the sea. Then one of the leaders of the synagogue, named Jairus, came and, when he saw him, fell at his feet and pleaded with him repeatedly, "My little daughter is at the point of death. Come and lay your hands on her, so that she may be made well and live." So he went with him.

And a large crowd followed him and pressed in on him. Now there was a woman who had been suffering from a flow of blood for twelve years. She had endured much under many physicians and had spent all that she had, and she was no better but rather grew worse. She had heard about Jesus and came up behind him in the crowd and touched his cloak, for she said, "If I but touch his cloak, I will be made well." Immediately her flow of blood stopped, and she felt in her body that she was healed of her disease. Immediately aware that power had gone forth from him, Jesus turned about in the crowd and said, "Who touched my cloak?" And his disciples said to him, "You see the crowd pressing in on you; how can you say, 'Who touched me?'" He looked all around to see who had done it. But the woman, knowing what had happened to her, came in fear and trembling, fell down before him, and told him the whole truth. He said to her, "Daughter, your faith has made you well; go in peace, and be healed of your disease."

While he was still speaking, some people came from the synagogue leader's house to say, "Your daughter is dead. Why trouble the teacher any further?" But overhearing what they said, Jesus said to the synagogue leader, "Do not be afraid; only believe." He allowed no one to follow him except Peter, James, and John, the brother of James. When they came to the synagogue leader's house, he saw a commotion, people weeping and wailing loudly. When he had entered, he said to them, "Why do you make a commotion and weep? The child is not dead but sleeping." And they laughed at him. Then he put them all outside and took the child's father and mother and those who were with him and went in where the child was. Taking her by the hand, he said to her, "Talitha kum," which means, "Little girl, get up!" And immediately the girl stood up and began to walk about (she was twelve years of age). At this they were overcome with amazement. He strictly ordered them that no one should know this and told them to give her something to eat.

Reflecting on the Word

Rev. Brittany Fiscus-van Rossum writes: "We must put ourselves in the uncomfortable places where human beings live, breathe, and hurt—because those are the places where we will also find Jesus." In your own life, where are the uncomfortable places where human beings live, breathe, and hurt?

Turn and Talk - Where Does It Hurt?

1. How do you emotionally process your pain? (E.g. time alone, therapy, exercise, time with friends, etc.)
2. Describe a time when you felt fully seen, known, and accepted for who you are.

Words for Reflection - Blessing for the Brokenhearted by Jan Richardson

Let us agree
for now
that we will not say
the breaking
makes us stronger
or that it is better
to have this pain
than to have done
without this love.

Let us promise
we will not
tell ourselves
time will heal
the wound,
when every day
our waking
opens it anew.

Perhaps for now
it can be enough
to simply marvel
at the mystery
of how a heart

so broken
can go on beating,
as if it were made
for precisely this—

as if it knows
the only cure for love
is more of it,

as if it sees
the heart's sole remedy
for breaking
is to love still,

as if it trusts
that its own
persistent pulse
is the rhythm
of a blessing
we cannot
begin to fathom
but will save us
nonetheless.

Anthem

Dona Nobis Pacem Traditional

Sung by Donna DeSimone, and John Getsinger

Pastoral Prayer and the Lord's Prayer

Committing...

Stewardship Invitation

Family of faith, it does not take long to look around the world and point out places of pain and suffering. This year has been hard for so many, but I do not believe that that pain will be the last word. Each week in our worship services you are invited to give to the mission and ministry of our churches. When you give, you are not only supporting these congregations, but you are offering care to the broader community—leaning in, asking the hard questions, choosing connection, choosing generosity. It is these small acts of care, connection, and love that in time, can help heal the hurt in the world.

So friends, I've been meaning to ask... will you give your offering now? Let us give with grateful hearts.

Offertory

solo, Andie Joseph

*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 and Consecration

Going...

***Closing Hymn**

We Shall Overcome

NCH #570

***Benediction**

Family of faith,
as you leave this place, may God grant you
the curiosity to counter assumptions,
the vulnerability to befriend,
the bravery to speak your truth,
the wisdom to listen,
the strength to ask for help,
the resiliency to chose love, even when it's hard,
and the awareness of the Holy Spirit always beside you.
In the name of the Great Connector—Love itself,
go in peace.

Postlude

Sing Praise to God-Lanie Smith

Aline Beck

* * * * *

*The UCC Choir donated today's altar flowers
in loving and melodious memory of Lee Tirrell.*

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Rev. Andrew Harris, Pastor
The United Church of Christ, Congregational
Uccburlington.org
781-272-4547

Rev. Trina Portillo, Pastor
The Presbyterian Church, Burlington
Burlingtonpres.org
781-272-9190

WORSHIP PARTICIPATION

July 27 Worship-Red Wagon

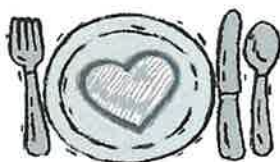
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Rev. Trina Portillo
Organist: Aline Beck
Lay Leader: Chris Stahlinski
Head Usher: Deb Glancy
Usher: Donna Ferro
Greeter: Marcia Rich
Flowers: Marcia Rich
Collector: Joan Zink
Coffee Host: Jan Costa
Bakers: Jan Costa
Jan McSheffrey

***August 3 at The Presbyterian Church 335 Cambridge Street, Burlington 10:30am**

Pastor: Rev. Trina Portillo
Collector: Marge Zamanian

*Please note UCC will not be preparing bulletins for those Sundays at The Presbyterian Church. The Zoom link will be provided. Stay tuned!

COMMUNITY DINNER AT THE PRESBYTERIAN CHURCH 335 Cambridge Street, Burlington July 30th at 5:30pm Free to all!



COMMUNITY DINNER

UCC will prepare the meal for this particular evening. See signup sheet at coffee hour.

WORSHIP FOR AUGUST!

Please note on August 3, 10, 17, 24 we will worship at The Presbyterian Church, 335 Cambridge Street, Burlington. Worship time is 10:30am.



Bible Study - Job: Why Do Bad Things Happen to Good People?

Please check your August Hilltop Herald Newsletter for Bible Study dates. There will be no bible study on July 30th.



Crafting for a Cause

Join us every Thursday at 1pm in the conference room as we put together prayer shawls, prayer squares and more. If you can't come in person, join us on Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/j/93567188274?pwd=TVJ3L2xDOdFxeUVSM0dWRnFhelI3dz09>

Meeting ID: 935 6718 8274
Passcode: 01803

**TWO OPPORTUNITIES TO HELP
BURLINGTON STUDENTS BEFORE
SCHOOL OPENS IN SEPTEMBER**

Burlington PHP and Shannon Jenkins are collecting 250 backpacks for grade K-12 Burlington students. Can you help?

Drop off your donation at PHP food pantry,
21 Murray Ave or RE/MAX Realty,
265 Winn Street, suite 201.

The drive runs until Aug 15.

MISSIONS TOILETRY DRIVE

We are collecting toiletries for Burlington Students from August 1 to September 1. There will be a marked bin for your donation outside the office.

These will be distributed through the Cambridge Street Closet of Burlington.

Here is a list of suggested items:

Hand soap
Shampoo
Deodorant
Disposable razors
Shaving cream
Hand cream (moisturizers)
Conditioner
Combs
Nail clippers
Emory boards
Toothpaste
Toothbrushes
Mouth wash
Band-Aids
First aid cream
Tampons/pads

O Holy Spirit, Root of Life

57

Jean Janzen, 1991; based on writings by
Hildegard, Abbess of Bingen, 12th century

1 O Ho - ly Spir - it, Root of life, Cre - a - tor,
2 E - ter - nal Vig - or, Sav - ing One, you free us
3 O Ho - ly Wis - dom, Soar - ing Power, en - com - pass

cleans - er of all things, a - noint our wounds, a -
by your liv - ing Word, be - com - ing flesh to
us with wings un - furled, and car - ry us, en -

wak - en us with lus - trous move - ment of your wings.
wear our pain, and all cre - a - tion is re - stored.
cir - cling all, a - bove, be - low, and through the world.

Hildegard of Bingen (1098–1179) was a “woman for all seasons.” A German abbess, she was a prolific liturgical composer and poet, artist and mystic, and scientist and theologian whose works exhibit deep spirituality. This new text combines rich images from Hildegard’s songs “De Spiritu Sancto,” “O Virtus Sapientiae,” and “O Vis Aeternitatis.”

Tune: PUER NOBIS NASCITUR L.M.
Melody from “Piae Cantiones,” 1582
Adapt. Michael Praetorius, 1609

I Need You Every Hour

*Annie S. Hawks, 1872; alt.**Refrain added by Robert Lowry, 1872; alt.*

1 I need you ev - ery hour, O God of grace;
 2 I need you ev - ery hour, in faith or fear;
 3 I need you ev - ery hour, in joy or pain;
 4 I need you ev - ery hour; teach me your will,

the peace your voice af - fords, I now em - brace.
 temp - ta - tions lose their power when you are near.
 come quick - ly and a - bide or life is vain.
 and your rich prom - is - es in me ful - fill.

Refrain

I need you, how I need you! Ev - ery hour I need you;

O bless me now, my Sav - ior; I come to you.

First sung at a convention of the National Baptist Sunday School Association, this hymn was used by Dwight Moody and Ira Sankey in both England and the United States. Annie S. Hawks, a Baptist, was the author of some 400 hymns.

Tune: NEED 6.4.6.4. with refrain
 Robert Lowry, 1872

We Shall Overcome

570

United States traditional

John 8:31–32; Rom. 12:21; 2 Cor. 13:11

1 We shall o - ver - come, we shall o - ver -
 2 We'll go hand in hand, we'll go hand in
 3 We are not a - fraid, we are not a -
 4 Our God will see us through, our God will see us

come, we shall o - ver - come some day;
 hand, we'll go hand in hand some day;
 fraid, we are not a - fraid to - day;
 through, our God will see us through some day;

(1-6) Oh, deep in my heart, I do be - lieve,

we shall o - ver - come some day.
 we'll go hand in hand some day.
 we are not a - fraid to - day.
 our God will see us through some day.

5 The truth shall make us free . . . some day.

6 We shall live in peace . . . some day.

This anthem of the 1960s civil rights movement was frequently sung at mass meetings and marches. Several sources have been cited as its origins, including the spiritual "No more auction block for me" based on the tune known as Sicilian Mariners; an old Baptist hymn "I'll Be All Right"; and part of the text from C. A. Tindley's gospel hymn "I'll Overcome Someday."

Tune: WE SHALL OVERCOME Irr.
 United States traditional
 Harm. J. Jefferson Cleveland, 1981