

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

THIRD SUNDAY AFTER EPIPHANY

"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."

January 25, 2026

10:30am

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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!

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

Gathering....

Musical Prelude

Voluntary-Elgar

Aline Beck

Welcome & Announcements

***Morning Psalm - Inspired by Psalm 27**

One: God is our light and our salvation;

All: Why should we be afraid?

One: God is the stronghold of our lives;

All: What do we have to fear?

One: One thing we ask of the LORD; this is what we seek.

**All: To dwell in the house of the LORD all the days of our lives;
to behold God's beauty;**

to wonder about God's ways in the company of God's people.

One: Let us enter God's presence together.

All: Hear us, O God, and hide not thy face.

Passing the Peace

Red Wagon

***Opening Hymn**

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

NCH #172

Reflecting...

Scripture Readings

1 Corinthians 1:10-18

Now I appeal to you, brothers and sisters, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that all of you be in agreement and that there be no divisions among you but that you be knit together in the same mind and the same purpose. For it has been made clear to me by Chloe's people that there are quarrels among you, my brothers and sisters. What I mean is that each of you says, "I belong to Paul," or "I belong to Apollos," or "I belong to Cephas," or "I belong to Christ." Has Christ been divided? Was Paul crucified for you? Or were you baptized in the name of Paul? I thank God that I baptized none of you except Crispus and Gaius, so that no one can say that you were baptized in my name. I did baptize also the household of Stephanas; beyond that, I do not know whether I baptized anyone else. For Christ did not send me to baptize but to proclaim the gospel—and not with eloquent wisdom, so that the cross of Christ might not be emptied of its power.

For the message about the cross is foolishness to those who are perishing, but to us who are being saved it is the power of God.

Matthew 4:12-23

Now when Jesus heard that John had been arrested, he withdrew to Galilee. He left Nazareth and made his home in Capernaum by the sea, in the territory of Zebulun and Naphtali, so that what had been spoken through the prophet Isaiah might be fulfilled:

“Land of Zebulun, land of Naphtali,
on the road by the sea, across the Jordan, Galilee of the gentiles—
the people who sat in darkness
have seen a great light,
and for those who sat in the region and shadow of death
light has dawned.”

From that time Jesus began to proclaim, “Repent, for the kingdom of heaven has come near.”

As he walked by the Sea of Galilee, he saw two brothers, Simon, who is called Peter, and Andrew his brother, casting a net into the sea—for they were fishers. And he said to them, “Follow me, and I will make you fishers of people.” Immediately they left their nets and followed him. As he went from there, he saw two other brothers, James son of Zebedee and his brother John, in the boat with their father Zebedee, mending their nets, and he called them. Immediately they left the boat and their father and followed him.

Jesus went throughout all Galilee, teaching in their synagogues and proclaiming the good news of the kingdom and curing every disease and every sickness among the people.

Our Sermon

The Kingdom of Heaven is Near

Rev. Andrew Harris

Anthem

Praying...

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

***Song of Prayer** Song of Prayer - Breathe on Me, Breath of God

NCH #292

Offering...

Invitation of Offering

Offertory

Bagatelle-Beethoven

Aline Beck

*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

Sending...

*Closing Hymn

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

NCH #181

*Benediction

Postlude

Joyful March

Bullard

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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
Aline Beck, Organist
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant
Uccburlington.org / 781-272-4547

PRAYERS AND CONCERNS

Jenn and David welcome baby girl
Margot Issac
Matt and Sonja Tierson on baby news
this Spring
Joyce Carpenter's nieces Breanna and
MaryJane
and brother-in-law Ken
Amelia Lewis
Cindy Brown
Woody Knowles
Carol Downing and Jan McSheffrey's
brother Charlie
Donna DeSome's sister Brenda and
brother-in-law Rick
Deana Tredeau's great niece Katie Wise
Ryan Clark's co-workers
Rob Sears
Conrad Fong
Tom Killilea
Tonia Egan's Mom and Dad
Bill Livezey
Kay Shute
Roberta Low
Debbie Claar's dear friends Victor
and Bob
Jan Blandino, her grandson Toby
David Knowles
Elaine Glancy
Ted Brierley
Andrew's friend Lorenzo
Bill Hitchcock
Anna Karwan's mom Irene and gratitude
for her sister as caretaker
Skip Glancy and sister Dorothy
Karen Butler's brother-in-law Lenny
Barbara Naddaff's friend Mary
Shirley Fong's Mom Mary

Julie Lewis' cousin Alicia
Shirley Garside's daughter Lynn

Jessy McNeil's sisters Grace and Joyce
Kelly Sievert
Ginger Mungillo, daughter Cindy,
son Jim
Barbara Garland

*Bobbie Killilea donated today's altar
flowers in celebration of January
Birthdays!*

Worship Participation-Red Wagon

Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Aline Beck
Lay Leader: Marcia Rich
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher:
Greeter: Jan Costa
Flowers: Bobbie Killilea
Collector: Marge Zamanian
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Chris Stahlinski
Bakers: Chris Stahlinski
Bev Maher

Worship Participation-February 1st

Communion Sunday

Communion: Chris Stahlinski
Pastor: Rev. Andrew Harris
Organist: Aline Beck
Lay Leader: Lucy Damiani
Head Usher: Dave McNeil
Usher:
Greeter: Jan McSheffrey
Flowers: Aline Beck
Collector: Deb Raymond
Nursery: Kritika Agarwala
Sunday School: Deb Raymond
Donna Ferro
Coffee Host: Donna Flecchia
Potluck Luncheon: The Congregation

**ANNUAL MEETING/LUNCHEON
TO BE HELD ON FEBRUARY 8TH
AFTER WORSHIP**



**REPORTS NEED TO BE IN THE
CHURCH OFFICE BY JANUARY 26**

**If you can make a food item for the
luncheon there is a sign up sheet at
coffee hour.**

Bible Study Wednesdays 2-3pm

We will begin a new Bible Study session on Revelation. No, not the Book of Revelation (although we will touch on that), but the concept of revelation. Scripture tells many stories of the ways in which God reveals truth to mortals. In the United Church of Christ, our motto is "God is still speaking." As we explore revelation, we'll explore questions like, "How does God speak to us?" and "What does God say?" All are welcome!

Here are the scheduled readings for Bible Study:

- 1/28 - Acts Ch. 10
- 2/4 - Daniel Ch. 8
- 2/11 - Book of Revelation
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Follow this link if you'd like to join on Zoom:
<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89076641525>

NAME TAGS

To help create a welcoming atmosphere, we ask that you wear your name tag. If you don't have one, please let Bobbie know.

GREEN TEAM – FREE LIBRARY!

The Green Team invites you to check out the Free Library on the front lawn of the church near the parking lot. This little library was a result of our reading, "The Serviceberry" by Robin Wall Kimmerer this past year. In her book she talks about gift economies and mentions free libraries, and so we thought this is something we could do. Thanks to Nancy Todd, Anna Karwan and Donna DeSimone for putting it together, painting it and installing it.

C4C CRAFTING FOR A CAUSE

C4C meets every Thursday at 1pm in the conference room. You can also join us on Zoom at:

<https://zoom.us/j/93567188274?pwd=TVJ3L2xDODFxeUVSM0dWRnFhelI3dz09>

Meeting ID: 935 6718 8274
Passcode: 01803

Jesus Calls Us, o'er the Tumult

172

Cecil F. Alexander, 1852; alt.

Matt. 4:18-22; Mark 1:16-20; John 21:15

1 Je-sus calls us, o'er the tu - mult of our life's wild, rest-less sea;
2 As of old, Saint An-drew heard it by the Gal - i - le - an lake,
3 Je-sus calls us from the wor-ship of the trea - sures we a - dore,
4 In our joys and in our sor-rows, days of toil and hours of ease,
5 Je-sus calls us! By your mer-cies, Sav-ior, may we hear your call,

Day by day that voice still calls us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, fol - low me."
Turned from home and toil and kin-dred, leav - ing all for Je - sus' sake.
From each i - dol that would keep us, say - ing, "Chris-tian, love me more."
Je - sus calls, in cares and plea-sures, "Chris-tian, love me more than these."
Give our hearts to your o - be-dience, serve and love you best of all.

Cecil Alexander, who in Ireland wrote sacred verse to teach children the meaning of the catechism and liturgy, designated this poem for St. Andrew's Day. Many years later Galilee was composed for this text by an English organist, William Jude.

Tune: GALILEE 8.7.8.7.
William H. Jude, 1887
Alternate setting: ST. ANDREW

Breathe on Me, Breath of God

292

Edwin Hatch, 1886; alt.

1 Breathe on me, Breath of God, fill me with life a - new
2 Breathe on me, Breath of God, un - til my heart is pure,
3 Breathe on me, Breath of God, stir in me one de - sire:
4 Breathe on me, Breath of God, so shall I nev - er die,

That I may love the way you love and do what you would do.
Un - til with you I will one will, to do and to en - dure.
That ev - ery earth - ly part of me may glow with ho - ly fire.
But live with you the per - fect life of your e - ter - ni - ty.

Between parish assignments in London, Edwin Hatch taught classics at Trinity College, Quebec, and lectured at Oxford. This hymn appeared in a leaflet, "Between Doubt and Prayer" (1878). Other hymns were published posthumously in Towards Fields of Light, London (1890).

Tune: TRENTHAM S.M.
Robert Jackson, 1894

You Are Salt for the Earth, O People

181

Paraphr. by Marty Haugen, 1986; alt.

Matt. 5:13-15

Unison

D (allow to ring off)

1 You are salt for the earth, O peo-ple: salt for the reign of God!
 2 You are a light on the hill, O peo-ple: light for the Cit-y of God!
 3 You are a seed of the Word, O peo-ple: bring forth the reign of God!
 4 We are a blessed and a pil-grim peo-ple: bound for the reign of God!

Share the fla- vor of life, O peo- ple: life in the Cit-y of God!
 Shine so ho- ly and bright, O peo- ple: shine for the Cit-y of God!
 Seeds of mer- cy and seeds of jus- tice, grow in the Cit-y of God!
 Love our jour-ney and love our home-land: love is the Cit-y of God!

Refrain

Bring forth the reign of mer- cy, bring forth the reign of peace;

Bring forth the reign of jus- tice, bring forth the Cit-y of God!

During a residency at Holden Village, a retreat center in the state of Washington, Marty Haugen wrote this hymn to be used as a "processing song" for outdoor worship. The lectionary readings focusing on Jesus' teaching about the "reign of God" provided the basis for the text.

Tune: BRING FORTH Irr. with refrain
 Marty Haugen, 1986