

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

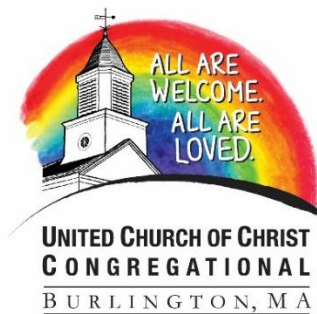
FOURTEENTH SUNDAY AFTER PENTECOST

"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."

August 30, 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

Welcome & Announcements

***Opening Psalm** (based on Psalm 26)

One: Vindicate me, LORD, I have trusted in you and have not faltered.

All: Test me, LORD, and try me, examine my heart and my mind;

One: For I have always been mindful of your unfailing love.

All: LORD, I love the house where you live, the place where your glory dwells.

One: Do not take away my soul along with sinners, in whose hands are wicked schemes, whose hands are full of bribes.

All: Deliver me and be merciful to me.

One: My feet stand on level ground;

All: In the great congregation I will praise the LORD.

***Opening Hymn**

Help Us Accept Each Other

NCH #388

***Passing of the Peace and Red Wagon**

***Sharing of Joys and Concerns**

***Devotional Hymn** The Servant Song (Won't You Let Me Be Your Servant) NCH #539

Reflecting...

Scripture Readings

Romans 12:9-21

Let love be genuine; hate what is evil; hold fast to what is good; love one another with mutual affection; outdo one another in showing honor. Do not lag in zeal; be ardent in spirit; serve the Lord. Rejoice in hope; be patient in affliction; persevere in prayer. Contribute to the needs of the saints; pursue hospitality to strangers.

Bless those who persecute you; bless and do not curse them. Rejoice with those who rejoice; weep with those who weep. Live in harmony with one another; do not be arrogant, but associate with the lowly; do not claim to be wiser than you are. Do not repay anyone evil for evil, but take thought for what is noble in the sight of all. If it is possible, so far as it depends on

you, live peaceably with all. Beloved, never avenge yourselves, but leave room for the wrath of God, for it is written, "Vengeance is mine; I will repay, says the Lord." Instead, "if your enemies are hungry, feed them; if they are thirsty, give them something to drink, for by doing this you will heap burning coals on their heads." Do not be overcome by evil, but overcome evil with good.

Our Sermon

I will always love you

Rev. Andrew Harris

Anthem

Day by Day led by Sarah Clark

Praying...

Pastoral Prayer

Lord's Prayer

Offering...

Invitation of Offering

Offertory

All for the Best led by Debbie Claar and Andrew Harris

***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**

Blest be the Tie That Binds

NCH #393

***Benediction**

Postlude

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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.

WELCOME BRUNCH-September 13

We are preparing for our Welcome Sunday on September 13. The service will be an all-worship Sunday including the children, new members joining and our band performing. We will recognize the 296 anniversary of the 2nd Parish of Woburn being established on September 16, 1730. After worship we hope everyone will join us for our Welcome Sunday Brunch. The Deacons and Christian Ed boards are providing our traditional breakfast casseroles, including meat and vegetarian choices, French toast, and breads, fruit and yogurt.

Rev. Andrew Harris, Pastor
Sarah Del Dotto, Organist
Deb Raymond, Director of Christian Education
Bobbie Killilea, Administrative Assistant
Uccburlington.org / 781-272-4547

August 30 Worship-Red Wagon

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|--------------|--------------------|
| Pastor: | Rev. Andrew Harris |
| Organist: | Sarah Del Dotto |
| Lay Leader: | Debbie Claar |
| Head Usher: | Dave McNeil |
| Usher: | Volunteer |
| Flowers: | Nancy Davis |
| Greeter: | Jan McSheffrey |
| Collector: | Marge Zamanian |
| Nursery: | Volunteers |
| Coffee Host: | Donna Flecchia |
| | Auria Musselman |
| Baker/Snack: | Donna Flecchia |
| | Auria Musselman |

September 6 Communion**Labor Day Weekend**

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|-----------------|--------------------|
| Communion Prep: | Marge Zamanian |
| Pastor: | Rev. Andrew Harris |
| Organist: | Sarah Del Dotto |
| Lay Leader: | |
| Head Usher: | Dave McNeil |
| Usher: | |
| Flowers: | |
| Greeter: | |
| Collector: | Dick Butler |
| Nursery: | |
| Coffee Host: | |
| Baker/Snack: | |

SUNDAY SCHOOL

Read, Set Go... it's time for our new Sunday School Year!

September 13 - Welcome Sunday. Yes, this is our traditional brunch after church! It is an all-church worship service with the band! Deb will be in touch with parents for participation assignments for the students supporting the church service.

Don't forget to read your Hidden Scrolls book and have lots of thoughts and questions ready!

**BIBLE STUDY EVERY WEDNESDAY 2-3PM IN THE CONFERENCE ROOM
AND ON ZOOM****WOMEN OF THE BIBLE**

There are so many stories centered on women in the Bible and yet throughout church history they have often been overshadowed and sidelined. In this Bible study session, we will explore these stories and discuss the ways women have always played an essential role in God's creation, in the church, and in the story of our faith. Come join us and learn about Hannah, Tabitha, Rahab, Deborah and more amazing women in God's continuing story.

Zoom link: **<https://us06web.zoom.us/j/89076641525>**