

2024 THANKSGIVING

APPLE Pie Fund Raiser

Apple, Apple Crisp and Apple Cranberry \$20.00

Sunday, November 24, 2024

A team of Centre Church folks will be making pies on:

Thurs. Nov. 21, Friday Nov. 22 and Saturday Nov. 23

for sale on:

Sunday, November 24th.

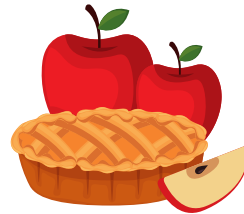
PLEASE PRE-ORDER GET YOUR ORDERS IN by

Sunday, November 17th!

Please send your orders and your checks in to the Church office!

[781-334-3050], 5 Summer St, Lynnfield 01940

To volunteer to help peel and core apples, make crusts or assemble pies; please contact Chuck Cotting [chuck@thecottings.com] and we will have sign-up sheets in the Narthex after Sunday services.



Worship Notes.

Music licenses: One License with license #A-733437,
and CCLI License #A-2267261 and Streaming
#CSPL169342, Size A



CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer St. Lynnfield MA 01940

781-334-3050 www.Centre-Church.org

We Welcome Everyone: An Open and Affirming Church

Rev Thomas Bentley, Pastor

Douglas W. Hodgkins, Organist/Choir Director

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School

Bella Travaglini, Administrative Assistant



“Committed but Not Attached”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

October 13, 2024

10:00 am

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Scott Barke

Leader: God has called all God's people to lives of hope and service.

People: We want to serve God, but sometimes life gets to be too difficult for us.

Leader: Place your trust in God's power and love.

People: God understands our needs, our sorrows, and our joys.

Leader: Come, let us worship God who is with us always.

Leader& People: Praise God for God's eternal presence. AMEN.

Opening Prayer *(in unison)*

Scott Barke

Lord, you have called us here this day for healing, hope, and transformation. As we listen to the Scripture, pray our prayers, sing our hymns, and hear the words of wisdom, open our hearts to hear your claim on our lives; that we may fully and joyfully serve you. AMEN.

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

Scott Barke

**Our Father, who art in heaven, hallowed be thy name. Thy kingdom come.
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven. Give us this day our daily bread.
And forgive us our debts, as we forgive our debtors. And lead us not into
temptation, but deliver us from evil. For thine is the kingdom, and the
power, and the glory, forever, AMEN.**

***Opening Hymn**

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song”

#476

New Testament Reading

Scott Barke

Hebrews 4:12-16

NRSV

Indeed, the word of God is living and active, sharper than any two-edged sword, piercing until it divides soul from spirit, joints from marrow; it is able to judge the thoughts and intentions of the heart. And before him no creature is hidden, but all are naked and laid bare to the eyes of the one to whom we must render an account. Since, then, we have a great high priest who has passed through the heavens, Jesus, the Son of God, let us hold fast

“God, Whose Giving Knows No Ending” #565

1 God, whose giving knows no ending, from your rich and endless store,

Nature's wonder, Jesus' wisdom, costly cross, grave's shattered door;

**Gifted by you, we turn to you offering up ourselves in praise;
Thankful song shall rise forever, gracious donor of our days.**

2 Skills and time are ours for serving, that your will on earth be done:

All at peace on health and freedom, races joined, the Church made one.

**Now direct our daily labor, lest we strive for self alone;
born with talents, make us servants fit to answer at your
throne.**

**3 Treasure, too, you have entrusted, gain through powers your
grace conferred;**

Ours to use for home and kindred, and to spread the gospel Word.

Open wide our hands in sharing as we heed Christ's ageless call,

Healing , teaching, and reclaiming, honoring you by loving all.

**4 Lend your joy to all our giving, let it light our pilgrim way;
From the night of anxious keeping, loose us into generous day.**

Then when years on earth are over, and we've lived our human span,

God, fulfill beyond our dreaming, all our stewardship began.

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song” #476

1 My life flows on in endless song; above earth’s lamentation, I hear the sweet though far - off hymn that hails a new creation. Through all the tumult and the strife, I hear the music ringing: It finds an echo in my soul - how can I keep from singing?

2 What though my joys and comforts die? My Savior still in living. What though the shadows gather round? a new song Christ is giving. No storm can shake my inmost calm, while to that Rock I’m clinging; Since Love commands both heaven and earth, how can I keep from singing?

3 When tyrants tremble sick with fear, and hear their death knells ringing; When friends rejoice both far and near, how can I keep from singing? In prison cell and dungeon vile our thoughts to them are winging; When friends by share are undefiled, how can I keep from singing?

4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin; I see the blue above it; And day by day this pathway smooths, since first I learned to love it. The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart, a fountain ever springing; All things are mine since I am Christ’s - how can I keep from singing?

to our confession. For we do not have a high priest who is unable to sympathize with our weaknesses, but we have one who in every respect has been tested as we are, yet without sin. Let us therefore approach the throne of grace with boldness, so that we may receive mercy and find grace to help in time of need.

Children’s Time

Children will remain for Worship today, and are welcomed to Pray Ground at the front of the Sanctuary. The Nursery for child care is available for children ages 4 and under.

Call to Offering

Offertory

***Hymn of Praise (in unison)**

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Living God, whom we adore.**

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

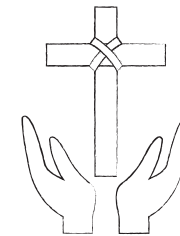
Pastoral Prayer

Anthem

**Gospel Reading
Mark 10:17-31**

**Scott Barke
The Message**

As he went out into the street, a man came running up, greeted him with great reverence, and asked, “Good Teacher, what must I do to get eternal life?”



Jesus said, “Why are you calling me good? No one is good, only God. You know the commandments: Don’t murder, don’t commit adultery, don’t steal, don’t lie, don’t cheat, honor your father and mother.”

He said, “Teacher, I have—from my youth—kept them all!”

Jesus looked him hard in the eye—and loved him! He said, “There’s one thing left: Go sell whatever you own and give it to the poor. All your wealth will then be heavenly wealth. And come follow me.”

The man’s face clouded over. This was the last thing he expected to hear, and he walked off with a heavy heart. He was holding on tight to a lot of things, and not about to let go.

Looking at his disciples, Jesus said, “Do you have any idea how difficult it is for people who ‘have it all’ to enter God’s kingdom?” The disciples couldn’t believe what they were hearing, but Jesus kept on: “You can’t imagine how difficult. I’d say it’s easier for a camel to go through a needle’s eye than for the rich to get into God’s kingdom.”

That got their attention. “Then who has any chance at all?” they asked.

Jesus was blunt: “No chance at all if you think you can pull it off by yourself. Every chance in the world if you let God do it.”

Peter tried another angle: “We left everything and followed you.”

Jesus said, “Mark my words, no one who sacrifices house, brothers, sisters, mother, father, children, land—whatever—because of me and the Message will lose out. They’ll get it all back, but multiplied many times in homes, brothers, sisters, mothers, children, and land—but also in troubles. And then the bonus of eternal life! This is once again the Great Reversal: Many who are first will end up last, and the last first.”

Message: “Committed but Not Attached”

Benediction

Postlude



Our ushers today are
Steve Riley and Bob MacKendrick.

Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by
Liz and Bill Seelig.



The flowers on the altar today are given by
Karen and Paul Harrington.



Join us next Sunday, Oct. 20th
right after Worship for Soup and
Sandwich Sunday! Bring a crock
pot of your favorite soup or platter
of sandwiches and enjoy heavenly
food, music and fellowship. We will
be collecting cans of soup
to help Bread and Roses.

Sign-up sheets
are in the Narthex.

