

New Membership Orientation

The first orientation meeting for prospective new church members will be held after coffee hour on the Sundays of January 26th and February 2nd in the Pastor's Outer Office. Please call the church office at 781-334-3050 if you are interested in joining us.



1st Meeting, Wednesday, January 29th - Pastor's Outer Office

Centre Congregational Church Book Club

We will discuss Dr. Jamil Zaki's book, *Hope for Cynics: The Surprising Science of Human Goodness*. Cynicism is making us sick; Stanford Psychologist Zaki has the cure—a "ray of light for dark days." Reverend Tom Bentley and Randy Russell will guide this discussion. The Lynnfield Library will provide copies of the book to those who are interested. Contact the office at office@centre-church.com or call 781-334-3050 to register.



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
Christina Joly, Faith Formation Children's Program Coordinator
Christine Marshall, Nursery Care Provider
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School
Bella Travaglini, Administrative Assistant



“Anointed to Set the Oppressed Free”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

January 26, 2025

10:00 am

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Bill Seelig

Leader: God’s glory is pouring forth from the heavens.

People: Earth below receives the good news with great joy.

Leader: The promise is sure and true, that Jesus has come to show us the best ways to serve God.

People: By serving and caring for others, we truly serve God.

Leader: Come, let us prepare ourselves for joyful service.

People: Lord, make us ready for great service in your name. AMEN.

Opening Prayer *(in unison)*

Bill Seelig

Leading and Guiding God, you have opened the doors to us for true service.
We are encouraged to become involved in ministries of peace and justice.
The light of promise is reflected in your Spirit which rests in each one of us.
Get us ready to serve you. Guide our lives, as we learn more of what you would have us do. AMEN.

The Lord’s Prayer *(in unison)*

Bill Seelig

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

“In the Midst of New Dimensions”

#391

New Testament Reading

Bill Seelig

1 Corinthians 12:25-27

The Message

The way God designed our bodies is a model for understanding our lives together as a church: every part dependent on every other part, the parts we mention and the parts we don’t, the parts we see and the parts we don’t. If one part hurts, every other part is involved in the hurt, and in the healing. If one part flourishes, every other part enters into the exuberance.

1 You have come down to the lakeshore
Seeking neither the wise nor the wealthy,
But only asking for me to follow.

Refrain:
O Jesus, you have looked into my eyes,
Kindly smiling, you’ve called out my name.
On the sand I’ve abandoned my small boat;
Now with you, I will seek other seas.

2 You know full well my possessions;
Neither treasure nor weapons for conquest,
Just these my fishnets and will for working.

Refrain
3 You need my hands, my exhaustion,
Working love for the rest of the weary,
A love that’s willing to go on loving.

Refrain
4 You who have fished other waters;
You, the longing of souls that are yearning;
As loving Friend, you have come to call me.

Refrain

“In the Midst of New Dimensions” #391

1 In the midst of new dimensions, in the face of changing ways. Who will lead the pilgrim peoples wandering in their separate ways?

Refrain:

**God of rainbow, fiery pillar, leading where the eagles soar,
We your people, ours the journey now and ever, now and ever, now and ever more.**

2 Through the flood of starving people, warring factions and despair, Who will lift the olive branches? Who will light the flame of care?

Refrain

3 As we stand a world divided by our own self seeking schemes, Grant that we, your global village might envision wider dreams.

Refrain

4 We are man and we are woman, all persuasions, old and young, Each a gift in your creation, each a love song to be sung.

Refrain

5 Should the threats of dire predictions cause us to withdraw in pain, May your blazing phoenix spirit, resurrect the church again.

Refrain

You are Christ’s body—that’s who you are! You must never forget this. Only as you accept your part of that body does your “part” mean anything.

Children’s Time

Following Children’s Time, Children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Kid’s Classroom in Room 10 with Barbara Langill and Christine Marshall.

Call to Offering

Offertory

“For I Am Persuaded”

Schweitzer

***Hymns 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

Joy and Concerns

Pastor’s Prayer



Jesus returned to Galilee in the power of the Spirit, and news about him spread through the whole countryside. He was teaching in their synagogues, and everyone praised him.

He went to Nazareth, where he had been brought up, and on the Sabbath day he went into the synagogue, as was his custom. He stood up to read, and the scroll of the prophet Isaiah was handed to him. Unrolling it, he found the place where it is written:

“The Spirit of the Lord is on me,
because he has anointed me
to proclaim good news to the poor.
He has sent me to proclaim freedom for the prisoners
and recovery of sight for the blind,
to set the oppressed free,
to proclaim the year of the Lord’s favor.”

Then he rolled up the scroll, gave it back to the attendant and sat down. The eyes of everyone in the synagogue were fastened on him. He began by saying to them, “Today this scripture is fulfilled in your hearing.”

Anthem

“The Irish Blessing”

Eilers Bacak

Message:

“Anointed to Set the Oppressed Free”

Rev. Tom Bentley

*Closing Hymn

“You Have Come Down to the Lakeshore”

#173



Our ushers today are
Margaret Waugh and Kathi Martin.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Jeff and Barbara Langill in memory of Jeff’s parents, Henry and Jean Langill and Barbara’s parents, Lorena and Alfred McKinstry.



Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Diane and David Bjorkman.

