

New Membership Orientation

The second orientation meeting for prospective new church members will be held after Coffee Hour today, Sunday, February 2nd in the Pastor's Outer Office. Please call the church office at 781-334-3050 if you are interested in joining us.



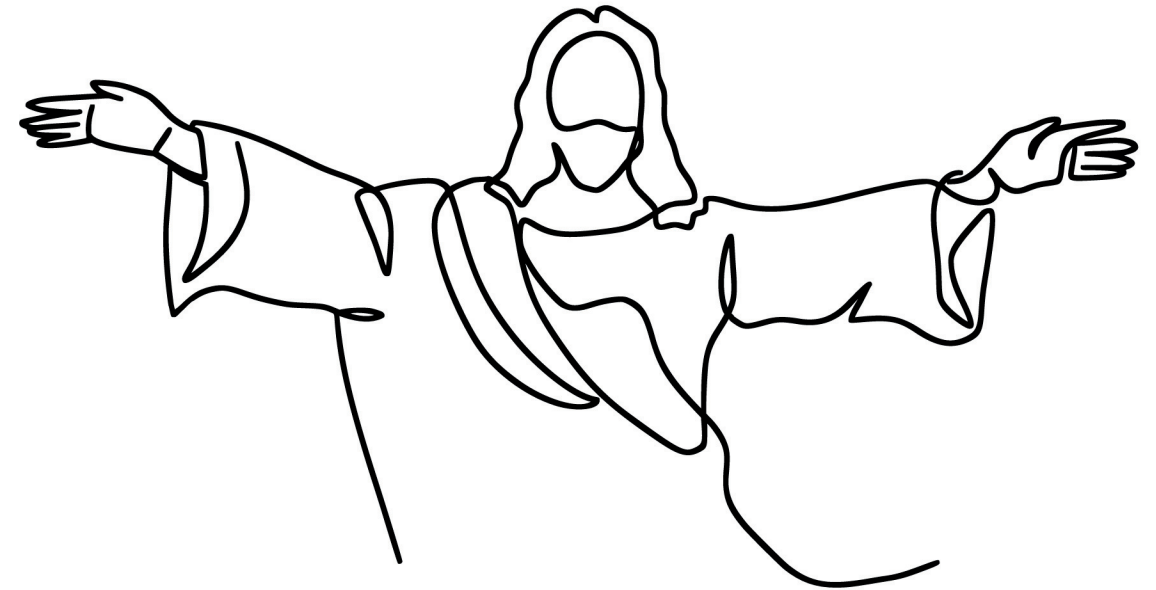
Worship Notes.

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



“A Feisty Faith in Times of Trouble”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

Communion Sunday

February 2, 2025

10:00 am

Prelude

“Andante Religioso”

Mendelssohn

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Sy Armistead

Leader: Come! Hear the call of God: “Speak of me to my people.”

People: But we are just ordinary folks. Who will listen?

Leader: God tells us “I will give you the words. I will always be with you as you speak my words of truth and justice and love.”

Leader & People: We gather here to worship you, O God and to praise you for your loving presence, that we may be strengthened for the calling you have given us. AMEN

Opening Prayer (*in unison*)

Sy Armistead

O God, you are our rock and our fortress. In you we find strength to go on. We praise you for your gifts of faith, hope, and love. We seek to live out our call to be all you have created us to be. Help us now through the blessing of your forgiving and renewing love. As we remember those times we have turned from you and stumbled through life, we ask you to recall us again to serve the purposes of your love - that this world of your making may become the world of your redeeming Peace and Justice. Through Jesus we pray. AMEN

The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison*)

Sy Armistead

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

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer”

#18

Old Testament Reading

Sy Armistead

Jeremiah 1: 1, 4b-8

The Message

The Message of Jeremiah son of Hilkiyah of the family of priests who lived in Anathoth in the country of Benjamin.

God’s Message began to come to him. This is what God said:

“Will You Come and Follow Me” (The Summons)

by John L. Bell & Graham Maule

Will you come and follow me if I but call your name?

Will you go where you don’t know and never be the same?

Will you let my love be shown? Will you let my name be known,

will you let my life be grown in you and you in me?

Will you leave yourself behind if I but call your name?

Will you care for cruel and kind and never be the same?

Will you risk the hostile stare should your life attract or scare?

Will you let me answer prayer in you and you in me?

Lord your summons echoes true when you but call my name.

Let me turn and follow you and never be the same.

In Your company I’ll go where Your love and footsteps show.

Thus I’ll move and live and grow in you and you in me.

“Guide Me, O My Great Redeemer” #18

**1 Guide me, O my great Redeemer,
pilgrim through this barren land;
I am weak, but you are mighty;
hold me with your powerful hand.
Bread of heaven, bread of heaven,
feed me til I want no more,
feed me til I want no more.**

**2 Open now the crystal fountain,
where the healing waters flow.
Let the fire and cloudy pillar
lead me all my journey through.
Strong Deliverer, strong Deliverer,
ever be my strength and shield,
ever be my strength and shield.**

**3 When I reach the River Jordan,
bid my anxious fears subside.
Death of death, and hell's Destruction,
land me safe on heaven's side.
Songs of praises, songs of praises
I will ever sing to you,
I will ever sing to you.**

**“Before I shaped you in the womb,
I knew all about you.
Before you saw the light of day,
I had holy plans for you:
A prophet to the nations—
that’s what I had in mind for you.”**

**But I said, “Hold it, Master God! Look at me.
I don’t know anything. I’m only a boy!”
God told me, “Don’t say, ‘I’m only a boy.’
I’ll tell you where to go and you’ll go there.
I’ll tell you what to say and you’ll say it.
Don’t be afraid of a soul.
I’ll be right there, looking after you.”**

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 Christina Joly and Christine Marshall. The children will return to sit with their families for Communion.

Call to Offering

Offertory

“Seek the Lord”

Day

***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

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer



He came to Nazareth where he had been raised. As he always did on the Sabbath, he went to the meeting place. When he stood up to read, he was handed the scroll of the prophet Isaiah. Unrolling the scroll, he found the place where it was written,
God’s Spirit is on me;
he’s chosen me to preach the Message of good news to the poor,
Sent me to announce pardon to prisoners and
recovery of sight to the blind,
To set the burdened and battered free,
to announce, “This is God’s time to shine!”

“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.”

He rolled up the scroll, handed it back to the assistant, and sat down. Every eye in the place was on him, intent. Then he started in, “You’ve just heard Scripture make history. It came true just now in this place.”

All who were there, watching and listening, were surprised at how well he spoke. But they also said, “Isn’t this Joseph’s son, the one we’ve known since he was just a kid?”

He answered, “I suppose you’re going to quote the proverb, ‘Doctor, go heal yourself. Do here in your hometown what we heard you did in Capernaum.’ Well, let me tell you something: No prophet is ever welcomed in his hometown. Isn’t it a fact that there were many widows in Israel at the time of Elijah during that three and a half years of drought when famine devastated the land, but the only widow to

whom Elijah was sent was in Sarepta in Sidon? And there were many lepers in Israel at the time of the prophet Elisha but the only one cleansed was Naaman the Syrian.”

That set everyone in the meeting place seething with anger. They threw him out, banishing him from the village, then took him to a mountain cliff at the edge of the village to throw him to his doom, but he gave them the slip and was on his way.

Anthem

“You Are the Bread”

Scram

Message:

“A Feisty Faith in Times of Trouble”

Rev. Tom Bentley

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (*see insert*)

*Closing Hymn

“Will You Come and Follow Me” (*The Summons*)
by John L. Bell and Graham Maule

Benediction

Postlude

“All Hail the Power of Jesus’ Name”

Hopson

Our ushers today are
Bill Seelig, Raden Sorli Hawk,
Scott Barke, and Phil Fisher

Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Nancy Lauzon.

