

**Love Notes to PJTC  
Sunday, February 9th**

**The wildfires that devastated much of the Pasadena area, destroyed not only homes and businesses, but also several houses of worship.**

**Our church school children will be sending notes of care to the Pasadena Jewish Temple and Center whose synagogue and education building were completely destroyed by the fire.**

**We invite the congregation to join us by signing a card during coffee hour today.**

**We will also be accepting donations to help replace the many children's books that were lost.**



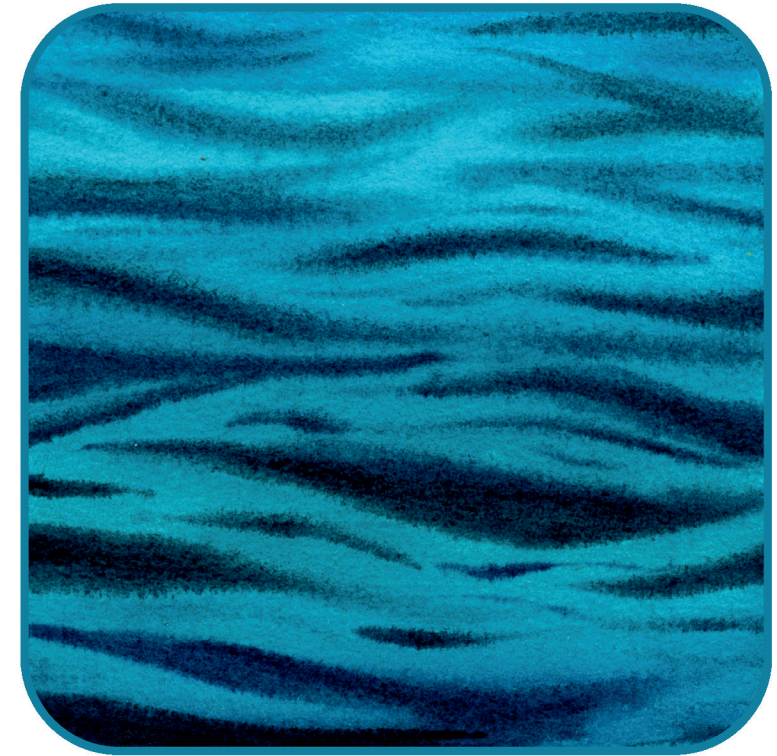
**Worship Notes.**

**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](http://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



**“Pushing Out Into Deeper Water”**

*Rev. Thomas Bentley*

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ  
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

**February 9, 2025**

**10:00 am**

Prelude "Largo" Corelli  
Welcome and Announcements Rev. Tom Bentley  
Call to Worship Jim Wilkie

Leader: Poor or despairing, come to be blessed.  
People: Hungry or tired, come to be restored.  
Leader: Sorrowing or sighing, come to discover joy.  
People: Bring your tired, your poor.  
Leader: Share your hopes, your dreams.  
People: Embrace your doubts, your fears.  
Leader: Come as you are.  
Leader & People: All are welcome here.

Opening Prayer (in unison) Jim Wilkie  
Shepherd of our souls, guide us through times of woe, and help us find your solace and peace. Forgive us in times of sin and sorrow, and lead into your redeeming love. Resurrect us in times of death and despair, and lead into newness of life, that we may be the blessing we seek for everyone we meet.  
Amen

The Lord's Prayer (in unison) Jim Wilkie  
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 "I'm Pressing on the Upward Way" #442

Children's Time "Love Notes to L.A." Barbara Langill

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.

"If You But Trust in God to Guide You" #410

1 If you but trust in God to guide you,  
With hopeful heart through all your ways,  
You will find strength, with God beside you,  
To bear the worst of evil days;  
For those who trust God's changeless love  
Build on the rock that will not move.

2 Only be still, and wait God's pleasure  
in cheerful hope, with heart content,  
trusting that grace which knows no measure  
will by unbounded Love be sent;  
Nor doubt our inmost wants are clear  
to One who holds us always near.

3 Sing, pray, and keep God's ways unswerving;  
Offer your service faithfully,  
And trust god's word, though undeserving,  
There find the truth to set you free;  
God will not fail to guide and bless those  
Who embrace God's faithfulness.



**“I’m Pressing on the Upward Way”  
(Higher Ground)**

**#442**

**1 I'm pressing on the upward way,  
New heights I'm gaining every day;  
Still praying as I onward bound,  
“O plant me, God, on higher ground.”**

***Refrain:***

**O lift me up, and I shall be  
By faith in heaven eternally,  
A higher plane than I have found,  
O plant me, God, on higher ground.**

**2 My heart has no desire to stay  
Where doubts arise and fears dismay;  
Though some may dwell where these abound,  
My prayer, my aim is higher ground.**

***Refrain***

**3 I want to live beyond the world,  
Though Satan's darts at me are hurled;  
For faith has caught the joyful sound,  
The song of saints on higher ground.**

***Refrain***

**4 I want to scale the utmost height,  
And catch a gleam of glory bright;  
But still I'll pray till Heaven I've found,  
“God lead me on to higher ground.”**

***Refrain***



**Old Testament Reading**

**Jim Wilkie**

**Isaiah 6:1-8**

***The Message***

**In the year that King Uzziah died, I saw the Master sitting on a throne—high, exalted! — and the train of his robes filled the Temple. Angel-seraphs hovered above him, each with six wings. With two wings they covered their faces, with two their feet, and with two they flew. And they called back and forth one to the other,  
Holy, Holy, Holy is God-of-the-Angel-Armies.**

**His bright glory fills the whole earth.  
The foundations trembled at the sound of the angel voices, and then the whole house filled with smoke. I said,**

**“Doom! It’s Doomsday!**

**I’m as good as dead!**

**Every word I’ve ever spoken is tainted—  
blasphemous even!**

**And the people I live with talk the same way,  
using words that corrupt and desecrate.**

**And here I’ve looked God in the face!**

**The King! God-of-the-Angel-Armies!”**

**Then one of the angel-seraphs flew to me. He held a live coal that he had taken with tongs from the altar. He touched my mouth with the coal and said,**

**“Look. This coal has touched your lips.**

**Gone your guilt,- your sins wiped out.”**

**And then I heard the voice of the Master:**

**“Whom shall I send?**

**Who will go for us?”**

**I spoke up,**

**“I’ll go.**

**Send me!”**





Call to Offering

Offertory                      “God’s Eye is on the Sparrow”                      Gabriel

\*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

Gospel Reading                      Jim Wilkie  
Luke 5:1-11                      *The Message*

Once when he was standing on the shore of Lake Gennesaret, the crowd was pushing in on him to better hear the Word of God. He noticed two boats tied up.

The fishermen had just left them and were out scrubbing their nets. He climbed into the boat that was Simon’s and asked him to put out a little from the shore. Sitting there, using the boat for a pulpit, he taught the crowd.

When he finished teaching, he said to Simon, “Push out into deep water and let your nets out for a catch.”  
Simon said, “Master, we’ve been fishing hard all night and haven’t caught even a minnow. But if you say so, I’ll let out the nets.” It was no sooner said than done—a huge haul of fish, straining the nets past capacity. They waved to their partners in the other boat to come help them. They filled both boats, nearly swamping them with the catch.



Simon Peter, when he saw it, fell to his knees before Jesus. “Master, leave. I’m a sinner and can’t handle this holiness. Leave me to myself.” When they pulled in that catch of fish, awe overwhelmed Simon and everyone with him. It was the same with James and John, Zebedee’s sons, coworkers with Simon.

Jesus said to Simon, “There is nothing to fear. From now on you’ll be fishing for men and women.” They pulled their boats up on the beach, left them, nets and all, and followed him.

Anthem                      “Love Divine, All Loves Excelling”                      Zundel

Message:                      “Pushing Out Into Deeper Water”                      Rev. Tom Bentley

\*Closing Hymn                      “If You But Trust in God to Guide You”                      #410

Benediction

Postlude                      “Marche Solonnelle”                      Mendelsson



Our ushers today are  
David Bjorkman and Jeff Law.



The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Linda Ladd in honor of first responders, neighbors, friends and strangers who have helped those affected by the recent devastating wildfires in Southern California.



Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by  
Katie Provencher and Bonnie Texeira.