

Children will be going directly to the kitchen to bake muffins, which will be available for sale during coffee hour. This week, all donations will benefit the Easter Basket project.



The Centre Church Easter bunnies have begun making Easter Baskets for the children served by La Colaborativa in Chelsea. We are looking for donations of Easter baskets, grass, individually wrapped chocolate bunnies, wrapped candy, bubbles, coloring books, crayons, or small stuffed animals. We are trying to make each basket gender neutral as well as appropriate for children ages 4 through 10.

All donations are appreciated!

Please join us Tuesday nights at 7:00 pm to help assemble baskets.

We have established a Wish List on Amazon.

For more information on how you can help, please contact Barbara Langill at ba.langill@verizon.net. Thank you!



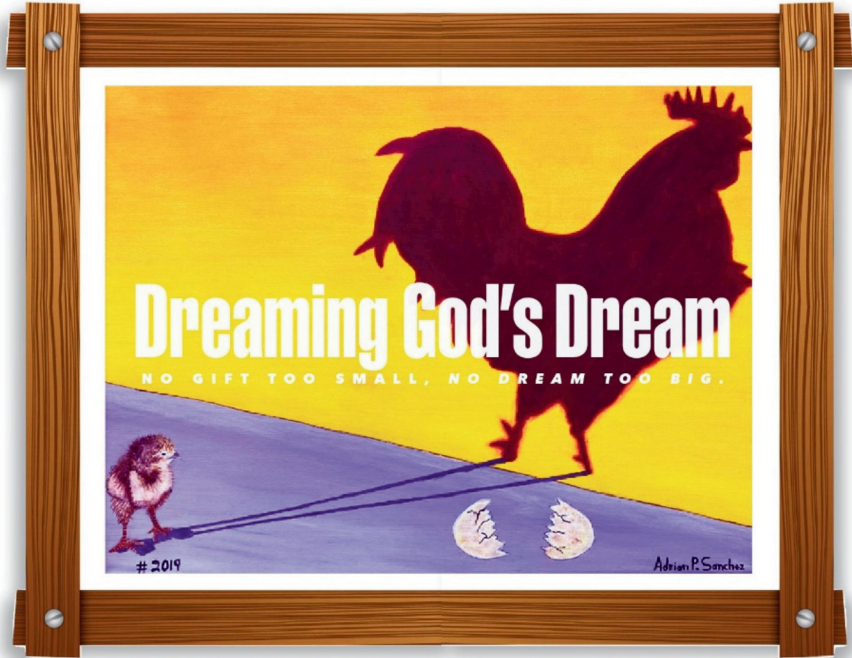
Worship Notes.

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



Why Pledge

WHY DO WE MAKE A COMMITMENT OF SUPPORT TO CHURCH?

“When There’s Far More In Life”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

March 16, 2025

10:00 am

Prelude	“Prelude”	Dumont
Welcome and Announcements		Rev. Tom Bentley
Call to Worship <i>(from Philippians 3)</i>		Phil Fisher
Leader: The race is set before us.		
People: We journey with Jesus to places unknown.		
Leader: Soon we will arrive in Jerusalem.		
People: But Jerusalem is noted for killing the prophets and those whom God sends.		
Leader: Fear not! God is with us and will guide us on this journey of faith.		
Leader & People: We place ourselves completely in God’s care. AMEN		
Opening Prayer <i>(in unison)</i>		Phil Fisher
Lord, we come to you this morning with so many concerns and issues that demand our attention. Our lives are burdened; our spirits are tired. Guide our lives and our steps as we walk this Lenten journey, inward and outward. Help us to discern what you would have us do, that others may be healed. In Jesus’ name, we pray. AMEN.		
Anthem	“There Is A Green Hill Far Away”	Chilcott
The Lord’s Prayer <i>(in unison)</i>		Phil Fisher
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	“Beneath the Cross of Jesus”	#190
New Testament Reading		Name of Reader
Philippians 3:14 - 4:1		<i>The Message</i>
I’m not saying that I have this all together, that I have it made. But I am well		

“Jesus Keep Me Near The Cross”
#197

1 Jesus, keep me near the cross,
There a precious fountain;
Free to all, a healing stream,
Flows from Calvary’s mountain.

Refrain:
In the cross, in the cross
Be my glory ever,
Till my ransomed soul shall find
Rest beyond the river.

2 Near the cross, a trembling soul,
Love and mercy found me;
There the Bright and Morning Star
Shed its beams around me. *[Refrain]*

3 Near the cross! O Lamb of God,
Bring its scenes before me;
Help me live from day to day
With its shadow o'er me. *[Refrain]*

4 Near the cross I'll watch and wait,
Hoping, trusting ever;
Till I reach the golden strand,
Just beyond the river. *[Refrain]*

1 Beneath the cross of Jesus

**I gladly take my stand;
The shadow of a mighty rock
Within a weary land;
A home within the wilderness,
A rest upon the way,
From the burning of the noontide heat
And the burden of the day.**

2 Upon the cross of Jesus

**Within my mind I see
The very dying form of One
Who suffered there for me;
And from my grieving heart, with tears,
Two wonders I confess:
The wonders of Christ’s glorious love,
And my unworthiness.**

3 I take, O cross, your shadow

**For my abiding place;
I ask no other sunshine than
The sunshine of Christ’s face;
Content to let the world go by,
To know no gain or loss;
My sinful self my only shame,
My glory all the cross.**

on my way, reaching out for Christ, who has so wondrously reached out for out for me. Friends, don’t get me wrong: By no means do I count myself an expert in all of this, but where God is beckoning us onward—to Jesus. I’m off and running, and I’m not turning back.

So let’s keep focused on that goal, those of us who want everything God has for us. If any of you have something else in mind, something less than total commitment, God will clear your blurred vision—you’ll see it yet! Now that we’re on the right track, let’s stay on it.

Stick with me, friends. Keep track of those you see running this same course, headed for this same goal. There are many out there taking other paths, choosing other goals, and trying to get you to go along with them. I’ve warned you of them many times; sadly, I’m having to do it again. All they want is easy street. They hate Christ’s Cross. But easy street is a dead-end street. Those who live there make their bellies their gods; belches are their praise; all they can think of is their appetites.

But there’s far more to life for us. We’re citizens of high heaven! We’re waiting the arrival of the Savior, the Master, Jesus Christ, who will transform our earthy bodies into glorious bodies like his own. He’ll make us beautiful and whole with the same powerful skill by which he is putting everything as it should be, under and around him.

My dear, dear friends! I love you so much. I do want the very best for you. You make me feel such joy, fill me with such pride. Don’t waver. Stay on track, steady in God.

Moment for Stewardship

Jeff Law



