

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH  
SPECIAL MEETING OF THE CONGREGATION**

**The Special Meeting of the church will be held  
on Sunday, June 1, 2025 at 11:10 a.m.  
to discuss the following items:**

- 1. Presentation and Approval of the 2025 to 2026 Temporary Operating Budget**
- 2. Term extension of Officers, Ministry Team Chairs, and Other Positions**

**Bruce Weaver, Moderator**

**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  
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School



**“Welcome Again to Our  
Journey in the Spirit”**

*Rev. Thomas Bentley*

**CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH**

United Church of Christ  
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

**May 18, 2025  
10:00 am**

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Katherine Decker

Leader: Jesus reminded the disciples

**People: Love one another as I have loved you.**

Leader: Jesus taught and witnessed to God’s love

**People: Love one another as I have loved you.**

Leader: Jesus encourages us to love each other with tenderness,  
compassion, and hope.

**People: Let us love one another as Christ loved us. AMEN.**

Opening Prayer *(in unison)*

Katherine Decker

Gracious and Loving God, we are grateful that you have called us together  
this day, drawing us from darkness to the glory of your light. May our spirits  
rejoice at the good news you have for us today. Open our hearts to your  
healing love, for we ask this in Christ’s Name. AMEN.

Reception of New Members *(see insert)*

Anthem

The Lord’s Prayer *(in unison)*

Katherine Decker

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

“Forward Through the Ages” #377

1 Forward through the ages,  
In unbroken line,  
Move the faithful spirits  
At the call divine.  
Gifts in differing measure,  
Hearts of one accord,  
Manifold the service,  
One the sure reward;

*Refrain:*  
Forward through the ages,  
In unbroken line,  
Move the faithful spirits  
At the call divine.

2 Wide grows the kingdom,  
Reign of love and peace;  
For it we must labor,  
Till all strivings cease.  
Prophets have proclaimed it,  
Teachers testified,  
Poets sung its glory,  
Martyrs for it died. *[Refrain]*

3 Not alone we conquer,  
Not alone we fall;  
In each loss or triumph  
Lose or triumph all.  
Bound by God’s far purpose  
In one living whole,  
Move we on together  
To the shining goal! *[Refrain]*

\*Stand as you are able

**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]***

**I saw Heaven and earth new-created. Gone the first Heaven, gone the first earth, gone the sea.**

**I saw Holy Jerusalem, new-created, descending resplendent out of Heaven, as ready for God as a bride for her husband.**

**I heard a voice thunder from the Throne: “Look! Look! God has moved into the neighborhood, making his home with men and women! They’re his people, he’s their God. He’ll wipe every tear from their eyes. Death is gone for good—tears gone, crying gone, pain gone—all the first order of things gone.” The Enthroned continued, “Look! I’m making everything new. Write it all down—each word dependable and accurate.”**

**Then he said, “It’s happened. I’m A to Z. I’m the Beginning, I’m the Conclusion. From Water-of-Life Well I give freely to the thirsty. Conquerors inherit all this. I’ll be God to them, they’ll be sons and daughters to me. But for the rest—the feckless and faithless, degenerates and murderers, sex peddlers and sorcerers, idolaters and all liars—for them it’s Lake Fire and Brimstone. Second death!”**

**Children’s Time**

*Following Children’s Time, children ages 4 and up are invited to join us for Kid’s Classroom in Room 10.*

**Call to Offering**

**Offertory**

**Doxology**

**\*Hymns of Praise**

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

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Reading  
John 13:1-17

Katherine Decker  
*The Message*

Just before the Passover Feast, Jesus knew that the time had come to leave this world to go to the Father. Having loved his dear companions, he continued to love them right to the end. It was suppertime. The Devil by now had Judas, son of Simon the Iscariot, firmly in his grip, all set for the betrayal.

Jesus knew that the Father had put him in complete charge of everything, that he came from God and was on his way back to God. So he got up from the supper table, set aside his robe, and put on an apron. Then he poured water into a basin and began to wash the feet of the disciples, drying them with his apron. When he got to Simon Peter, Peter said, “Master, you wash my feet?”

Jesus answered, “You don’t understand now what I’m doing, but it will be clear enough to you later.”

Peter persisted, “You’re not going to wash my feet—ever!”

Jesus said, “If I don’t wash you, you can’t be part of what I’m doing.”

“Master!” said Peter. “Not only my feet, then. Wash my hands! Wash my head!”

Jesus said, “If you’ve had a bath in the morning, you only need your feet washed now and you’re clean from head to toe. My concern, you understand, is holiness, not hygiene. So now you’re clean. But not every one of you.” (He knew who was betraying him. That’s why he said, “Not every one of you.”) After he had finished washing their feet, he took his robe, put it back on, and went back to his place at the table.

Then he said, “Do you understand what I have done to you? You address me as ‘Teacher’ and ‘Master,’ and rightly so. That is what I am. So if I, the Master and Teacher, washed your feet, you must now wash each other’s feet. I’ve laid down a pattern for you. What I’ve done, you do. I’m only pointing out the obvious. A servant is not ranked above his master; an employee doesn’t give orders to the employer. If you understand what I’m telling you, act like it—and live a blessed life.

Message “Welcome Again to Our Journey in the Spirit”

\*Closing Hymn “Forward Through the Ages” #377

Benediction Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude



We Welcome Our New Centre Church Members:

Katie Provencher  
Justin Provencher  
Bonnie Texeira



Frank Texeira  
Joseph Tringale  
Steven Votta



Our ushers today are Kathi Martin and Phil Fisher.



The flowers on the altar are in memory of our very much loved and missed dad and husband, Tony Lucia.



Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Kathi Martin.