

*Closing Hymn

“Be Now My Vision”

#451

Benediction

Postlude

“Andante Largo”

Stanley



Please remain seated for the Special Meeting of
the Congregation to discuss:

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



Our ushers today are Margaret Waugh, Jim Wilkie,
Bill Seelig, and David Bjorkman.



The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Nancy Lauzon,
in loving memory of her husband, Roger.



Please join us today after Worship for Coffee Hour
hosted by Annmarie Pendola.

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

Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School



“A Radical Gift”

Rev. Jamie R. Howard

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

Communion Sunday

June 1, 2025

10:00 am

Welcome and Announcements

Call to WorshipBarbara Langill

Leader: Come, friends in Christ, and open your hearts to God.

People: We rise in hope, and we give thanks for God’s presence.

Leader: God’s Holy Spirit is always ready to lift, to comfort, to challenge, to provide what is most truly needed.

Leader and People: We rise in hope and give thanks as we share in God’s presence with one another.

*Opening HymnMy Life Flows On in Endless Song”#476

Invocation and The Lord’s Prayer (*in unison*)Barbara Langill

Come, Holy Spirit, warm our hearts, awaken our minds. May we bring our whole selves to celebrate the gift of Your presence. May we be open to the comfort you provide, the vision you offer, the challenge you set before us to live with kindness, courage, and love in our world. With thanks for Your presence, we pray as Jesus taught us...

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.

Anthem“Carry the Light”Beck

Children ages 4 and up will leave for Kids Classroom in Room 10 with Christina Joly. Children will return to sit with their families for Communion.

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

**1 Be now my vision, O God of my heart;
Nothing surpasses the love you impart –
You my best thought , by day or by night,
Waking or sleeping, your presence my light.**

**2 Be now my wisdom, and be my true word;
Ever within me, my soul is assured;
Mother and Father, you are both to me,
Now and forever your child I will be.**

**3 Riches I need not, nor life’s empty praise,
You, my inheritance, now and always;
You and you only are first in my heart,
Great God, my treasure, may we never part.**

**4 Sovereign of heaven, my victory won,
May I reach heaven’s joys, O bright heaven’s Sun!
Heart of my own heart, whatever befall,
Still be my vision, O Ruler of all.**

“My Life Flows On in Endless Song” ##476

1 My life flows on in endless song;
above earth’s lamentation.
I hear the sweet, though far-off hymn
that hails a new creation.
Through all the tumult and the strife,
I hear the music ringing;
It finds an echo in my soul –
How can I keep from singing?

2 What though my joys and comforts die?
My Savior still is living.
What though the shadows gather round?
A new song Christ is giving.
No storm can shake my inmost calm
while to that Rock I’m clinging.
Since Love commands both heaven and earth,
how can I keep from singing?

3 When tyrants tremble, sick with fear,
and hear their death knells ringing;
When friends rejoice both far and near,
How can I keep from singing?
In prison cell and dungeon vile
Our thoughts to them are winging;
When friends by shame are undefiled,
How can I keep from singing?

4 I lift my eyes; the cloud grows thin;
I see the blue above it;
And day by day this pathway smooths,
Since first I learned to love it.
The peace of Christ makes fresh my heart,
A fountain every springing;
All things are mine since I am Christ’s –
How can I keep from singing?

Old Testament Reading

Psalm 46

(read responsively)

Barbara Langill

NRSV

Leader: God is our refuge and strength, a very present help in trouble.

**People: Therefore we will not fear, though the earth should change,
though the mountains shake in the heart of the sea;
though its waters roar and foam,
though the mountains tremble with its tumult.**

Leader: There is a river whose streams make glad the city of God,
the holy habitation of the Most High.

**People: God is in the midst of the city; it shall not be moved;
God will help it when the morning dawns.**

Leader: The nations are in an uproar, the kingdoms totter;
he utters his voice, the earth melts,

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Leader: Come, behold the works of the Lord;
see what desolations he has brought on the earth,

**People: He makes wars cease to the end of the earth;
he breaks the bow, and shatters the spear;
he burns the shields with fire.**

Leader: “Be still, and know that I am God!

I am exalted among the nations, I am exalted in the earth.”

People: The Lord of hosts is with us; the God of Jacob is our refuge.

Call to Offering

Offertory

“Let Us Break Bread Together”

Hurd



***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

New Testament Reading
Philippians 4:4-13

Barbara Langill
NRSV

Rejoice in the Lord always; again I will say, Rejoice.
Let your gentleness be known to everyone.
The Lord is near. Do not worry about anything,
but in everything by prayer and supplication
with thanksgiving let your requests be made known to God.
And the peace of God, which surpasses all understanding,
will guard your hearts and your minds in Christ Jesus.
Finally, beloved, what is true, whatever is honorable,
whatever is just, whatever is pure, whatever is pleasing,
whatever is commendable, if there is any excellence
and if there is anything worthy of praise, think about these things.
Keep on doing the things that you have learned and received
and heard and seen in me, and the God of peace will be with you.
I rejoice in the Lord greatly that now at last
you have revived your concern for me; indeed you were concerned
but had no opportunity to show it.
Not that I am referring to to being in need; for I have learned to be content
with whatever I have.
I know what it is to have little and I know what is it to have plenty.
In any and all circumstances I have learned the secret of being well-fed and
and of going hungry, of having plenty and of being in need.
I can do all things through him who strengthens me.

Sermon **“A Radical Gift”** **Rev. Jamie Howard**

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION

INVITATION

PRAYER OF CONFESSION (unison)

Most loving and gracious God. Forgive our sins; those we commit knowingly
and those we do without perception of how they hurt others. Open our
hearts to your Holy Spirit to hear your truth, to understand our failure and
to reach a new level of understanding. Through Jesus Christ our Lord.
Amen.

ASSURANCE OF PARDON

Pastor: Anyone in Christ becomes a new person altogether; the past is
finished and gone, everything has become fresh and new.
All: In Jesus Christ we are forgiven.
Pastor: “... and so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven,
we praise your name and join their unending hymn:
All: Holy, Holy, Holy Lord. God of power and might.
Heaven and earth are full of your glory.
Hosanna in the highest.
Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord. Hosanna in the highest.

WORDS OF REMEMBRANCE

Pastor: Let us unite in the words of remembrance...
All: We remember and give thanks for such love and Goodness and mercy.

WORDS OF BLESSING

HOLY COMMUNION

The pastor will offer instructions as how to receive the elements, and when
to eat the bread and drink the unfermented wine.

PRAYER FOLLOWING COMMUNION (unison) Almighty God, we give thanks
that you have refreshed us at your table by granting us the presence of
Christ. Strengthen our faith, increase our love for one another, and send us
forth into the world with courage and peace rejoicing in the power of the
Holy Spirit. Amen