But Jesus shot back, "You frauds! Each Sabbath every one of you regularly unties your cow or donkey from its stall, leads it out for water, and thinks nothing of it. So why isn't it all right for me to untie this daughter of Abraham and lead her from the stall where Satan has had her tied these eighteen years?"

When he put it that way, his critics were left looking quite silly and red-faced. The congregation was delighted and cheered him on.

Message: "Operating Under a Tough Assignment"

Closing Hymn "We Who Would Valiant Be" #494

Benediction Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude



We welcome our new members Lisa and Jim Wilke.

Our ushers today are Annmarie Pendola and Raden Sorli Hawk
Please join us for Coffee Hour which is hosted by Diane and Dave Bjorkman





Children of all ages are welcomed to Room 14 this morning during Worship Service for Compassion Camp with Christine Marshall and Christina Joly.

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH, UCC

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
Celeste Joly, Church Administrative Assistant
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School



"Operating Under a Tough Assignment"

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ 5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

August 24, 2025 10:00 am

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Rev. Tom Bentley

Call to Worship

Phil Fisher

Leader: Give to the Lord your whole trust. **People: We place our lives in God's care.**

Leader: Know that God has always and will always be with you.

People: We place our spirits in God's embrace. Leader: Worship God in confidence and peace.

Leader & People: We open our hearts to God's incredible love. AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Phil Fisher

Lord of light and life, you have called us this day to open our hearts, our minds, our spirits to hear your words of encouragement, healing, and hope. Give us patience and willingness to serve you in all that we do. In Jesus' Name, we pray. Amen

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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:

"Come Now, Almighty God"

#492

Receiving of New Members (see insert)

Old Testament Reading.

Phill Fisher

Jeremiah 1:4-19

NRSV

Now the word of the Lord came to me saying, ⁵"Before I formed you in the womb I knew you, and before you were born, I consecrated you; I appointed you a prophet to the nations." ⁶Then I said, "Ah, Lord God! Truly I do not

know how to speak, for I am only a boy." ⁷But the Lord said to me, "Do not say, 'I am only a boy'; for you shall go to all to whom I send you, and you shall speak whatever I command you, ⁸Do not be afraid of them, for I am with you to deliver you, says the Lord." ⁹Then the Lord put out his hand and touched my mouth; and the Lord said to me, "Now I have put my words in your mouth. ¹⁰See, today I appoint you over nations and over kingdoms, to pluck up and to pull down, to destroy and to overthrow, to build and to plant.

Offertory Call to Offering

*Hymn of Praise (in unison)

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 Luke 13:10-17 Phill Fisher
The Message

He was teaching in one of the meeting places on the Sabbath. There was a woman present, so twisted and bent over with arthritis that she couldn't even look up. She had been afflicted with this for eighteen years. When Jesus saw her, he called her over. "Woman, you're free!" He laid hands on her and suddenly she was standing straight and tall, giving glory to God. The meeting-place president, furious because Jesus had healed on the Sabbath, said to the congregation, "Six days have been defined as work days. Come on one of the six if you want to be healed, but not on the seventh, the Sabbath."