



Worship Notes.

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“The Moment of Recognition”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ

5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

January 14, 2024

10:00 am

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

Prelude

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Jeff Langill

Leader: God knows each one of us personally and God loves each one of us.

People: Thanks be to God for such wondrous love!

Leader: Come this day into the presence of God.

People: We come with overflowing hearts!

Leader: Celebrate God's mercy and compassion.

Leader & People: Praise be to God who offers us hope. AMEN.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Jeff Langill

Awesome God, you knew us before we were born. You love us into life. Open our hearts and our spirits today to hear your word for us. And, upon hearing the word, may we be convinced of our call to ministry and mission through the church. Bless us with your presence and your powerful love, for we ask this in Jesus' Name. AMEN.

Opening Hymn

"Hope of the World"

#46

Old Testament Reading

Jeff Langill

Psalm 139 vs. 1-18

p. 566 in pew Bible

Children's Time

Children ages 4-12 will leave to go to the Kid's Classroom.

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Hymn of Praise

Tune: Old Hundredth

***Hymn of Praise Tune: Old Hundredth
Praise God from whom all blessing flow;
Praise Christ, all creatures here below;
Praise Holy Spirit evermore;
Praise Living God, whom we adore.**

"The Summons" lyrics by John Bell

1 Will you come and follow me
If I but call your name?
Will you go where you don't know
And never be the same?
Will you let my love be shown,
Will you let my name be known,
Will you let my life be grown
In you and you in me?

2 Will you leave yourself behind
If I but call your name?
Will you care for cruel and kind
And never be the same?
Will you risk the hostile stare
Should your life attract or scare?
Will you let me answer prayer
In you and you in me?

3 Will you let the blinded see
If I but call your name?
Will you set the prisoners free
And never be the same?
Will you kiss the leper clean,
And do such as this unseen,
And admit to what I mean
In you and you in me?



4 Will you love the 'you' you hide
If I but call your name?
Will you quell the fear inside
And never be the same?
Will you use the faith you've found
To reshape the world around,
Through my sight and touch and sound
In you and you in me?

5 Lord, your summons echoes true
When you but call my name.
Let me turn and follow you
And never be the same.
In your company I'll go
Where your love and footsteps show.
Thus I'll move and live and grow
In you and you in me.

“Hope of the World” p.46

**1 Hope of the world, O Christ of great compassion,
speak to our fearful hearts by conflict torn.
Save us, your people, from consuming passion,
from false pursuits through which our lives are worn.**

**2 Hope of the world, God's gift of our redemption,
bringing to hungry souls the bread of life,
still let your Spirit unto us be given
to heal earth's wounds and end its bitter strife.**

**3 Hope of the world, who by the cross did save us
from death and sad despair, from sin and guilt;
we render back the love your mercy gave us;
take back our lives, and use them as you will.**

**4 Hope of the world, O Christ o'er death victorious,
who by this sign did conquer grief and pain,
we would be faithful to your gospel glorious:
our Sovereign who forever more shall reign!**

Prayer of Dedication

**Joys and Concerns
Pastoral Prayer**

The Lord's Prayer (in unison)

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

**Gospel Reading
John 1:43-51**

**Jeff Langill
The Message**

The next day Jesus decided to go to Galilee. When he got there, he ran across Philip and said, “Come, follow me.” (Philip’s hometown was Bethsaida, the same as Andrew and Peter.)

Philip went and found Nathanael and told him, “We’ve found the One Moses wrote of in the Law, the One preached by the prophets. It’s Jesus, Joseph’s son, the one from Nazareth!” Nathanael said, “Nazareth? You’ve got to be kidding.”

But Philip said, “Come, see for yourself.”

When Jesus saw him coming he said, “There’s a real Israelite, not a false bone in his body.”

Nathanael said, “Where did you get that idea? You don’t know me.”

Jesus answered, “One day, long before Philip called you here, I saw you under the fig tree.”

Nathanael exclaimed, “Rabbi! You are the Son of God, the King of Israel!” Jesus said, “You’ve become a believer simply because I say I saw you one day sitting under the fig tree? You haven’t seen anything yet! Before this is over you’re going to see heaven open and God’s angels descending to the Son of Man and ascending again.”

Message: “The Moment of Recognition”

*Closing Hymn “The Summons”

Bulletin page 6

Benediction:

Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude



Our Ushers today are David Bjorkman and Margaret Waugh.

The flowers on the altar this morning are given by Karen and Paul Harrington, remembering Kim Harrington Doucette, Paul’s sister with love.

Please join us for coffee hour,
hosted by Barbara and Jeff Langill



Children ages 4 to 12 years are invited to join us in the Kid’s Classroom after Children’s Time.

SAVE THE DATE

Centre Church

Trivia Night

Saturday
March 9, 2024
6:00 pm

\$20 per person

Team limit:
8 People

see you there!

With Silent Auction and Raffles

The graphic is a collage of colorful shapes. A purple rectangle in the center features a white outline of a church steeple and the text 'Centre Church' above it. Overlaid on this is the word 'Trivia' in large, multi-colored letters, with 'Night' written in a white script font below it. To the left, a red shape contains the date and time. To the right, a yellow shape contains pricing and team information, and a blue shape contains the phrase 'see you there!'. A yellow circle with a white outline contains the text 'SAVE THE DATE'. At the bottom, a black banner contains the text 'With Silent Auction and Raffles'.

This January we will be collecting household essentials for families exiting shelter to permanent housing through Citizen’s Inn. Please bring your donations such as towels, bedding, dishware, and other kitchen items to church on or before Jan 28th when we’ll be blessing the Green Wagon in worship.