



**Our annual Flea Market will be held
Saturday May 18th 9 AM to 1 PM**

**Please bring your Flea Market TREASURES to the Church on
Monday, May 13 - Friday, May 17 from 3 PM to 5 PM.**

**For other arrangements, please contact Chuck Cotting at
chuck@thecottings.com or 339-440-1819.**

**Please – no clothing, books, electronics!
Books can go to the Library Book Sale!**



**Thank you to everyone who helped make The Great Pie
Challenge a success! Congratulations to our winners! FIRST
PLACE ~ Sage Gaskins' Vanilla Oreo Pie, SECOND PLACE~
Nancy Lauzon's Chocolate Bottom Banana Cream Pie, THIRD
PLACE~ Chuck Cotting's Frozen Margarita Pie. Who will be
the winners at the next Great Pie Challenge?**

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
Bella Travaglini, Administrative Assistant



“Unity and Community in the Spirit”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

**Communion Sunday
May 12, 2024 10:00 am**

Welcome and Announcements

Call to Worship

Phil Fisher

Leader: Welcome! We are gathered here to celebrate the great promise!

People: Our hearts are ready to receive this good news.

Leader: Jesus asked all of his friends to live lives reflecting the love he shared

People: We are numbered among these friends!

Leader: Open your hearts today. Hear God’s special word just for you!

Leader & People: Lord, help us to be ready to receive your word and to live in your love. AMEN.

Opening Prayer (in unison)

Phil Fisher

God of songs and marvels, old and new, your powerful love for this world continues to astound us. In these last days of Easter, we gather to recall the love that brought Jesus into this world and into our lives: as savior, friend, and brother. We thank you for welcoming us into your household and for trusting us with your marvelous work to draw all people into the spacious home of your love. Amen

Opening Hymn

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less”

#403

New Testament Reading

Phil Fisher

Acts 1: 15-17, 21-26.

The Message

During this time, Peter stood up in the company—there were about 120 of them in the room at the time—and said, “Friends, long ago the Holy Spirit spoke through David regarding Judas, who became the guide to those who arrested Jesus. That Scripture had to be fulfilled, and now has been. Judas was one of us and had his assigned place in this ministry.

Judas must now be replaced. The replacement must come from the company of men who stayed together with us from the time Jesus was baptized by John up to the day of his ascension, designated along with us as a witness to his resurrection.”

**1 Now thank we all our God
with heart and hands and voices,
Who wondrous things has done,
in whom this world rejoices;
Who from our parents' arms
has blessed us on our way
With countless gifts of love,
and still is ours today.**

**2 O may this bounteous God
through all our life be near us,
With ever joyful hearts
and blessed peace to cheer us,
And keep us still in grace,
and guide us when perplexed,
And free us from all ills
in this world and the next.**

**3 All praise and thanks to God
our Maker now be given,
To Christ and Spirit, too,
our help in highest heaven
The one eternal God,
whom earth and heaven adore;
For thus it was, is now,
and shall be evermore.**

“My Hope is Built on Nothing Less” #403

**1 My hope is built on nothing less
than Jesus' love and righteousness;
I dare not trust this earthly frame,
but wholly lean on Jesus' name.**

Refrain:

**On Christ, the solid Rock, I stand:
all other ground is sinking sand;
all other ground is sinking sand.**

**2 When shadows veil my Savior's face,
I rest upon unchanging grace;
in every high and stormy gale,
my anchor holds within the veil. [Refrain]**

**3 Christ's oath and covenant and blood,
support me in the rising flood;
when all around my soul gives way,
Christ then is all my hope and stay. [Refrain]**

**4 When Christ shall come with trumpet sound,
Oh may I then in love be found:
dressed in God's righteousness alone,
faultless to stand before the throne. [Refrain]**

They nominated two: Joseph Barsabbas, nicknamed Justus, and Matthias. Then they prayed, “You, O God, know every one of us inside and out. Make plain which of these two men you choose to take the place in this ministry and leadership that Judas threw away in order to go his own way.” They then drew straws. Matthias won and was counted in with the eleven apostles.

Children's Time

*Children ages 3 and up are invited to join us for the Kid's Classroom.
Children will return from class to sit with their families for Communion.*

Call to Offering

Offertory

“The 23rd Psalm”

McFerrin

***Hymn 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

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

“Out of Love He Broke The Bread”

Martin

Gospel Reading

John 17:9-11

“I pray for them.

I’m not praying for the God-rejecting world

But for those you gave me,

For they are yours by right.

Everything mine is yours, and yours mine,

And my life is on display in them.

For I’m no longer going to be visible in the world;

They’ll continue in the world

While I return to you.

Holy Father, guard them as they pursue this life

That you conferred as a gift through me,

So they can be one heart and mind

As we are one heart and mind.

Message: “Unity and Community in the Spirit”

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

Phil Fisher
The Message

COMMUNION PRAYER

Pastor “...and so with your people on earth and all the company of heaven, we praise you 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 and courage and peace rejoicing in the power of the Holy Spirit. Amen

Closing Hymn: “Now Thank We All Our God” #419

Benediction: Rev. Tom Bentley

Postlude “Plein Chant and Plein Jeu” Couperin



The altar flowers are given with gratitude by Linda Ladd: In honor of all who have mothered me with their listening ears, warm hugs and good advice. Thank you!

Our ushers today are Margaret Waugh, Raden Sorli Hawk, Kathi Martin, and Jim Wilkie.

Please join us for Coffee Hour hosted by Annmarie Pendola.