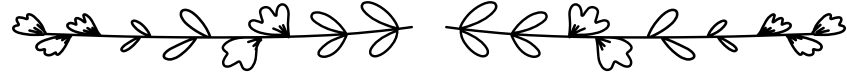


Our ushers today are Steve Riley, Margaret Waugh,
Raden Sorli Hawk, and Jeff Law.

Please join us for Coffee Hour which is hosted by
Diane and David Bjorkman.



Introducing: *Pray Ground*

A Pray Ground is a place in the front of the Sanctuary that provides an area for children to engage in quiet activities, while also being a part of the Worship Service. This approach allows children space to observe, participate, and experience Worship in a new way. Children are encouraged to come up to the Pray Ground at any time during Worship.



Children and youth will remain in the Sanctuary for
Worship and Communion. Supervised child care is available for
children ages 4 and under in Room 10.



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
Bella Travaglini, Church Administrative Assistant
Leah O'Brien, Director of Tower Day School



“Traveling with God’s Gifts”

Rev. Thomas Bentley

CENTRE CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH

United Church of Christ
5 Summer Street, Lynnfield, Massachusetts

Communion Sunday

September 8, 2024 10:00 am

Welcome & Announcements

*Call to Worship

Jim Wilkie

Leader: Lord, open our hearts this morning to hear your words of compassion.

People: Lord, help us to truly listen to you.

Leader: Lord, open our spirits this morning to strengthen our faith.

People: Lord, help us to work for you.

Leader: Lord, make us ready to serve.

Leader & People: Lord, make us ready to witness to your healing love.

AMEN.

Opening Prayer

Jim Wilkie

Lord of mercy and compassion, be with us this day as we hear of the healing love of Jesus. Remind us that we are also recipients of his compassion and we are called to bring the same hope and love to others. Prepare us for service in His Name. **AMEN.**

The Lord's Prayer (*in unison*)

Jim Wilkie

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

"I Would Be True"

#492

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 11.1-5a

The Message

Jim Wilkie

A green Shoot will sprout from Jesse's stump,
from his roots a budding Branch.

The life-giving Spirit of God will hover over him,
the Spirit that brings wisdom and understanding,
The Spirit that gives direction and builds strength,
the Spirit that instills knowledge and Fear-of-God.

Fear-of-God

will be all his joy and delight.

*Stand as you are able

He won't judge by appearances,
won't decide on the basis of hearsay.

He'll judge the needy by what is right,
render decisions on earth's poor with justice.
His words will bring everyone to awed attention.

Call to Offering

Offertory

*Hymn of Praise (unison)

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

Prayer of Dedication

Joys and Concerns

Pastoral Prayer

Gospel Reading

John 14:25-27

Revised Standard Version

Jim Wilkie

"These things I have spoken to you, while I am still with you. But the Counselor, the Holy Spirit, whom the Father will send in my name, he will teach you all things, and bring to your remembrance all that I have said to you. Peace I leave with you; my peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you. Let not your hearts be troubled, neither let them be afraid.

A Time of Music and Story with The Children

Message: "Traveling with God's Gifts" [includes Blessing of the Backpacks]

SACRAMENT OF HOLY COMMUNION (*see insert*)

Closing Hymn

"O Jesus, I Have Promised"

#493

Benediction

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 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