In the name of God and Jesus Christ, Edwards Church, a congregation of the United Church of Christ, welcomes all who seek to know and worship God. We invite everyone to join in our faith journey and participate in our congregational life.

As a community of faith we take seriously the Biblical call to love God and our neighbors as ourselves, and recognize that although we are many members we are one.

We celebrate the uniqueness of everyone. We rejoice in our diversity of views and understanding of our shared faith. We commit ourselves to work diligently to help end oppression and discrimination. We affirm all relationships founded on the principle of God’s love and justice.

We declare ourselves to be an Open and Affirming congregation. Seeking to be the Body of Christ, we welcome into full fellowship and membership all persons of every race, language, age, gender, sexual orientation, gender identity, gender expression, physical or cognitive ability, and economic status.
A thought for reflection
“The hardest thing is getting into the boat.
You just have to get into the darn boat.”
—Karoline Lewis

God Gathers Us

PRELUDE

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

CREATING AN ALTAR SCAPE AND LIGHTING THE CANDLE

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.
People: And also with you.

HYMN OF PRAISE

“Jesus Calls Us, o’er the Tumult” *

Jesus calls us, o’er the tumult of our life’s wild, restless sea;
Day by day that voice still calls us, saying, “Christian, follow me.”
As of old, Saint Andrew heard it by the Galilean lake,
Turned from home and toil and kindred, leaving all for Jesus’ sake.
Jesus calls us from the worship of the treasures we adore,
From each idol that would keep us, saying, “Christian, love me more.”
In our joys and in our sorrows, days of toil and hours of ease,
Jesus calls, in cares and pleasures, “Christian, love me more than these.”
Jesus calls us! By your mercies, Savior, may we hear your call,
Give our hearts to your obedience, serve and love you best of all.

CALL TO WORSHIP adapted from “Sail on, Loved Ones”

One: In a voice that’s clear yet far away, we hear the Spirit say:
All: Sail on, loved ones, sail on!
One: When the winds of change steer us astray:
All: We’re children of God, we’ll find our way.
One: Though the waves are fierce and the boat is small,
All: We’ve heard the Spirit, and we’ll heed the call.
One: It’s a life-long voyage ‘til we reach the bay,
All: So let’s follow the star and sail on!

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER
(Please pray the Lord’s Prayer using the words you find most meaningful.)
**SENTENCES OF PRAISE AND GLORIA** adapted from Psalm 107:29-30

One: God makes the storm be still,
**All:** And the waves of the sea are hushed.

One: Rejoice because God brings us to our desired haven.
**All:** Praise be to God!

**PRAYER OF CONFESSION**

Merciful God, when lashed by life’s windstorms we often lash out in return. They can be such giants in our lives. Each day, our fears, our doubts, our worries wash over us, until we come to believe that you do not care for us. Forgive us when we blame you or others for our troubles. Teach us to find you in the eye of the storm. Show us the calm center that comes from a word of peace. Forgive us, we pray. Amen.

**ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS**

**RESPONSE OF FAITH * **

*And God will raise you up on eagle’s wings, bear you on the breath of dawn,*

*Make you to shine like the sun, and hold you in the palm of God’s hand.*

God Meets Us in the Word

**STEWARDSHIP MOMENT**

**THE SCRIPTURE LESSON** Mark 4:35-41

On that day, when evening had come, he said to them, “Let us go across to the other side.” And leaving the crowd behind, they took him with them in the boat, just as he was. Other boats were with him. A great windstorm arose, and the waves beat into the boat, so that the boat was already being swamped. But he was in the stern, asleep on the cushion; and they woke him up and said to him, “Teacher, do you not care that we are perishing?” He woke up and rebuked the wind, and said to the sea, “Peace! Be still!” Then the wind ceased, and there was a dead calm. He said to them, “Why are you afraid? Have you still no faith?” And they were filled with great awe and said to one another, “Who then is this, that even the wind and the sea obey him?”

**WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE**

**THE ANTHEM** "Sail on, Loved Ones” arr. On the Fence

(You can find the lyrics to this new song after the order of service.)

**THE SERMON** “A non-anxious presence”

**SUNG RESPONSE** from “All Good Gifts” arr. Joseph M Martin *

*All good gifts around us come from heaven above,*

*So thank you, God, so thank you, God, for all of your gifts of life.*

**CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS**

**PASTORAL PRAYER**
OFFERING

HYMN OF DEDICATION

“Sent Forth by God’s Blessing” *

Sent forth by God’s blessing, our true faith confessing,
The people of God from this dwelling take leave.
The service is ended, O now be extended
The fruits of our worship in all who believe.
The seed of the teaching, receptive hearts reaching,
Shall blossom in action for God and for all.
God’s grace did invite us, and love shall unite us
To work for God’s realm and to answer the call.

With praise and thanksgiving to God ever living,
The tasks of our everyday life we will face.
Our faith ever sharing in love ever caring,
Embracing God’s children of each tribe and race.
With your grace you feed us, with your light now lead us,
Unite us as one in this life that we share.
Then may all the living with praise and thanksgiving
Give honor to Christ and that name which we bear.

God Sends Us to Spread Love

CHARGE & BENEDICTION

POSTLUDE

CONGREGATIONAL MEETING

Immediately following worship, we will hold our semi-annual Congregational Meeting. Please turn on your video and join in this important discussion.

Sunday School will begin at 11:45 a.m. Children and families can join Rev. Karen Nell and Ms. Myrna here: https://zoom.us/j/838203539.

Our Worship Has Ended... Let Our Service Begin!

Ministers.................................................. All the People of Edwards Church
Pastor ..........................................................Rev. Dr. Deborah Clark
Associate Pastor for Faith Formation & Outreach ......................Rev. Dr. Karen Nell Smith
Commissioned Minister of Music...........................................Rick Seaholm
Organist ..........................................................Cheryl Elkins
Pianist .........................................................................Susan Minor
Administrative Assistant......................................................Nicola Seaholm
Sexton ............................................................................Lori Wilson

SAIL ON, LOVED ONES

Last night I heard the Spirit say:
“Sail on, loved ones, sail on! “
The voice was clear yet far away
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

Sail on, loved ones, sail on!
Oh, sail on, loved ones, sail on!
It's a life-long voyage ‘til we reach the bay,
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

When the winds of change steer you astray,
Sail on, loved ones, sail on.
You’re a child of God; you’ll find your way,
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

Sail on, loved ones sail on!
Oh, sail on, loved ones, sail on!
It's a life-long voyage ‘til we reach the bay,
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

Oh the waves are fierce and the boat is small,
Sail on, loved ones, sail on!
But we’ve heard the Spirit and we’ll heed the call,
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

Sail on, loved ones sail on!
Oh, sail on, loved ones, sail on!
It's a life-long voyage ‘til we reach the bay,
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

The sun is rising; we will greet the dawn
Sail on, loved ones, sail on.
Lift your hands and your hearts and your voice in song
So let’s follow the star and sail on!

Adapted from “Leave Her, Johnny, Leave Her,” a sea chantey by Hjalmar Rutzebeck.
Lyrics written collaboratively by Len Ezbicki, Debbie Clark, and George Marcincavage.
**Important Announcements**

**TODAY AFTER WORSHIP**

**Congregational Meeting**
Following our worship service, plan to turn on your video and stay on Zoom for a short congregational meeting. We will hear from the Stewardship Committee about the challenges and opportunities for the coming year.

**Our Special Offering:** The Board of Wider Mission invites you to make a donation to **A Place to Turn Food Pantry**, located on Hartford Street in Natick. We have had a long relationship with APTT, and the vegetable garden behind our office building brings fresh produce to them all summer. In this time when many families are struggling financially and many organizations cannot hold in-person food drives, the need for financial contribution is greater than ever. Please give as you are able, by check to the church (with APTT in the memo section) or via PayPal on our website, edwardschurch.org.

**PLEASE REGISTER BY TOMORROW, MONDAY, NOVEMBER 9**

**Veterans Appreciation Dinner and Virtual Gathering:** **Sunday, November 15**
Virtual Celebration at 7:00pm via Zoom: [https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452442089?](https://us02web.zoom.us/j/88452442089?) (password: thanks)
By phone: 646-558-8656, meeting ID: 88452442089#
In appreciation for your service, veterans in the Framingham area along with their families are invited to participate in a special dinner from Bella Costa (delivered to their homes in the early evening). If you are a veteran and would like to receive a meal, please fill out this form: [https://forms.gle/HkWkomvnHJKC7yp7](https://forms.gle/HkWkomvnHJKC7yp7). If you would like to bake cookies or volunteer to deliver meals to four or five households, please fill out this form: [https://forms.gle/5N1T1kjj34tX5SAf9](https://forms.gle/5N1T1kjj34tX5SAf9) or speak with Nicola Seaholm or Debbie Clark.

**Add to Our Prayer Chain:** There is an opportunity for anyone to participate in continuing our paper prayer chain. Any prayers from Sunday worship will automatically be included but if you would like to add additional prayers, please feel free to call or text Joanie White at 774-279-2812, or email her at whtangl827@aol.com.

**Absorbing the Warmth of Community and the Sun:** **Mondays at noon, Outdoors on our campus**
Join us on Mondays for a 20-minute outdoor prayer gathering. Bring a chair to sit on, wear warm clothes and a mask, enjoy the warmth of community, and absorb a little sunshine. We will sit or stand at a safe distance from one another. If it’s raining or snowing, we will not gather; cold will not stop us!

**Wreath Sale:** **Order by November 22:** [https://forms.gle/doD1WUtin78YS6NJ7](https://forms.gle/doD1WUtin78YS6NJ7)
It’s that time of year! Purchase a wreath to support Edwards Church and Plymouth Church youth programs. These twelve-inch wreaths include a classic red or cranberry bow that you can select at pick-up. Pick up your wreath on Sundays, November 29 and December 6 from 2:00-3:00 p.m. outside Edwards Hall. The cost will be $15, and you can pay by cash or check when you receive your wreath.

**A Thanksgiving Potluck Share:** **Sunday, November 22, 2:00 pm in our lower parking lot**
Sign up by November 15: [https://forms.gle/Tzpi2ypespli7GsCA](https://forms.gle/Tzpi2ypespli7GsCA)
Is your Thanksgiving celebration going to look different this year, perhaps smaller? Then join us for a new, safe, socially distanced opportunity to share our special holiday dishes. Make a favorite thanksgiving dish or dessert, Package it in about ten small deli-style containers and freeze them. Label them with ingredients and your name, and bring them to the church (still frozen). Come to the church on November 22 and take about five dishes to go. Even if you don’t contribute dishes, you can still pick up a meal. There will be plenty!