

THANKSGIVING SUNDAY

NOVEMBER 24, 2019

10:00 AM

A thought for reflection

“Let gratitude be the pillow upon which you kneel to say your nightly prayer.
And let faith be the bridge you build to overcome evil and welcome good.”

— Maya Angelou

GOD GATHERS US

PRELUDE

GREETINGS AND ANNOUNCEMENTS

PASSING OF THE PEACE

Leader: The peace of Christ be with you.

People: **And also with you.**

(We invite you to turn to your neighbors and greet them.)

* HYMN OF PRAISE

“WE PRAISE YOU, O GOD”

NCH 420

CALL TO WORSHIP

Leader: O come, let us sing to God; let us make a joyful noise to the rock of our salvation!

People: **Let us come into God’s presence with thanksgiving; let us make a joyful noise with songs of praise!**

Leader: For God is a great God, and a great sovereign above all gods.

People: **In God’s hand are the depths of the earth, and the heights of the mountains also.**

Leader: The sea belongs to God, its Maker, whose hands formed the dry land.

People: **O come, let us worship and bow down, let us kneel before God, our Maker!**

All: **For we are of God. We are the people of God’s pasture, and the sheep of God’s hand.**

PRAYER OF INVOCATION AND LORD’S PRAYER

(Please pray using the words you find most meaningful. There is a prayer card in your pew rack.)

* SENTENCES OF PRAISE

Leader: O sing to God a new song; sing praise, all the earth!

People: **Sing, and bless God’s name; tell of God’s salvation from day to day!**

* GLORIA

(Sing twice.)

NCH 756

Glory to God, glory to God, glory in the highest!

Glory to God, glory to God, alleluia, alleluia!

PRAYER OF CONFESSION

(in unison)

O God, Source of all that makes life possible, Giver of all that makes life good, we gather to give you our thanks. Yet we confess that we have failed to live our thankfulness: what we have we take for granted, and we grumble about what we lack. We have squandered your bounty with little thought for those who will come after us. We are more troubled by the few who have more than by the many who have less. Forgive us, O God. In this hour of worship, accept our thanksgiving, and teach us to make gratitude and sharing our way of life, through the grace of Jesus Christ. Amen.

ASSURANCE OF GOD’S FORGIVENESS

* Stand as you are able.

RESPONSE

FROM NCH 286

Spirit, spirit of gentleness, blow through the wilderness, calling and free,
Spirit, spirit of restlessness, stir me from placidness, wind, wind on the sea.

GOD MEETS US IN THE WORD

WORDS WITH THE YOUNG PEOPLE

DEDICATION OF OUR GIFTS AND PLEDGES

* LITANY OF DEDICATION

Leader 1: God, you call us to hope,

Leader 2: Challenging us to trust, to commit, to open ourselves to your miracles.

Leader 3: With gratitude for our calling, we offer you these gifts.

People: May these gifts express our gratitude and hope.

Leader 1: May our gifts help us learn about your love.

Leader 2: May our gifts offer hope to a neighbor in need.

Leader 3: May our gifts lead to music that inspires souls.

People: May these gifts express our gratitude and hope.

Leader 1: May our gifts deepen our trust in you.

Leader 2: May our gifts draw us into closer community.

Leader 3: May our gifts strengthen your church.

People: May these gifts express our gratitude and hope.

THE ANTHEM

“BOUNTIFUL BLESSINGS”

BRAD NIX

(Children may go to church school after the anthem.)

THE GOSPEL LESSON

LUKE 17:11-19

(Pew Bible, p. 852)

* HYMN OF PREPARATION

“GOD WHO BREATHES YOUR LIFE INTO US”

(See insert.)

THE SERMON

“MADE WHOLE”

CALL TO PRAYER

CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS

SILENT PRAYER

PRAYERS OF THANKSGIVING, INTERCESSION AND PETITION

GOD CALLS FOR OUR GIFTS

OUR OFFERING TO GOD

OFFERTORY

* DOXOLOGY

(Lasst uns erfreuen)

NCH 17

Praise God from whom all blessings flow; Praise God, all creatures here below; Alleluia, Alleluia.

Praise God for all that love has done; Creator, Christ, and Spirit, One.

Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia, Alleluia.

* PRAYER OF DEDICATION

GOD SENDS US INTO THE WORLD

* **HYMN OF DEDICATION** "NOW THANK WE ALL OUR GOD"

NCH 419

* **CHARGE & BENEDICTION**

POSTLUDE *(Please feel free to remain and listen, or to greet one another in the narthex and at coffee hour.)*

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

LITURGIST

JOE HUDOCK

DEACON-IN-CHARGE

BRANDON JONES

GREETER

RIC CARL

COMPOST CAPTAIN

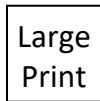
PEGGY HARRISON

JANIS STEIGMAN OF MOTHER'S HELPERS IS IN CHARGE OF THE NURSERY THIS MORNING.

Welcome! No matter who you are or where you are on your life's journey, we are glad you are here. Please join us for coffee following the service. Please sign our guestbook or fill out a welcome card.

We extend a special welcome to children and their families. The sound of children's voices is the sound of a living church! We want children to learn and question alongside adults, and we welcome whispers, wiggles, and joyful noises of all kinds. In the entryway to the sanctuary, you will find some quiet activity boxes; please take one and have fun! Following the anthem, we invite all children to attend a Christian Explorers class downstairs in the Susan P. Dickerman Education Building. We have a loving, trained nursery staff available for our youngest children.

Accessibility



Available in the Narthex (front entrance hallway):

- Sound-enhancing assistive listening devices
- Large print edition of the church bulletin



- **Accessible parking** spots are marked and located near the Education Building entrance.
- **Accessible entrance** is located on the lower level of the Education Building (to the left of the Church main entrance).
- **Elevator** is located in the Education Building next to the stairs.
- **Accessible restroom** is located on the upper level of the Education Building.

THIS WEEK AT EDWARDS CHURCH

November 24-30, 2019

SUNDAY	9:00am	Adult Bible Study	Youth Room
	9:00am	Rental	Edwards Hall
	10:00am	Worship	Sanctuary
	10:15am	Sunday School	Education Building
	11:00am	Coffee Hour	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	1:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	2:30pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:30pm	Common Ground	Edwards Hall Classroom
MONDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:30am	Strength Without a Gym	Edwards Hall
	6:15pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Green Team	Jonathan House
	7:30pm	Guided Meditation	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
TUESDAY	9:00am	Qi Gong / Tai Chi	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:00am	Gentle Yoga	Edwards Hall
	2:00pm	ALICE Training	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	5:30pm	Hatha Yoga	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Interfaith Thanksgiving Service	First Parish UU
WEDNESDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	10:30am	Steeple Mailing	Jonathan House
	6:00pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	7:30pm	Rental	Edwards Hall
THURSDAY	Thanksgiving: OFFICE CLOSED		
	7:30pm	AA Meeting	Edwards Hall
FRIDAY	9:30am	Chairobics	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	7:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall Classrooms
SATURDAY	1:00pm	Rental	Susan P. Dickerman Hall
	4:30pm	Rental	Sanctuary
	6:00pm	Rental	Edwards Hall

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.

IMPORTANT ANNOUNCEMENTS

Presents for Pathways

The Wider Mission gift drive for residents of Pathways Family Shelter is underway. This year, we will be providing a pair of slippers for each child, as well as a set of dishes (basic service for four) for each of the fourteen families to have when they move to more permanent housing. Walmart gift cards (\$10) are also appreciated. Pick up a gift tag from the Christmas bulletin board at coffee hour. Please return your unwrapped gift as soon as you are able (no later than Sunday, December 15). Extra gift wrap and boxes are also always appreciated. Thank you very much for your generous support!

ALICE Training

Tuesday, November 26 at 2:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

Recently, a Framingham police officer met with several church council members to talk about how we can best balance security and openness. He suggested we hold an "ALICE training." The acronym (ALICE) lifts up ways to respond in the extremely unlikely event someone comes into our buildings with the intent of doing harm. The goal is simply to have some folks in our community who can take leadership to help us all be safe. If you would like to attend, please email pastor@edwardschurch.org or speak to Debbie.

Framingham Interfaith Thanksgiving Service

Tuesday, November 26 at 7:00pm at First Parish Unitarian Universalist Church (24 Vernon Street)

This year at our Interfaith, Intergenerational Thanksgiving Service, Rabbi Allison Poirier will be preaching; Debbie will offer a message for young people.

Journey of the Spirit: Learning about the Faith of Our Neighbors

Sunday, December 1 at 2:00pm at Fatima Shrine (101 Summer Street in Holliston)

Join us as we continue our journey of discovery to gain greater understanding and appreciation of faith and traditions of our neighbors, deepen relationships among fellow travelers, and strengthen our shared commitment to this community. Register by November 25 at openspiritcenter.org. For more information or questions, please contact Karen Nell Smith at choresis@comcast.net. Suggested donation of \$15.

Family Fun Friday

Friday, December 6 at 6:00pm in Susan P. Dickerman Hall

We hope that everyone, especially families and youth, will join us for a special evening gathering. We will work on holiday crafts and share pizza, salad, dessert, and hot chocolate. Look for the sign-up sheet at church or RSVP to Karen Nell. Be there or be square!

Gifts that Give Fair—with Santa on an Antique Fire Truck

Saturday, December 7, 1:00-4:00pm in Edwards Hall

Our Board of Wider Mission invites you to start your holiday shopping at church. You can purchase fair-trade gifts to support many causes that are important in our community and our world. Get your picture taken with Santa on an antique fire truck! New this year: A project table for young people; tables for Metrowest Immigrant Solidarity Network and El Toque del Maestro church.

Interfaith Multi-Narrative Listening Tour to Israel/Palestine

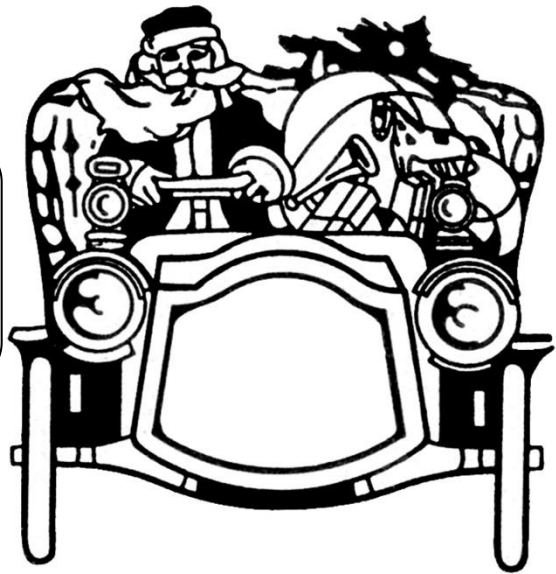
Summer, 2020 (Register by December, 2019)

Travel with a group of Jews, Christians and Muslims on an eight-day journey to the Holy Land and its people that will engage your mind, body and spirit. At the heart of this trip is listening with an open heart and mind to many different perspectives and experiences, lead by Israeli and Palestinian Mejdi Tour™ guides. Visit openspiritcenter.org/interfaith-multinarrative-tour for more information.

Gifts that Give Holiday Fair

Saturday, December 7 from 1:00-4:00pm in Edwards Hall

Take a picture with
Santa on an antique fire
truck!

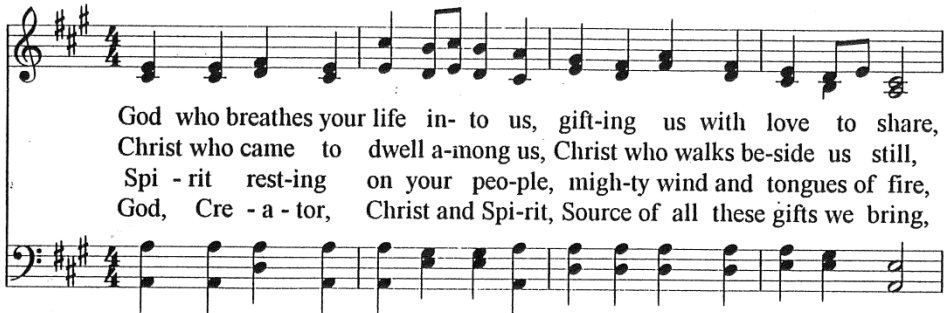


- ✧ Fair trade handicrafts from artists' co-ops
- ✧ Scarves for A Place to Turn
- ✧ Homemade goodies to eat or gift
- ✧ Socks for Worcester Fellowship
- ✧ Fair trade coffee, tea, and chocolate
- ✧ Children's holiday project table

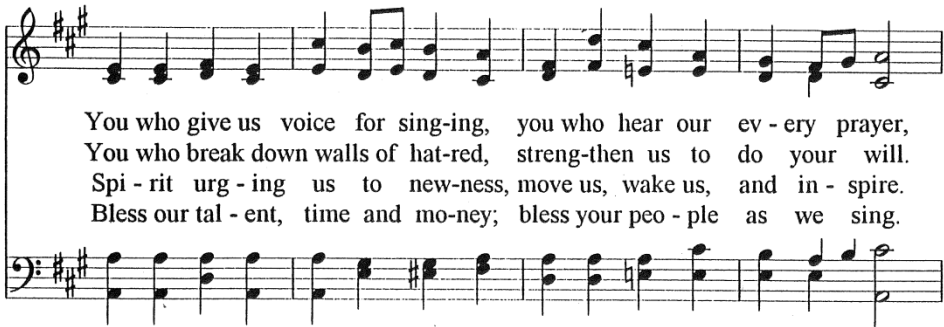
Invite a neighbor to this wonderful community
event!

God Who Breathes Your Life into Us

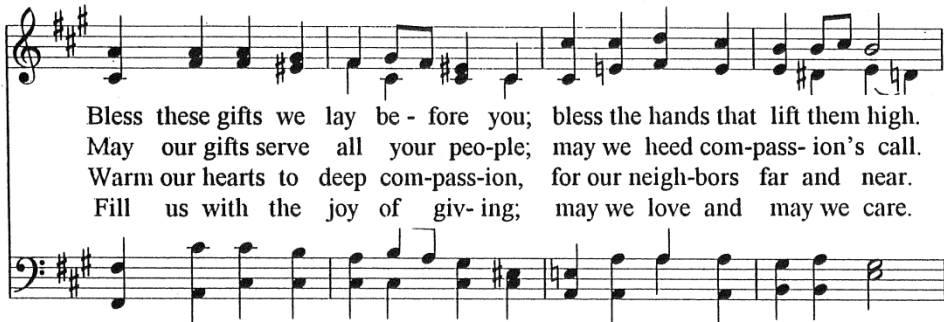
Deborah Clark, 1996



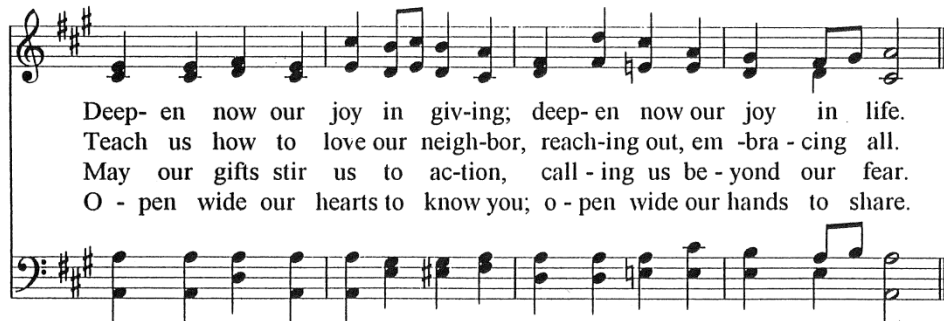
God who breathes your life in- to us, gift-ing us with love to share,
Christ who came to dwell a-mong us, Christ who walks be-side us still,
Spi - rit rest-ing on your peo-ple, migh-ty wind and tongues of fire,
God, Cre - a - tor, Christ and Spi-rit, Source of all these gifts we bring,



You who give us voice for sing-ing, you who hear our ev - ery prayer,
You who break down walls of hat-red, streng-then us to do your will.
Spi - rit urg - ing us to new-ness, move us, wake us, and in - spire.
Bless our tal - ent, time and mo-ney; bless your peo - ple as we sing.



Bless these gifts we lay be - fore you; bless the hands that lift them high.
May our gifts serve all your peo-ple; may we heed com-pass- ion's call.
Warm our hearts to deep com-pass-ion, for our neigh-bors far and near.
Fill us with the joy of giv- ing; may we love and may we care.



Deep- en now our joy in giv-ing, deep-en now our joy in life.
Teach us how to love our neigh-bor, reach-ing out, em - bra - cing all.
May our gifts stir us to ac-tion, call - ing us be - yond our fear.
O - pen wide our hearts to know you; o - pen wide our hands to share.

BEECHER
John Zundel, 1855