

THE EVANGELICAL CONGREGATIONAL CHURCH
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST
October 2, 2011 10:00 AM
World Communion Sunday

SERVICE OF PREPARATION

**The Congregation is invited to stand.*

WELCOME & ANNOUNCEMENTS *Our Living Church*
Rev. Elaine is praying with the children in the Parkman Chapel and will join us late.

PRELUDE *Spirit of the Living God* Daniel Iverson

INTROIT *Bread of the World, in Mercy Broken* EUCHARISTIC HYMN

*CALL TO WORSHIP Rev. Dr. Dirkje F. Legerstee

One: Come, let us bless the Holy, Eternal One, who brings forth grain from the earth and fruit from the vine;

All: Who causes love to grow in the human heart and calls forth song and dance from the soul of the people.

One: Bless our God of Goodness, who plants dreams of justice and nurtures visions of peace in the imagination of the people.

All: Bless Jesus Christ, revelation of Compassion, whose grace surrounds us and frees the world for new life.

One: Bless the Holy Trinity of love who sets us in families, grants us friends, and calls us into the nurturing community of Christ's church.

All: Bless our Loving Father/Mother of Heaven whose gifts to us are prodigal.

One: Sovereign Mystery beyond space and time, sustain your earth with nourishment and with hope.

All: May our worship bind us with love to you, one another, and all creation. Come Divine Friend, guide us to discern your will, and follow Christ's ways, joyful in the Holy Spirit now and forever!

HYMN # 420 *I Come with Joy* DOVE OF PEACE

*UNISON PRAYER Pedro Silva

Healing God, we come before you with the truth of our very lives: fragmented, yet seeking wholeness, isolated, yet seeking community, overwhelmed, yet seeking simplicity, shamed, yet seeking grace. Come and nurture us with your healing presence. Some of us are afraid, yet seeking assurance, agitated, yet seeking serenity, angry, yet seeking a forgiving heart. God of Peace, grant us your peace that passes all understanding. Spirit of Joy, some of us come mindless yet grateful, overworked yet seeking rest, hold us gently this hour and renew our weary souls.

*CALL TO CONFESSION

If we confess our sins, God is faithful and just, and will forgive our sins and cleanse us from all unrighteousness. [1 John 1:9]

*PRAYER OF CONFESSION

Merciful God, we have sinned against you in thought, word and deed: we have not loved you with our whole heart, or loved our neighbors as ourselves. Forgive us and strengthen us to love and follow you in the new life that you offer us in Christ.

*THE LORD'S PRAYER (*from the New Zealand Book of Worship*)

Eternal Spirit, Earth-maker, Pain-bearer, Life-giver, source of all that is and all that shall be, Father and Mother of us all, loving God, in whom is heaven: The hallowing of your name echoes through the universe. The way of your justice be followed by all the peoples of the world. Your heavenly way be done by all created beings. Your commonwealth of peace and freedom sustain our hope on earth. With the bread we need for today, feed us; in the hurts we absorb from one another, forgive us. In times of temptation and test, strengthen us. From trials too great to endure, spare us. From the grip of all that is evil, free us. For your reign in the glory of power that is love, now and forever. Amen.

WORDS OF ASSURANCE Pedro Silva

*ACT OF PRAISE #35 *Glory Be to the Father* Greatorex

**Glory be to the Father (God), and to the Son (Christ),
And to the Holy Ghost; As it was in the beginning
Is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen**

SERVICE OF THE WORD

SCRIPTURE LESSON:
Exodus 20:1-4, 7-9, 12-20 (*pew Bible page 58*)

ANTHEM *Let Us Break Bread Together* arr. by Wayne Howorth

MEDITATION Shall We?

SERVICE OF RESPONSE

PRAYERS OF THE PEOPLE Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani

SUNG RESPONSE #30 *Masithi* MASITHI

OFFERING OF OUR GIFTS
Invitation
Offertory *Here at Thy Table, Lord* arr. by Wayne Howorth

*DOXOLOGY (Unison)

**Praise God from whom all blessings flow; praise God, all creatures here below;
Praise God above, ye heavenly hosts: Creator, Christ, and Holy Ghost. Amen.**

*PRAYER OF DEDICATION

SACRAMENT OF THE LORD'S SUPPER

(Note: The crackers in the round container on each communion plate are gluten-free for those who cannot eat bread that contains gluten.)

*HYMN # 422

Let Us Talents and Tongues Employ

LINSTEAD

*INVITATION TO COMMUNION

One: *Christ invites us all to this Holy Feast. As we gather this morning, we remember our sisters and brothers from above and below the equator, from the North and from Down Under, from every time zone around the globe. As today's sunlight inches across land and sea, Christians gather to celebrate their place in God's family. All are invited and all are welcome. Let us gather the Bread from the world!*

PRESENTATION OF THE BREADS

*AFFIRMATION OF FAITH

One: *Loving and gracious God who summons galaxies into being, we give thanks and blessings to you.*

All: We bless you for our world.

One: *The diversity of our planet amazes us from the prairies and grasslands of the America to the dusty deserts of Africa and Asia, from the majestic mountains of Europe to the vast outback of Australia.*

All: We give you thanks for the multiplicity of humanity with our complexity of color and culture yet called into oneness-of-being through Christ.

One: *With many tongues, yet with one voice, we honor you, singing.*

SUNG # 111

Holy, Holy, Holy

SANTO

**Holy, Holy, Holy my heart, my heart adores you!
My heart knows how to say to you: Holy are you Lord!
Santo, Santo, Santo, Mi Corazon teadora!
Mi Corazon te sabe decir Santo eres Senior!**

One: *Loving and Gracious God who surrounds creation with abundant love we give thanks and blessings to you. We bless you for your love, made known to us through Jesus, which reassures and reconciles us to you, to ourselves and to one another. As Christ is our light to you, may we be lights to others illuminating the path toward communion with you, the Holy Spirit and Jesus, our friend and brother. Amen.*

INVOCATION

One: *God, may this bread connect us more closely with you and with our neighbors near and far.*

All: Bless this bread, we pray.

One: *May this fruit of the vine remind us of the inter-connectedness of people around the world.*

All: Bless this cup, we pray. May this simple meal bring us into union with you, your people and your world united in the One Body of Christ.

WORDS OF INSTITUTION

SHARING THE BREAD AND CUP

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

Holy God thank you for the bread from your creation's table, warmed from your heart's oven comforting and nourishing us. Shape us into a loaf that makes us more humane in our working, sharing, loving and caring for all your children. May we go forward united as your church around the earth empowered by the Holy Spirit to become one human family in your love. Amen.

*HYMN # 494 (vs. 1&2)

They'll Know We Are Christians

ST. BRENDAN'S

*BENEDICTION

PASSING OF THE PEACE

BLESSING: Peace of Christ

RESPONSE: Go ye now in peace

*SUNG BENEDICTION

Go Ye Now in Peace

Joyce Elaine Eilers

Go ye now in peace, and know that the love of God will guide you. Feel his presence here beside you showing you the way. In your time of trouble, when hurt and despair are there to grieve you, know that the Lord will never leave you. He will bring you courage. Know that the God who sent his Son to die that you might live will never leave you lost and alone in His beloved world. Go ye now in peace. Go ye now in peace.

*POSTLUDE

Fantasia on "Italian Hymn"

Franklin D. Ashdown

Worship Notes: Parts of the Communion Litany are adapted from Worship Ways, from the UCC.

Steve Fox serves as liturgist

The communion servers are **Carolyn Bent, Linda Borglund, Lynne Caldwell, Serena Leiser and Elaine Moore.**

Dick Birch greeted you this morning.

Pamela Faustine and Ed Newton III are Deacons of the week.

Flowers are given today in loving memory of Grace and Carl Lawton and Rob by **Sue Menzel.**

Brett Borglund is Trustee liaison.

Join us for refreshments and fellowship downstairs following worship

PRAYERS & CELEBRATIONS SEPTEMBER 18, 2011

New Prayers: Adam Bent and wife Amanda (Carolyn Bent's nephew).

Continued prayers: Thalia Genes and Susan Tobias (friends of Phyllis Newton); Nettie Seavey (friend of Carolyn Bent); Bob Gatley (friend of many in the congregation); Rev. Cindy Frado, Christopher Doyle (Pam Faustine's brother-in-law); Betty Millard at Beaumont; Joanne & Jim Gringas (friends of Kathy Todd); Joan Jacobs; Marie Murphy's daughter

Prayer or Visitation Request: If you have a prayer or visit request, please note it on the "A Note to the Pastors" card in the pews and put it in the offering plate or hand it to a Deacon. You can place prayer concerns on the church's email distribution list at epayers@uccwestboro.org. If you would like a prayer request included in today's service, please let a Deacon know prior to the start of worship. *This list is updated monthly. To add or renew an ongoing concern, please call the church office at 508-366-2000 or email westboroucc@verizon.net.*

ANNOUNCEMENTS

PARISH LIFE

The next event for Parish Life will be a LASAGNA SUPPER, October 15th at 6:30 pm in the Vestry. Please make a reservation by calling the church office at 366-2000 or Nancy Cook 366-0047 by Thursday, October 13th. Children are welcome in costumes! Come early, (6:00 pm) to have a short discussion with Brenda Lord about the progress of the Pastoral Search Committee. Thank you, Parish Life Committee.

NEW MEMBER SEMINARS

If you are interested in finding out more about our Church or would like to join the church, please plan on attending the New Member Seminars on October 16th and 23rd. New Members will be joining the Church on October 30th. For more information contact **Linda Borglund** at 870-5784 or the Church Office at 366-2000.

CHURCH SCHOOL NEWS

Please note that children in grades 6 through 8 should remain in the church service with their families to participate in Communion. There is no Church School class for them today. All other children should meet in the Chapel.

We all enjoyed getting to know our amazing church school children these past few weeks and are excited about the year ahead. This month we get to know the stories and lessons of "Moses" using our new "Seasons of the Spirit" lectionary based curriculum.

If you have any questions, feedback, or would like to volunteer contact Kathy Reynolds kreynolds118@comcast.net (508)625-1491. Thank you!

ADULT EDUCATION

Register now for: **Discovering Your Gifts, Vision and Call**, a 6 week adult education group that will meet **Wednesdays from 6-8 pm from Oct 5th – Nov 9th.**

This group, led by Rev. Elaine Gaetani, is from the 4th book in the Doorway Series (the same series at "Meeting Jesus in the New Testament") and speaks to those who are concerned about the pain and despair in the world and looking to identify ways to contribute to positive change. It offers a process for discerning your vocation and a model for working with others who share you calling. It will help deepen your connection with the Divine, build caring community, and discern your purpose in life. Cost of the program is \$7 and scholarships are available. To register, please call the office at 366-2000.

MUSIC COMMITTEE

Save the Date!!! The Music Committee invites you to our Musicale "MUSIC 'n MORE, TALENT GALORE!" – Saturday, October 22, 7:00 PM in the Sanctuary. This is a variety show featuring vocal soloists and music ensembles, instrumentalists, and comedy acts. Don't miss it!!

CROP WALK

Mark your calendars for Sunday, October 16th at 1:00 pm and plan to join the interfaith community for the annual **Crop Walk**, which begins and ends at our church. Sponsor sheets are now available in the vestry. Please see **Judy Powell** or **Alan Hutchinson** with questions.

CARE FOR CAREGIVERS

Care for Caregivers will be held Saturday, Oct 22, 9:30am – 3:30 pm at Glastonbury Abbey in Hingham, MA just south of Boston. The day will include unique worship, gentle yoga and stretching, large and small group spiritual exercises, a presentation on practical caregiver resources and more. The retreat cost \$50 per person. If you have any questions or want more information, contact Lindsay McGrath at 781-385-9401 or visit www.spiritedmovements.org.

GROCERY CARD SALES - Stop & Shop – Roche Bros.

Goal for 2011 Budget: \$12,000 **Year to Date Sales:** \$7,634.50 **Left to sell** \$4,365.50

You are welcome here! You are welcome to help boost sales of our Grocery Card program. Our Church buys Stop & Shop and Roche Bros. gift cards in bulk at a discounted price. We sell them to you at face value. The profits support our Church programs. We continue to seek your support in order to meet our 2011 goal.

You are welcome to purchase cards after worship on Sunday morning, during office hours at Kirkside, or add your name to our delivery list and we'll bring the cards to you! Thank you, **Sue Menzel:** 366-1268; **Sally Petersen:** 366-5169 or sbpetersen4@gmail.com; **Nancy Quimby:** 898-3463 or nquimby11@charter.net.

THE EVANGEL – deadline OCTOBER 19, published OCTOBER 26

BULLETIN – deadline WEDNESDAY

HOSTING COFFEE HOUR – call **Linda Borglund** 870-5784.

BAPTISM – Call the church office 366-2000 or speak to a Deacon.

SUNDAY GREETERS – Contact **Linda Birch** 870-9911.

CHANCEL FLOWERS – Sign chart in the Vestry or call **Chris Mosher** 366-2250 or **Nancy Gage** 366-9266.

HOSPITALITY COMMITTEE – For a member or friend who needs meals, call **Betty Gray** 366-1039.

NOMINATING COMMITTEE – Call **Rich Lord** 366-3835 to serve on church boards or committees.

AUDIO VISUAL REQUESTS – Let **Tom & Donna Morgan** know at least one week in advance 366-0358.

Ministry: By the whole congregation

The Rev. Dr. Dirkje Legerstee, Interim Pastor - dlegerstee@comcast.net

The Rev. Elaine S. Gaetani, Associate Pastor - revelaineg@aol.com

Mr. Pedro Silva, Student Minister – Psilva@ants.edu

Curtis Richardson, Director of Music

Church Office Phone 508/366-2000

Office hours: Mon. Tue. Thur. 9am-2pm; Wed. Fri. 9am-1pm

General Church email – WestboroUCC@Verizon.net

Church web site www.UCCwestboro.org

U.C.C. web sites - <http://www.macucc.org> (Mass Conference) & <http://www.ucc.org> (National)

Our vision: *Embodying Compassion, Embracing Change, Growing Together in Faith and Love*
(ECC vision in process as of May 2011)

CALENDAR

Today	Communion Sunday
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School – Special Congregational Meeting following worship
11:45 AM	Music Committee/Thou Art
4:00-8:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
Oct. 3	Monday
4:00 PM	GSA/Kerygma Room
6:30 PM	Women’s Fellowship Dinner
7:30 PM	AA/3 rd Floor Kirkside
Oct. 4	Tuesday
9:00 AM	AVPCC/Board Room
2:00-5:00 PM	Weaver’s Guild/3 rd Floor Kirkside
7:00 PM	Missions/Board Room
7:00 PM	BSA/Vestry
7:30 PM	Festival Ringers/Bell Loft
Oct. 5	Wednesday
1:00 PM	Staff Meeting
4:00 PM	GSA/Vestry
4:00 PM	Worship Planning/Board Room
4:00 PM	“Journey Home”/Choir Room
6:00 PM	Confirmation Class/3 rd Floor
6:00-8:00 PM	Adult Study “Unwrapping Our Gifts”/Historical Room
7:00 PM	Trustees/Board Room
7:30 PM	BSA/Kerygma Room
Oct. 6	Thursday
4:15-5:00 PM	Youth Choir
5:00-5:45 PM	Parkman Bells
6:30 PM	BSA/Board Room, Historical Room
7:00 PM	Deacons/Kerygma Room
7:30 PM	Chancel Choir
Oct 7	Friday
9:30 AM	Playgroup
Oct. 8	Saturday
9:00 AM-12:00 PM	Musical Rehearsal/Sanctuary
Oct. 9	Sunday
10:00 AM	Worship & Church School
12:00 PM	TPC/Board Room

The Evangelical Congregational Church

UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

West Main & Church Streets, Westborough, Massachusetts



WE WELCOME VISITORS AND NEWCOMERS!

Our mission is to create a safe place to worship God, and to honor and explore God's promises, fulfilled in Jesus Christ; where Christ calls us to transforming relationships; and where we embrace gifts of the Spirit and build them into a ministry of love, care, acceptance, diversity, grace and hope within our church, our community and beyond.

