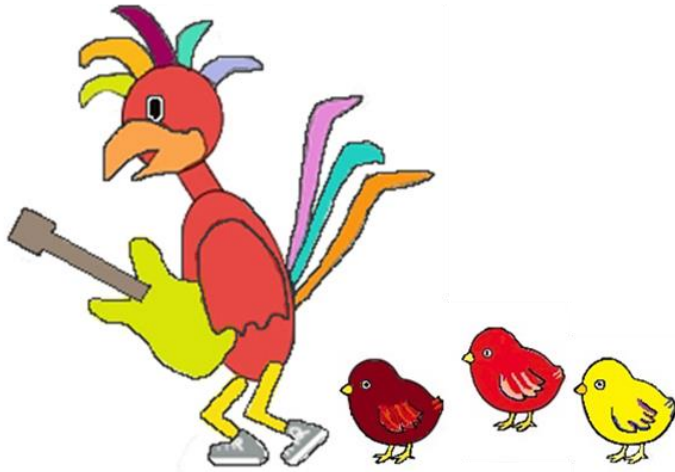


It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST

February 25, 2023

4:30 p.m.

BE THE CHURCH

Fight for the powerless.

Ash Saturday

“Be especially careful when you are trying to be good so that you don’t make a performance out of it. It might be good theater, but the God who made you won’t be applauding.” Matthew 6:1

OUR STATEMENT OF WELCOME

We are:

PROGRESSIVELY UNTRADITIONAL: 21st century minds in a 1717 Meetinghouse!

Embrace diversity.

JOYOUSLY INCLUSIVE: Radically open and affirming, all ages, races, gender and sexual orientation, everyone is welcome exactly as you are.

EXPRESSLY “ON THE WAY”: Faith is a journey. Journey with us!

COMMITTEDLY IN THE COMMUNITY: In helping others, we become our true selves.

GOD GATHERS US



OPENING SONG # 98 *God of the Sparrow, God of the Whale*

Roeder

God of the sparrow

God of the whale

God of the swirling stars

How do your creatures say Awe

How do your creatures say Praise

God of the earthquake

God of the storm

God of the trumpet blast

How do your creatures cry Woe

How do your creatures cry Save

God of the rainbow

God of the cross

God of the empty grave

How do your creatures say Grace

How do your creatures say Thanks

God of the hungry
God of the sick
God of the prodigal
How do your creatures say Care
How do your creatures say Life

God of the neighbor
God of the foe
God of the pruning hook
How do your creatures say Love
How do your creatures say Peace

God of the ages
God near at hand
God of the loving heart
How do your children say Joy
How do your children say Home

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit or you have been here for years. We are glad you are here with us today. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, here's Pastor Reed, and here's Steve and Bob and together we are

All: ONE diverse community
Growing up in faith
Reaching out in love

One: It is good when God's people are together here, and so we can rejoice, because,
All: It's Saturday, Let's do church!



CALL TO WORSHIP

One: Friends in Christ,
Lent is a time to prepare and renew our life. We mark this holy season

Many: By acknowledging our need for repentance, and for the mercy and forgiveness proclaimed in the gospel.

One: We are invited, in the name of Christ, to observe a Holy Lent,

Many: By self-examination and penitence, by prayer and fasting, by works of love,

And by reading and meditating on the Word of God.

OPENING PRAYER

**Creating God, still Center of the world you have made,
We come to you in this season of turning and returning.
We do not know how to seek you with our whole hearts,
But we know you are our source and our destiny.
In the midst of life,
We return to you, we turn toward you.
We thank you that you receive even the broken heart,
The troubled conscience, the conflicted spirit. Amen.**

Forgive often.

THE LORD'S PRAYER (we will sing this in echo fashion)

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 all our sins...

And lead us not... into temptation... but deliver us from evil.

Unison:

For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory

Echo:

Forever... and ever...

Our Father... who art in Heaven... hallowed be thy name.

A TIME OF PRAYER



A TIME FOR CELEBRATIONS AND CONCERNS AND ASHES

One: Today is the First Saturday of Lent. Let us enter the journey of Lent, people who stand among others as truly human – no better, no worse, simply offered the grace of God as we go.

Many: We remember some moments of courage and faithfulness, the times when we cheered on the good in life, like the laying of palm branches for the journey of Jesus Christ.

One: Then we remember how we have turned our faces away, in doubt and fear, in failure and weakness, and the palm branches of our better moments became as ashes.

All: We will stay with our humanness, for we are born of the earth and will one day return to it. We know who we are. We are not God.

One: Receiving the mark our humanness, I invite those who wish to do so to come forward and place the mark of the ashes on your forehead or hand, the mark which bears witness to your preparedness to own that you are an ordinary human being.

(Those wishing to may come forward, dip a finger into the oil, then into the ashes, then dab them on your forehead or wrist.

There will be an opportunity to remove the ashes at the end of the service.

After you impose ashes, proceed to the candle station to light your prayer candle.)

A SONG OF PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

Text to Give instructions are on page 10.

Care for the poor.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

THE BREAD OF LIFE AND THE CUP OF NEW BEGINNINGS ARE SHARED



(Our service of communion is open to all seeking Christ's presence.
Whether children receive the elements we leave to their parents' discretion.)
We shall be receiving communion by the ancient practice of intinction.
Come forward, take a piece of the bread, dip it in the cup,
and consume it on the way back to your seat.

INVITATION



PRAYER OF COMMUNION

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

(We offer a Covid-safe communion cup and wafer system of grape juice and cracker
and Communion by intinction.)

PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

**God, you are the alpha and omega, the beginning and the end and all that comes
in between. We give thanks for the simple things of life: bread and juice and
remembrance. Thank you for remembering us even now, even today. Amen.**

The children and their teachers may now go over to Jenkins Hall for Saturday School.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

Redemption Song

Bob Marley



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Matthew 6:1-6, 16-21

GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG#493

In the Bulb There is a Flower

PROMISE

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
 in cocoon, a hidden promise; butterflies will soon be free!
 In the cold and snow of winter there's a spring that waits to be,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**There's a song in every silence, seeking word and melody;
 there's a dawn in every darkness, bringing hope to you and me.
 From the past will come a future; what it holds, a mystery,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

**In our end is our beginning; in our time, infinity;
 in our doubt there is believing; in our life, eternity.
 In our death, a resurrection; at last, a victory,
 unrevealed until its season, something God alone can see.**

WORDS OF SENDING

Let us go forth from this place empowered and empowering,
 Catching a glimpse of what is possible when we are released from sin.
 May the love that proceeds from the wounded heart of God sustain us in our
 being;
 The presence that Christ imparts grace us in our living;
 And the response that the Spirit awakens in us make faithful all our acting.

(As you leave today, I invite you who bear the mark of the ashes to wipe away the sign of human failures and to begin the time of Lenten reflection in freedom and hope. There are wet wipes available in the front entrance to the Meetinghouse.)

Love God.

SONG OF SENDING

Go In Peace

Rob Leveridge

Go in peace

Go in kindness

Go in love

Go in faith

Leave the day

The day behind us

Day is done

Go in grace

Let us go

Into the dark

Not afraid

Not alone

Let us hope

By some good pleasure

Safely to

Arrive at home

Let us hope

By some good pleasure

Safely to

Arrive at home.

WE ARE GLAD YOU WORSHIPPED WITH US TODAY!

All people, young and old and in-between, are lifted up wherever they are on the journey. We look forward to worshipping with you again soon!

Pastors Christie Burns and Reed Baer

Our "Saturday School" is underway, a special class for our youth, held over in Jenkins Hall, led by Pastor Reed and an adult lay teacher/volunteer, during the last 20 minutes of the service. Interested in joining in as a teacher or an extra pair of hands, speak to Reed after church.

Christie holds coffee hours 11:30 am to 1:30 pm at Bread & Roses in Hyannis on Mondays. Call, text, or email her for an appointment: 508-494-6409; associatepastor@westparish.org



by recycling this bulletin.

Text to Give!

West Parish is now accepting donations via text! It's easy:

1. Text 866-593-7761 (the give-by-text number for West Parish) and in the body of the message enter the amount you wish to donate and send.
2. You will receive a registration link. Click on it and enter your contact and payment information, and then press "Process."
3. After registration is complete, you will receive a verification text and receipt via email.

You only need to register and set up your payment information once.

For future giving, simply send a text with the amount you wish to give, and it will process automatically.

Add "West Parish Give by Text" as a contact on your phone to make it even easier!

Church Staff

Reed Baer, Pastor and Teacher
Donna Murphy, Music Director
Kristen Lind, Family School Director
Wendy Northcross, Council Chair

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor
Susan McEwen, Office Administrator
Joseph Findlay, Sexton
Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668
Tel 362-4445 Fax 375-6431
contact@westparish.org www.westparish.org

Week of February 25, 2023

Saturday	2/25/23	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	2/26/23	10:00 am	Worship
Monday	2/27/23	11:30 am 4:30 pm 5:00 pm	Christie's Coffee Hours at Bread + Roses 1717 Foundation AA (J)
Tuesday	2/28/23	9:30 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) AA (J)
Wednesday	3/1/23	9:30 am 10:30 am 12:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) AA (J)
Thursday	3/2/23	5:00 pm	AA (J)
Friday	3/3/23	9:30 am 10:30 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	3/4/23	4:30 pm	Worship Service

Key: FS = Family School; G = Guild Room; J = Jenkins Hall; M = Meetinghouse; Z = Zoom

BE THE CHURCH

Protect the environment.

Care for the poor.

Forgive often.

Reject racism.

Fight for the powerless.

Share earthly and spiritual resources.

Embrace diversity.

Love God.

Enjoy this life.

God is still speaking,
**UNITED CHURCH
OF CHRIST**

