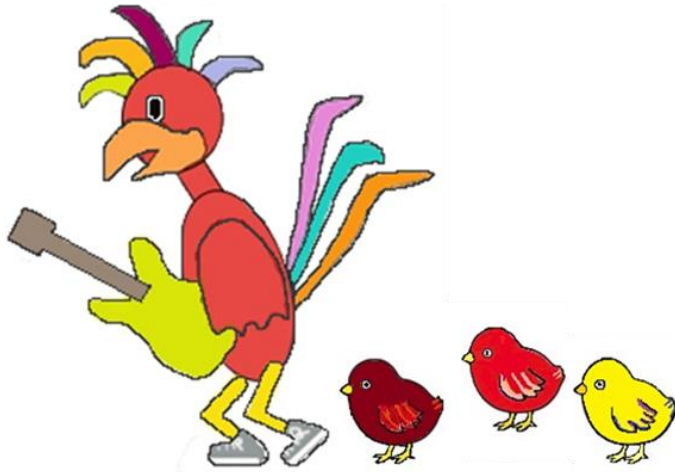


It's Saturday



Let's Do Church!

**WEST PARISH OF BARNSTABLE
UNITED CHURCH OF CHRIST**

October 7, 2023

4:30 p.m.

BE THE CHURCH

Fight for the powerless.

Producing Fruit

“Jesus said to them, ‘Have you never read in the scriptures: “The stone that the builders rejected has become the cornerstone; this was the Lord’s doing, and it is amazing in our eyes”? Therefore I tell you, the kingdom of God will be taken away from you and given to a people that produces its fruits. The one who falls on this stone will be broken to pieces, and it will crush anyone on whom it falls.’”

Matthew 21:42-43

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

In the Bulb there is a Flower

Green # 493

**In the bulb there is a flower; in the seed, an apple tree;
in cocoons, 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 the 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.**

WELCOME

Pastor Christie

One: Welcome home, whether this is your first visit or you have been here for years. Here at West Parish, no matter who you are, and no matter where you are on life's journey, you are welcome here. We are glad you are here with us today whether you are joining us online or in person. Hello, I'm Pastor Christie, here is

Pastor Reed, and we have Steve Gregory and Bob Moscato as our musicians, 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: We come from the East, the West, the South, and the North into this sacred space to worship the living God who walks with us.

People: O, God, we worship you for who you are, for loving and granting us your grace.

One: We lift our hands in praise to you and open our hearts to worship you in the fullness of who we are.

ALL: Let us worship the Lord our God with joyful and thankful hearts. Amen!

OPENING PRAYER

Jesus, we ask that You bless our time together, that we may hear Your words and apply them to our lives so that You will be honored and glorified. Allow your Holy Spirit to move through us so our faith grows and bears fruit. Amen!

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

A SONG OF PRAYER

INVITATION TO SHARING OUR GIFTS

Digital offering instructions are on page 8.

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.

We offer a communion cup and wafer system of cranberry juice and cracker.

INVITATION

Molly Phinney Baskette

The psalmist sang, "You prepare a table for me in the presence of my enemies."
This is not a taunting meal with Us-es and Thems. It's a place, a time when even
enemies can feast together. Come, then, you who have harsh words between you.
Stand side by side in silence. Come, you who have fought good fights and bad
fights and everything in between. Find peace, if only for a moment. Come, you

who can't find the face of God in every sibling. God abhors abuse, and never asks us to submit to the domineering strength of one another. But true reconciliation among people on equal footing sets us free and transforms conflict into amazing grace. So lay aside argument, distance, alienation, confusion, power over, and even principles. Come to this feast empty, hungry and ready.



Enjoy this life.

PRAYER OF COMMUNION

Holy One, you inhabit these elements of bread and cup. As each has been transformed from what it was into something more nourishing, ready to give energy to the body, so transform us into those who can nourish the world. As we pull from a common loaf, unite us. As we dip into a common cup, a symbol of shared fate, send us down the same road, with strength in numbers. Make us truly one in Christ.

DISTRIBUTION OF THE ELEMENTS

We remember that on the night before he died, Jesus sat at a table with all of them: friend and foe. He didn't ask how they had voted, where they stood on church doctrines, or whether they would remain true, even to him.

He took the bread, and giving thanks to God, he said to all, **“Take, eat, this is my body given for you. Do this in remembrance of me.”**

He took wine and said, **“This is not just a cup, it's a covenant, to bind us together, to help us forget the sins of the past. Take, drink, in remembrance of me.”**

Ministering to you in Jesus' name, the Great Uniter, we give you this bread and this cup.

UNISON PRAYER OF THANKSGIVING

God, let the unity we have at this table endure long after we have digested these elements. Feed our minds the manna of gentleness and the ability to take another's perspective. Juice us with the joy that comes when we can set aside our differences and come together as your children. Thank you that every time we eat this meal together, you give us an opportunity to lay down arms, stop taking sides, and find our common humanity and divinity. Amen.

THE WORD OF GOD IS PROCLAIMED



SPECIAL SONG

Mercy Mercy Me

Marvin Gaye



SACRED WORDS FOR SACRED SPACE

Matthew 21:33-46

MEDITATION

Apple Trees and God as the Gardener

Rev. Christie Burns

GOD SENDS US FORTH



CLOSING SONG

Like a Tree Beside the Waters

Green #244

**Like a tree beside the waters, nurtured by your loving care,
we, O God, your sons and daughters, your enduring witness bear.
In each passing generation may your voice of love be heard.
Bless, we pray, this congregation with your holy, living Word.**

**Like a tree beside the river, drawing life from holy streams,
fill us with your love forever; recreate our hopes and dreams.
Through the storms of life sustain us by the wisdom of your grace.
May the changing of the seasons find us in your warm embrace.**

**We, beside the living waters, drink from your eternal life.
Give to all, your sons and daughters, faith that rises over strife.
Ever-living God, most glorious, strengthen us for life today.
By the hope of timeless promise guide your church upon the Way.**

WORDS OF SENDING



SONG OF SENDING

Go In Peace

Sam Baker
Featuring Allen Nelson

**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

Christie holds coffee hours by appointment at Bread and Roses in Hyannis. Call, text, or email her for an appointment. 508-494-6409 associatepastor@westparish.org

“Saturday School” is underway, a special class for our youngsters, 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.



by recycling this bulletin.

Need to get connected? Wi-Fi: Meetinghouse **Password:** 1717Rooster

Digital Offering

Venmo @WestParish or scan the QR code.

or **Text to Give**

1. Text 508-593-7761 (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

Christine Burns, Associate Pastor

Donna Murphy, Music Director

Susan McEwen, Office Administrator

Kristen Lind, Family School Director

Chris Haven, Sexton

Susan Moeller, Council Chair

Bobbie Jordan, Deacons Chair

Box 219, West Barnstable, MA 02668

Phone 362-4445 Fax 375-6431 contact@westparish.org westparish.org

The week of October 7, 2023

Saturday	10/7/23	4:30 pm	Worship
Sunday	10/8/23	10:00 am 11:30 am	Worship Deacons (G)
Monday	10/9/23	5:00 pm	Office Closed AA (J)
Tuesday	10/10/23	12:00 pm 5:00 pm 6:15 pm	Music Lessons (M) AA (J) Handbells (M)
Wednesday	10/11/23	9:15 am 12:00 pm 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Bible Study (G & Z) FS Board (G) AA (J)
Thursday	10/12/23	8:00 am 9:15 am 10:00 am 4:00 pm 5:00 pm	Men's Breakfast @ Jack's Out Back FS Science (J) Fair Creative Crew (J) Foundation (G) AA (J)
Friday	10/13/23	9:15 am 10:30 am 5:00 pm	FS Science (J) Knitting Group (G) AA (J)
Saturday	10/14/23	4:30 pm	Worship

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**

